In May the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stuart McCutcheon, announced the establishment of three University of Auckland Thematic Research Institutes (TRIs).

The mandate of the TRIs was to build collaboration across the University in key areas of national and international importance and promote interdisciplinary transