

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

news

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An invaluable resource



Left to right are Hinekura Hollis, Virginia Braun, Erana Cooper and Pikihiua Pomare

The last ten years have seen a massive expansion in publications about Māori and psychology.

Along with this has come a hugely increased demand for information in this field.

The University's Department of Psychology has responded to these advances by producing a new and comprehensive bibliography of all the published material about Māori and psychology, creating an invaluable resource for anyone teaching or conducting research in the area, from academics to members of the community.

This 96-page booklet, published in September 2010, shows the richness, diversity and vibrancy of writings in this field and celebrates the growth of research capacity among Māori scholars in psychology and related disciplines. Entitled *He Kohikohinga Rangahau: A Bibliography of Māori and Psychology Research* it is now available not

only in print but on the Psychology Department's website. The authors hope the electronic format will mean it can be regularly up-dated.

The project came into being through the teamwork of the authors, Hinekura Hollis, Erana Cooper, Dr Virginia Braun and Pikihiua Pomare, each bringing their own unique expertise and resources to the task.

"What began as a Summer Scholarship project [undertaken by Hinekura] morphed into an autumn then a winter project and ended as a "labour of love", due to the sheer volume of references," said Erana Cooper at the low-key launch held at the Department of Psychology on 20 September.

In ten years, she said, the growth of scholarship and resources has been "astounding". The content of the bibliography has not been "selected" but simply presented, with readers left to make their

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Key events

Showcasing CAD

All staff are invited to attend CAD's tenth Annual Teaching and Learning Showcase 2010, a two half-day event to celebrate the achievement of some of our outstanding teachers. Keynote speakers include: Margaret Henley (Film TV and Media Studies), 2009 National Teaching Excellence Award winner; John Windsor (Surgery), 2009 Innovation in Teaching Award winner; and Niki Harre (Psychology), 2009 Sustained Excellence in Teaching award winner. This event will be held at the Engineering Building on the afternoons of 26 and 27 October. Details of the programme will be announced shortly. Please register your attendance via Deborah Hill at cadreception@auckland.ac.nz

Better city, better life

Staff and students still have plenty of chances to attend some of the University-wide events planned to mark UN-Habitat's World Habitat Day. On 4 October between 12noon and 2pm are two separate workshops that run on from each other (and you are welcome to attend both, though registration is required). One is on Bokashi and worm-farming, the other on gardening/composting and on bees. Other events will include a seminar and discussion on the future of public transport in Auckland (4 October from 6-8pm in OGGB5); a report from participants in the World Urban Forum 5, held in March in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (5 October 4-6pm, Gus Fisher Gallery); a seminar at Grafton Campus on "Urbanisation and health" to be led by Dr Alexandra MacMillan from the School of Population Health (7 October, evening).

Urban challenges

In recognition of UN-Habitat's World habitat Day, Dr Anita Lacey (Political Studies) will open her lecture on "Imagining development: Urban developmental challenges" to the public. Forming part of the Global Politics of Development course, this will take place on 14 October at 9am in HSB2, Human Sciences Building.

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 THE UNIVERSITY
OF AUCKLAND
NEW ZEALAND
Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau

From the Vice-Chancellor

Over recent weeks, we have been engaged in preparing the University budget for 2011. There is no doubt that we achieve our strategic objective to "Safeguard the long-term viability and autonomy of The University of Auckland through excellent financial management" - we are one of the most efficient universities in the world, more highly ranked relative to our income per student than almost any other. But the unwillingness of successive governments to allow us to increase revenue to meet our cost increases, notably salaries, means that it is becoming extremely difficult to resource new initiatives while also maintaining our core operations. The stark reality of the environment in which we compete for staff and students is illustrated by the fact that we have about the same number of students as the University of Queensland but a budget of NZ\$870 million compared to UQ's budget of ca A\$1.2 billion.

For that reason, philanthropy is assuming ever greater importance in creating for us some level of flexibility, providing what one of our professors refers to as "dream money". Although at several million dollars per annum of revenue it represents only a small part of our total budget, it is increasingly a major driver of our ability to invest in new and innovative activities.

It was therefore very encouraging to spend a week in the USA with staff of External Relations during mid-September on a visit designed to promote alumni relations and philanthropy. Exactly two years ago we were in the USA for the same reason - on the very day that the Dow dropped 504 points, Lehman Brothers declared bankruptcy and Merrill Lynch was taken over by the Bank of America! Over the following two years, there has not surprisingly been a very quiet period in the world of philanthropy. Now, however, there is a sense that as the international economy is recovering, so too is the ability of our friends to support what we do. This is reflected in the current total for our *Leading the Way Campaign*, which is now in excess of \$70 million, mostly to support staff and students. Such support, for which we should all be very grateful, will be vital if we are to continue to invest in our best people, and in the ideas that will help to take New Zealand forward.



University top in new rankings

The new 2010-11 *Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings* have confirmed The University of Auckland's position as the top university in New Zealand.

In the newly-launched THE World University Rankings, the University was placed 145th. The ranking is a further endorsement of our pre-eminent status as the leading New Zealand research-intensive university.

"This is a very pleasing outcome and reflects our standing among our international peers," said Professor Jane Harding (as Acting Vice-Chancellor).

"All rankings emphasise different elements of measurement and use different methodology but the overall message is unmistakable - New Zealand has an internationally highly-ranked research-intensive university in The University of Auckland."

THE's new methodology uses 13 performance indicators across five broad categories: teaching; citation impact; research; international mix and industry income. The rankings are also the first to include a worldwide reputation-based indicator of teaching quality.

The University of Auckland is the only New Zealand university to feature in the top 200, and among the top eight universities in Oceania.

Two other rankings this year have placed the University at the top in New Zealand, the QS World University Rankings and the 2010 Academic Ranking of World Universities (Shanghai Jiao Tong University).

Other New Zealand universities ranked under the new THE system are: Victoria 226th; Otago 236th; Canterbury 240th and Massey 292nd.

Food, health and business

Local food and beverage companies, from family businesses to multinationals, came to an industry forum at Villa Maria Estate in Mangere in September to learn how University researchers can work with them.

Research showcased at the event ranged from optimisation of processes such as coffee roasting to developing new food sterilisation techniques, extracting useful ingredients from food waste, screening foods for bioactive chemicals, developing products with health benefits, validating health claims, and conducting energy audits.

The event demonstrated the breadth of expertise in the newly-established Food and Health Programme, which brings together more than 100 staff from across the university in food science, process engineering, nutrition, health, business and commercialisation. The programme aims to

enhance innovation and growth in the local food and beverage sector and find new ways to add value to New Zealand primary products.

UniServices was assisted by Enterprising Manukau, an Economic Development Agency that is part of a team developing the New Zealand Food Innovation Manukau Ltd centre. The centre will be one of four established across New Zealand as part of a government initiative that will provide the food and beverage industry with an open access, state of the art, development and commercialisation facility.

Anyone interested in learning more about the Food and Health Programme and how it works with businesses can contact UniServices Business Manager Dr Vivienne Hunt (extension 89470). For general enquiries or to join the staff email list contact Food and Health Programme Manager Kathryn Murray (extension 81445).

Down to earth

As part of the University's celebrations for World Habitat Day on Monday 4 October, two workshops are being organised to introduce staff and students to the joys and benefits of sustainable gardening - including composting, worm farms, bee keeping and creating a sustainable and healthy garden environment.

These will take place on Monday 4 October at the Women's Federation Room, upstairs in Old Government House (part of it may be held outside, depending on the weather).

In workshop one, entitled "Create your own eden", Glenda Andrew-Neal will lead a workshop on the basics in bokashi and traditional composting and worm farming. This will be held 12noon-1pm.

In workshop two, "Keeping your garden healthy", to be held from 1pm-2pm, you can learn about the University's approaches to a sustainable garden and the role bees play in keeping it healthy. Stanley Jones, Grounds and Precincts

Manager, will lead this workshop on the University's gardens and his team's approach to sustainability. Dr Guy Warman and James Cheeseman (Medical and Health Sciences) will discuss the importance of bees in a healthy garden, beekeeping, and research they are undertaking with bees kept on the City Campus.

Lesley Stone, the University's Sustainability and Environmental Coordinator, will facilitate both workshops.

Attend one of these workshops and go in the draw to win a Bokashi composting kit. Winners must be registered and present for the draw during each workshop.

Email worldhabitatday@auckland.ac.nz to register. Places are limited.

For more information about the University's events to celebrate World Habitat Day see www.auckland.ac.nz/whd

Successful launch for new intranet



Frazer Orr

When staff arrived at work on 9 September, they found the new staff intranet up and running, right on time and looking great.

From a technical point of view the launch went very smoothly, with no major problems and very few minor ones.

"All in all an excellent Go Live and no issues of real concern," was the report from ITS on the first day. The morning of the launch brought a total of just six queries. All were quickly dealt with by the Service Desk and the staff at ITS.

Gabriella Davila, Communications Manager, said the transformation of the intranet leading up to the launch was a magnificent team effort. "Everyone worked hard and there was great collaboration across the University."

The new staff intranet has a more inviting look, with a more dynamic and compelling presentation of the University's news. It also provides information in a much more intuitive way, making it quicker and easier for staff to find the information they need, whether it's about leave balances, staff development sessions, research funding or staff vacancies.

All its information is up-to-date and reliable and it offers some exciting and useful new features, including a calendar listing events, key dates and training courses; and a new section which brings together resources for heads of departments and general staff managers.

Frazer Orr, Web Content Publisher, said the feedback had been overwhelmingly positive and much appreciated by the team that made it happen.

Here are some of the emails they received.

"Just wanted to say congratulations for your work on the Intranet! It was so obscure before, I couldn't find what I wanted without spending a bit of time looking for the right location. Now it is clear, concise and it looks good too!"

"It makes my job much easier, and I actually enjoy looking for info in there now."

"Congratulations on a successful launch of the staff intranet. With ease of navigation and vibrant colours, it looks great. I'm receiving positive feedback from my colleagues."

"Awesome effort. Well done."

The address for your staff intranet is www.staff.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/. Many staff make the intranet their home page. For instructions on how to do that, contact the Service Desk on servicedesk@auckland.ac.nz or 85100.

On behalf of the team, Frazer requests staff to give feedback and suggestions about the new intranet. "We intend to keep refining and improving the intranet," he says. "We rely on feedback to keep us up to date."

At the bottom of each page is a feedback button - or you can email intranet@auckland.ac.nz

In brief...

Speaker of distinction

The 2010 Royal Society of New Zealand's Distinguished Speaker is a man familiar to all of us at The University of Auckland: Professor Richard Faull, Director of the Centre for Brain Research, who will speak on "The challenge of the human brain".

Richard's life has been "an exciting voyage of discovery. I'm forever amazed at the complexity and beauty of the human brain. It's the last frontier and presents so many challenges. Despite all our research we still don't even know what constitutes an original thought. But we are starting to see through the haze, to begin to understand some of the marvels of the human brain..."

Richard's session at Auckland is in the auditorium at Auckland Museum on 13 October at 6.30pm. It will be recorded by Radio New Zealand as part of the "Talking heads" lecture series. He will also speak at Wellington, Christchurch, Hamilton and Dunedin.

The lectures are free and open to the public. To ensure a seat, you can register at www.royalsociety.org.nz/distinguished-speaker. Enquiries to lectures@royalsociety.org.nz or 04 470 5781.

Marston to moderate

Professor Marston Conder (Mathematics), Co-director of the New Zealand Institute for Mathematics and its Applications (NZIMA), has been appointed one of the three moderators for the next Quality Evaluation round of the Performance Based Research Fund (PBRF), being carried out in 2012.

Marston is one of the founders of the PBRF. He chaired the government-appointed committee that established the PBRF in 2001/02, and has served on the Tertiary Education Commission's PBRF Sector Reference Group, which recommended enhancements for the quality evaluation rounds in 2006, 2009 and 2012.

Fellow one of five

Paul Murrell (Statistics) has been elected a Fellow of the American Statistical Association, in recognition of his "outstanding professional contributions to and leadership in the field of statistical science". Paul is one of only five people outside of the United States to be elected in 2010.

For the record

Her Worship Penny Webster, Mayor of Rodney, was incorrectly named Penny Brothers on page 3 of the last issue of *University News*. Apologies to both Pennys.

from page 1

own decisions about what is valuable for their purposes.

"It is as comprehensive as possible, with a very broad definition of psychology, and with references that go back to 1901."

It also includes collaborations between Māori and non-Māori. The authors agree that the huge increases in this field of scholarship are due not only to the increasing number of Māori psychologists but also to the shift towards Māori ways of conducting research.

They are grateful for the network of people throughout New Zealand from inside and outside

the universities who have assisted them in compiling this information not only from published sources but also from websites, conference presentations and private libraries.

The book builds on two previous biographies, also produced at The University of Auckland: *A Bibliography of Books and Articles Relevant to Māori and Psychology*, developed by Tereki Stewart in the early 1990s and *Maori and Mental Health: A selected annotated bibliography*, compiled in 2000 by Fiona Cram and the International Research Institute for Māori and Indigenous Education.

Research management network series

All University research support staff are encouraged to attend this monthly seminar series designed to enhance their knowledge and understanding of issues relating to research management and to facilitate knowledge sharing across the University. Topics include: "Intellectual property – the process of protection and commercialisation" Presenter: Jon Monk, Intellectual Property Manager, UniServices. Venue: Building 421 (Architecture), Level 3, ALR5-301, best practice systems and tools for providing enhanced research support (November), research capability databases (December) Staff interested in attending should contact Jody Howell at j.howell@auckland.ac.nz

HRC funding round

The Health Research Council Portal accepted registrations for projects, programme extensions, feasibility studies and emerging researcher first grants from 23–29 September. The Research Office closing date for expressions of interest aligned to one of the four research investment streams is 12 noon, 6 October. The Research Office closing date for full proposals, programme extensions, feasibility studies and emerging researcher first grants and programme extensions is 12 noon, 26 October. For further details, contact Carmella Lee, HRC Fund Specialist, carmella.lee@auckland.ac.nz, extn 83562.

International Science relationships grants

The Foundation for Research Science & Technology (FRST) in partnership with the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) is investing up to \$60,000 p.a. for two years in two projects that will support co-operation and collaboration between scientists in NZ and Japan. The University recently submitted four applications from the Departments of Chemistry, Mechanical Engineering, Computer and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. Results will be announced by the foundation to the Research Office on 22 December.

Genesis Oncology Trust

The Genesis Oncology Trust provides funding for fellowships (clinical and postdoctoral) and scholarships for cancer research or careers in cancer care. The Research Office closing date is 1 October. For further details, contact Shirley Gunawan, Research Administrator, s.gunawan@auckland.ac.nz, extn 83761.

New Research Outputs Module

A more advanced, user friendly system for managing research outputs was launched on 20 September, providing a vital tool for researchers across the University.

Professor John Hosking (Centre for Software Innovation), who is overseeing the development of the Research Outputs Module, says the new system is a fantastic upgrade that will lessen the load of managing research outputs.

"The automatic search features are great - they turn what I always regard as a chore, gathering up and entering my research publication data, into something more pleasurable: the good feeling you get when the system notifies you that it has found another of your publications.

"In the end I think the system will be seen by academics as an essential instrument in publicising their research activities, rather than just a means for supporting processes such as Academic Performance Review (APR) and Performance Based Research Fund (PBRF) portfolio production."

Head of the School of Medical Sciences, Professor John Fraser, believes the buzz surrounding the new system is well justified.

"The new system provides a very powerful and elegant solution to managing research outputs", he says.

"The benefits will be immediately obvious when staff first log in but the real strength is the ability to find and retrieve publications with virtually no effort from the user. The software has been designed by academics for academics and I know all staff will find this a fantastic tool."

First created for Imperial College London and in use by institutions such as Oxford University and the University of Cambridge, the new system provides a combination of an intuitive user interface design and automated search

capabilities. Designed by academic researchers, the software can find and retrieve accurate publication information from well known bibliographic sources such as Scopus, Web of Science and PubMed.

Given the nature of the databases currently aligned with the module, the search functionality will yield better results for some disciplines than others. However, other automated search methods are available to minimise manual data entry for those other disciplines. Faculty-specific training workshops being offered throughout October will focus on how to get the best out of the new system.

The Research Outputs Module will integrate with the Library's ResearchSpace digital repository, which will provide the opportunity for researchers to upload and archive full text copies of their research, allowing items to be searchable online and more widely accessible to researchers worldwide.

Says Professor John Hattie from the Faculty of Education: "The beauty of this new system is that it not only makes up-dating easier but it will later link to many other tasks, as it is but part of a larger upgrade that aims to support academics in their research."

Later developments flowing from the University's Personalisation Programme will allow broader reuse of research outputs information, such as enabling it to be fed directly to individual or departmental web pages.

If you are interested in attending a training workshop, please access www.library.auckland.ac.nz/booking/S1coursepage.asp

If you have questions about the new Research Outputs Module contact the team at researchplus@auckland.ac.nz

The future of public transport

How can we redesign Auckland's transport to best meet the challenges of the future?

This topical issue that affects the lives of all of us will be the subject of a panel discussion which is one of a raft of activities planned to mark UN-Habitat's World Habitat Day.

For over a century cars have influenced almost every facet of the urban landscape. As the threats of climate change become more pressing, visionaries in cities around the world are increasingly turning to alternative transportation systems, both new and traditional, to provide sustainable solutions.

This panel from the University and the community, including an engineer, architect, lawyer and an Auckland City Councillor will consider the issues facing Auckland's transport - both now and in the future - with a focus on potential solutions. Topics of discussion include cycling, pedestrian access, public transport and Auckland's rail network, as well as the role of public transport in sustainable and equitable urban development.

The panel discussion will take place on 5 October from 6.15pm to 7.30pm in the Owen Glenn Building (OGGB5) at the Business School, 12 Grafton Road. Doors open at 6pm.

Speakers are Associate Professor Carol Boyle (Civil and Environmental Engineering), Director of the International Centre for Sustainability Engineering and Research; Annie Cao from Greens on Campus, AUSA Environmental Officer; Joel Cayford, Auckland City Councillor; Jeremy Harris, spokesman for the Campaign for Better Transport; William McKay, senior lecturer (Architecture and Planning); Vernon Tava, Research Fellow at the New Zealand Centre for Environmental Law (NZCEL), lawyer by training, with primary research interests in the areas of environmental law, ecological governance and animal law, focus on Resource Management and Local Government law.

The facilitator is Dr Nicholas Rowe (Dance Studies), Associate Dean (Postgraduate) in the National Institute of Creative Arts and Industries.

Developing tools for gastric dysfunction



Professor Andrew Pullan

A new project aimed at developing tools to diagnose gastric dysfunction has received more than \$1 million in a recent Health Research Council funding round.

The study is one of 15 University of Auckland projects given funding. In total the University was granted \$16.5 million dollars, or about 20 percent of the total amount awarded nationally.

The study builds on on-going research which indicates common diseases like chronic indigestion and gastric reflux could be the result of abnormal electrical impulses in the stomach.

However, the clinical significance of these abnormal impulses is poorly understood because there are no clinical devices to accurately assess them.

Professor Andrew Pullan, Head of the Engineering Science Department and a member of the Auckland Bioengineering Institute, says the development of a tool to measure the electrical activity is cutting edge science which will hopefully improve and refine the diagnosis and therefore improve treatment of gastric complaints.

"There hasn't been anything like this trial done before," he says.

"Roughly one-third of people who present in hospital with pain in their guts get it classified as 'non-specific gut pain' and they're told to wait

and see if it gets worse because there's no tool for an early definitive diagnosis."

Andrew has assembled an expert multidisciplinary team to develop the new tool. They've already come up with an early prototype which is being tested here and in collaboration with the Mayo clinic in the US.

He believes the minimally-invasive device, which would be fed down the throat into the stomach, will be easily put to clinical use with potential to dramatically advance the clinical understanding and treatment of major gastric diseases.

"Very few people are working in this field of research and The University of Auckland has a very, very strong team which is held in high regard across the world."

The team, who have been dubbed the *G.I. Joes*, recently won the Commercial Entrepreneurship category of the SPARK Challenge with their plan for developing this device and readying it for market.

Marsden Funding

Twenty University of Auckland research projects have been awarded Marsden Fund grants.

The latest round has seen 20 projects win nearly \$10 million dollars of funding.

Countrywide, More than 100 research projects have shared \$60 million of funding.

This year a new panel was formed to look at proposals in the engineering area with the view that successful projects will lead to possible new cross-disciplinary applications in science and engineering.

Marsden Fund Council chairman Professor Peter Hunter (Director of the Bioengineering Institute at The University of Auckland) said it was encouraging to see such a high standard of proposals coming through in all areas.

"We are proud to announce these newly funded projects from the country's top researchers. However, we are also very aware that there were many more extremely worthy projects that, with our limited resources, we were unable to fund."

Applications to the Marsden Fund are extremely competitive. Of the 1089 preliminary proposals received, 252 were asked to submit a full proposal with 102 ultimately funded, giving a success rate of 9.5 percent. Most of the funded proposals are for three years.

For a full list of funded projects at The University of Auckland see "News" of "All news" on the staff intranet, <https://www.staff.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/>

Subsidised clinical services



There are many causes of hearing loss in preschool children, but the most common cause is ear infections

By the time a child starts school, more than 90 percent of children will have had at least one ear infection in their preschool years. The outcomes of a poor start at school are devastating, and for this reason The University of Auckland Clinics offer heavily subsidised specialised paediatric hearing testing at their Tāmaki-based Audiology Clinic.

Instead of paying up to \$100 on the High St, The University of Auckland Audiology Clinic conducts professional and thorough hearing examinations for pre-schoolers (six months to five years) for just \$20, a low price for huge peace of mind. If any issues are identified, highly qualified audiologists and their students will provide the appropriate

advice on treatment options.

The Audiology Clinics are certainly not specific to younger children; they offer a complete range of services to all ages (including the growing numbers in the iPod, MP3 and vuvazela affected ranks). These range from prescribing and fitting hearing aids and other devices, assessing potentially devastating auditory processing problems, providing tinnitus management advice and treatment to managing magical cochlear implants for clients.

The University of Auckland Clinics provide best practice treatment for clients while supporting the University's teaching and research. Contact clinics@auckland.ac.nz or ext 989909. The website provides information on the other services, www.clinics.auckland.ac.nz.

The University's third Professor Brothers



In her recent inaugural lecture Professor Penny Brothers explained how scientists can learn from nature's solutions.

It was a childhood fascination with crystals that sparked Penny's interest in science. Now she is Professor of Inorganic Chemistry.

As a young girl Penny came to the University with her father, a professor of geology, and was intrigued by displays of crystalline minerals of beautiful shapes and colours. Returning several years later as a student she found that inorganic chemistry allowed her to make crystals like those she had seen as a child - and she was hooked.

Throughout her career Penny has worked with porphyrins - small, highly-coloured, ring-shaped molecules that carry an atom at their core. Porphyrins are found throughout the natural world and one of the most important is heme, carrying the iron that transports oxygen in blood and imparting its red colour. Closely related molecules include chlorophyll - the green pigment in plants - and vitamin B12.

In biological systems porphyrins carry metals like iron, magnesium or cobalt but in the laboratory chemists can make porphyrins that carry almost any element in the periodic table. They are widely used as catalysts, helping chemists initiate and fine-tune reactions for a wide variety of applications from medicine to materials.

As a doctoral student at Stanford University Penny realised that few chemists had looked at porphyrins where the atom in the core was a non-metal. She went on to do what no one else had been able to - creating a porphyrin that carries boron. All other porphyrin molecules carry a single atom but boron is a small element and Penny found that it was possible to squeeze two boron atoms into a single porphyrin.

This uncomfortable fit creates novel chemistry, forcing the boron atoms into unusually close proximity and stretching and distorting the porphyrin itself. Both the element and its carrier molecule display unusual characteristics that can be exploited by chemists to better control reactions.

As an inorganic chemist Penny's interest is in controlling chemical reactivity at the level of individual elements or atoms. In addition to her porphyrin research Penny has worked with husband Dr David Ware in the Department of Chemistry studying cobalt complexes as potential anticancer drugs.

She has recently begun work on corroles (which she describes as cousins of porphyrins) as catalysts for polymerisation reactions, and is starting to study dipyrins (similar to a porphyrin or corrole cut in half) which are used as fluorescent and laser dyes. She is also interested in carbenes, which are widely used by chemists to fine-tune the properties of metals and create new materials.

She delivered her inaugural lecture on the topic "Boron and blood: What's the connection?" explaining how scientists can learn from nature's solutions to chemical problems.

Penny is continuing a family tradition in academia at The University of Auckland. She is the third Professor Brothers at the University, following her father the late Nick Brothers and sibling Peter Brothers, the former Dean of Engineering. Her parents met while studying at the University and her own husband came back to New Zealand with her after they met in the United States. Their daughter is studying engineering at the University and their son plans to study science or engineering.

Pauline Curtis

Dear Charles, Dear Janet

"Two weeks ago I found an exciting courier package leaning against my front door," said poet Elizabeth Smither on 26 August at the Gus Fisher Gallery as she launched the latest beautiful limited edition volume from Holloway Press.

"I'd been teaching creative writing at a local boys' college. Because vampires are in vogue we had been studying Dracula and writing imaginary dialogue for him and his guests. I felt almost as tired as Dracula. And then I realised it was the book Peter Simpson had promised: *Dear Charles Dear Janet: Frame & Brasch in Correspondence*. Just running my fingers over the cover was a treat."

Dear Charles, Dear Janet: Frame & Brasch in correspondence is an engaging and often moving book that collects the letters between two of New Zealand's greatest writers, not only documenting the progression of their friendship but also giving a quiet insight into the personal qualities of both.

The letters are supplemented by extracts from published and unpublished memoirs and journals, with some poems, facsimiles of letters and a frontispiece photograph (taken by poet Ruth Dallas) of Frame and Brasch at his cottage in Broad Bay, Otago Peninsula, in 1966.

Starting in 1949, when Frame was a shy young writer approaching the august editor, and documenting their deepening friendship up to the time of Brasch's death in 1973, the material has been selected and arranged by Janet Frame's

niece, Pamela Gordon, and Denis Harold, on behalf of the Janet Frame Literary Trust.

At the launch speech, much to the pleasure of those attending, Elizabeth read selected extracts from the letters.

"Mr Editor: A story. Crumbly and of poor grade. You probably won't want it. In that case burn it quickly - quickly..." (Every author feels like this, Elizabeth adds.)

"Dear Miss Frame: I should be very glad to see any more recent work of yours..."

"Dear Charles: Forgive me for writing about insects."

"Dear Janet: Why is that line about the fifth-month grass so haunting? It's one I never forget."

Charles: *I am the sea, I am the wind, Everything and nothing, with you.*

Janet: There are not enough street bulbs, glow-worms, fireflies to give light. And for a time it seems there will be no more stars.

"The progression of this friendship, inside this elegant book, is a real treasure," said Elizabeth. "Congratulations to Pamela Gordon and Denis Harold for bringing it to us. To Peter for inviting me to launch it tonight. And to the Holloway Press and Tara McLeod for its beautiful and enduring production, so fitting for two of our most loved and enduring authors."

The book was designed and letterpress printed by Tara McLeod at Holloway Press on a Littlejohn cylinder press; the type is 12pt linotype Janson;



Elizabeth Smither with Peter Simpson

the paper is Ivory Evergreen 104gsm, and the cloth binding is by Design Bind Ltd. The edition is 150 copies, 61 pages. The price is \$NZ250.

Copies may be ordered through the website, www.hollowaypress.auckland.ac.nz, through the Director of Holloway Press, Associate Professor Peter Simpson, p.simpson@auckland.ac.nz, or by writing to the Holloway Press, c/- English Department, University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland.

From the Collection



Sarah Munro, *Socket* 2003. Oil paint digitally printed onto shaped polyester foam with a fibreglass shell. 2500 x 2000 x 250mm

Sarah Munro completed her Doctorate in Fine Arts at The University of Auckland's Elam School of Fine Arts in 2005 and was the Frances Hodgkins Fellow at the University of Otago the following year.

As a multi-media artist, she oscillates in her work between two and three dimensions and encompasses several art disciplines including painting, sculpture, photography and digital technology. Bought for the University of Auckland's Art Collection in 2003, *Socket*

successfully embraces many of these diverse facets of Munro's art practice.

The subject is a painted portrait of the artist's half-brother, yet the materials and techniques employed by Munro leave *Socket* as an art object that lies far from the traditional notion of what constitutes a portrait. The shaped support of the work is constructed from finely shaped blocks of polyester foam overlaid with fibreglass that Munro applies by hand. The surface is then painstakingly ground back, puttied and sanded until it reaches a smooth, lustrous perfection. The painted representation of the subject's face is applied to the shaped ground in a similarly technical but time-consuming manner with the assistance of a digital painting machine.

Programmed by Munro, it applies archival grade oil paint in a delicate mist in accordance with a digital image taken by the artist that has been uploaded to a connected computer.

The use of a machine to essentially "paint" the portrait belies the time, patience, experimentation and instinct required on the part of the artist as there are often large discrepancies between the colours shown on the computer screen and those that are then dispensed over the physical object. Munro also has to take into account the

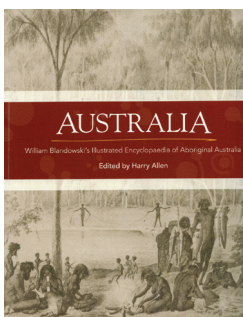
transformative effects of the portrait being manipulated from a two-dimensional digital image into a three-dimensional object as the painting machine is programmed to apply paint onto a flat surface, when in reality, in Munro's work, it is spraying paint onto a solid, curved form.

As a result of the painting process and the materials, *Socket* possesses a seductively sleek surface that obscures the presence of the artist's hand and goes some way to denying the labour-intensive process required for its construction. Material choice also means that the work engages with its environment as its glossy luminosity reflects and refracts light.

In addition to the number of seemingly contradictory elements in Munro's art practice is the sheer physical presence of the work, for although *Socket* hangs on the wall like a traditional painting, it is in fact a three-dimensional object whose convex form swells out from the wall and extends into the viewer's space. Stretching more than two metres horizontally and 2.5 metres vertically, the expansive scale of Munro's work transforms the portrait into a veritable environment that engulfs the viewer. It is not only the sheer scale of the piece that is somewhat disturbing and disorientating but also the displacement of the figure's left eye. Painted onto a smaller piece of foam, the left eye and a portion of brow are left to swim in a spatial cavity that extends beyond the parameters of the face. Adding to this feeling of disjunction is the close cropping of the face into an ovoid that shows little of the figure's hair or ears and thus adds a facet of the abstract to what is ostensibly a figurative work.

Jemma Field

Australia



William Blandowski was an artist, explorer and natural scientist who led a notable scientific expedition to the Murray River in 1857.

Australia is the first publication in English of his

illustrated encyclopaedia of Aboriginal life, edited by Associate Professor Harry Allen from the Department of Anthropology (with Mark Dugay-Grist, Brook Andrew, Luise Hercus and Thomas A. Darragh) and published by Aboriginal Studies Press.

The story of this book's survival for over 150 years in European archives is as remarkable as the story of Blandowski's life.

William (Wilhelm von) Blandowski cut a remarkable figure in mid-nineteenth century Victoria, Australia. He was the first curator of Melbourne Museum, a founding member of the Royal Society of Victoria and the leader of a notable scientific expedition to the Murray River in 1857.

His aim was to produce an illustrated encyclopaedia of Australian natural history and Aboriginal life. Circumstances, partly of his own causing, meant that he became Australia's most forgotten explorer.

He left Melbourne in 1859 with his reputation in tatters, taking with him priceless sketches and collections. While he had these worked into publishable plates by the zoological artist, Gustav Mutzel, he could not afford full colour publication.

In desperation, Blandowski photographed these plates, using the collodion process, and created a mock-up version of his encyclopaedia.

Blandowski later died in obscurity in his native Silesian city of Gliwice. Working from archives in Melbourne, Berlin and Cambridge, Harry Allen brought together the various parts of Blandowski's original work to recreate Blandowski's unique vision of how art and science might be conveyed to the public through illustrations.

The nineteenth-century German captions were translated by Lillian Barton and University of Auckland translator Melanie Wittwer to produce the first publication in English. Aboriginal Studies Press has produced a finely illustrated volume, a volume which has retained its power to convey the freshness and wonder of Australian Aboriginal life during the nineteenth century.

Books

Sports finals coming up

Staff are invited to voice their support for their faculties, or teams of choice, at the upcoming Interfaculty Sports Tournament finals.

The finals for the netball and the rugby competitions are taking place on 7 and 9 October, respectively.

The netball tournament has been a closely-fought affair with points differential being the

only means by which to distinguish between six of the eight teams participating.

Arts and Law are tied for first place; Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences and Education are tied for second; and Science and Engineering are tied for third place.

The final games will take place at the Recreation Centre on the City Campus, with the first game beginning at 3pm.

The Rugby tournament has also been keenly contested with points differential again being the only distinguishing factor between the teams.

Engineering and FMHS are tied for first place; the Business School has a battle within itself for

second, with Commerce and Property all squared up; and Education and Science are drawn for third.

The rugby finals will take place on Saturday 9 October with the first game starting at 1pm at Colin Maiden Park in Glen Innes.

There will be free transport departing from the University, to and from the venue.

Both events will have food, entertainment and spot prizes. There will also be VIP areas cordoned off for those that pre-register their attendance.

To pre-register your attendance or to find out more information about the finals, please email Tim Brightwell on t.brightwell@auckland.ac.nz

What's on

FRIDAY 1 OCTOBER

School of Critical Studies in Education Postgraduate Conference
9am-4.30pm Conference Rm R201-202, R block, Faculty of Education, 60 Epsom Ave. Presentations will be made by postgraduate students undertaking research theses.

School of Music lunchtime concert
Featuring students from the composition and jazz departments. 1.05-1.55pm Music Theatre, 6 Symonds St. Free.

SATURDAY 2 OCTOBER

Exhibition talk
1-2pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Artist Sean Kerr discusses his work in the exhibition, *Bruce danced if Victoria sang, and Victoria sang; so Bruce danced*.

MONDAY 4 OCTOBER

World Habitat Day 2010
Better City, Better Life. In support of the University's partnership with UN-HABITAT join us and take part in an event. Visit www.auckland.ac.nz/whd

TUESDAY 5 OCTOBER

NVivo part 1: Working with data workshop
9am-3.30pm CAD, 4th Floor, 76 Symonds St. Phone 923 7951 with queries or to enrol.

Dept of Māori Studies seminar
Margaret Mutu: *The state of Māori rights: Māori issues 1994-2009*. 1-2pm Rm 101, Māori Studies, Bldg 253, 16 Wynyard St.

School of Music seminar
Dr Davinia Caddy: *Opera's gestural turn: Through the lens of 'Le Coq d'or' (The Golden Cockerel, 1914)*. 1.05-1.55pm Music Theatre, 6 Symonds St.

Bioengineering research seminar
Todd Gisby, ABI: *Development of smart and robust artificial muscles using dielectric elastomers*. 4-5pm Level 5 Seminar Rm, UniServices House, 70 Symonds St.

Future Proof Lecture Series 2010
6-7pm Design Lecture Theatre, NICAL Conference Centre, 22 Symonds St.
1) Patrick Arnold: *Is there a science to energy modelling?*
2) Hugh Byrd: *Why energy modelling is intrinsically inaccurate*.

WEDNESDAY 6 OCTOBER

Inaugural lecture
Prof Stuart Bradley, Physics: *Visualising the wind*. 6pm, Large Chemistry Lecture Theatre.

Department of Applied Language Studies and Linguistics seminar
Prof Peter Skehan, Visiting Professor, DALSL, UoA: *The task is not enough: Processing approaches to task-based performance*. 6.30pm Lecture Theatre 039, ClockTower, 22 Princes St. Queries to tb.tin@auckland.ac.nz
Fast Forward lecture series
Pete Bossley, Pete Bossley Architects. 6.30pm Lecture Theatre 1.439, School of Engineering.

THURSDAY 7 OCTOBER

Department of History seminar
Hirini Kaa, PhD candidate, UoA: *Lex Orandi Lex Credendi: Mihinare intellectual expressions*. 4pm Rm 59, History Dept.
Inaugural lecture
Prof Stephen Davies, Philosophy: *The philosophy of art with some birds and Balinese culture*. 6.30pm, Lecture Theatre 1.439, School of Engineering.

FRIDAY 8 OCTOBER

School of Music lunchtime concert
Featuring School of Music chamber music groups. 1.05-1.55pm Music Theatre, 6 Symonds St. Free

SATURDAY 9 OCTOBER

DIY workshop with Adam Willetts
1-3pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Free, bookings required. Ph 923 6646 or gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz
A circuit-bending workshop led by sound artist Adam Willetts. Bring your own electronic toys and noise-makers, hack-able technology or other projects, and turn them into instruments to be performed in the evening concert that follows. Numbers limited.

Sean Kerr: Music 4 DIY
7.30pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. A concert with performances from Sean Kerr and friends. Includes new work Music 4 DIY, utilising home-made and circuit-bent electronics from the afternoon workshop.

MONDAY 11 OCTOBER

Summer School teaching
10am-1pm CAD Seminar Rm, Level 5, 76 Symonds St.
Learn course design techniques for converting regular semester courses into Summer School courses. Ph 923 7951.

TUESDAY 12 OCTOBER

School of Music seminar
Dr Allan Badley: *Issues of authenticity and chronology in the sacred music of Leopold Hofmann*. 1.05-1.55pm Music Theatre, 6 Symonds St.

Bioengineering research seminar
Daniel Hurley, ABI: *Gene network inference and application*. 4-5pm Level 5 Seminar Rm, UniServices House, 70 Symonds St.

Exhibition opening
Sian Arthur and Amalie Termansen: *Ephemeral Transpositions*. 5.30-7pm George Fraser Gallery, 25 Princes St.
Future Proof Lecture Series 2010
6-7pm Design Lecture Theatre, Conference Centre, 22 Symonds St.

1) Jerome Partington: *Too much glass in NZ*.

2) Hugh Byrd: *The science behind glass boxes*.

Inaugural lecture
Prof Ngaire Kerse, School of Population Health. 6.30pm Lecture Theatre 732-201, Tāmaki Campus.

WEDNESDAY 13 OCTOBER

Dept of Applied Language Studies and Linguistics seminar
Assoc Prof John Read, DALSL, UoA: *Extending the yes/no test as a measure of the English vocabulary knowledge of Japanese learners*. 12noon Rm 103, Fisher Bldg, 18 Waterloo Quadrant.

THURSDAY 14 OCTOBER

Doctoral information evening (PhD and EdD)
4.30-6.30pm Room 201, Rocklands Conference Centre, 60 Epsom Ave. An information evening for people interested in enrolling in doctoral study at the Faculty of Education. RSVP to foed-postgraduate@auckland.ac.nz
Faculty of Science public lecture
Prof David Sloan Wilson, Visiting Hood Fellow: *Evolving the city: Using evolutionary theory to understand and improve the human condition*. 6pm B10 Lecture Theatre, 5 Alfred St.

Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

Art Deco apartment available for short term rental. Quintessential 1930s apartment, faithfully restored with a superb blend of Art Deco furnishings and modern conveniences. Ideally situated in historic Westminster Court, on Parliament St across from OGH. Building is fully secure with swimming pool and recreational facility. In short, a lovely environment. The apartment comprises one bdrm + library/dining rm, large lounge, fully equipped kitchen with all mod cons and tiled bthrm and laundry. Perfect retreat for a busy academic. Carpark optional. Contact Dawn Judge, ph (021) 528 223 or email dawnjudge@ezysurf.co.nz

Sabbatical or holiday retreat in Greek fully-furnished apartment
in East Peloponnese close to beach, overlooking the Aegean, pristine village, orange groves. Email t.fookes@auckland.ac.nz or visit www.tyrosapartment.com

Two bedroom apartment in St Johns, fully furnished, close to Tāmaki Campus, supermarkets and public transport to let for seven weeks with very lovable cat (13 Nov to 3 Jan). \$330 pw. Phone (021) 354 243 or email dallia@oasisfordance.com

Vintage villa at Sandringham, fully furnished, three bdrms, separate dining area and two toilets available for rent for the period 1 December 2010 to 28 January 2011. Villa is walking distance to shops, mall, theatre etc. Bus stop outside house. \$ 550 pw + power and water. Contact Vincent on (09) 846 0322 or (021) 0262 6242 or email vincent123@hotmail.com

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

Due to limited space in our flat, my visiting mother is seeking either short term accommodation or a house-sitting/pet-sitting position in Glendowie, St Heliers, Orakei or Kohimarama anytime between 24 November to late December 2010. She is a very responsible, trustworthy, N/S 70 year old from the USA. Please contact me if you have a room and bthrm available for rent or if you wish to consider her services as a housesitter/pet sitter. Phone Laurie on (09) 575 8442 or (021) 982 844. Email nzlaurie@gmail.com

MISCELLANEOUS

TheatreWorks, Recreation Drive, Birkenhead 1-9 October: Mairangi Players presents *Beyond a Joke*, a comedy by Derek Benfield. Friday 1 to Saturday 9 October, 8pm except Sunday 4pm, \$22 (\$18 concessions). Book on iTicket www.iticket.co.nz or 361 1000 (booking fee may apply). See mairangiplayers.co.nz for full details.
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.

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

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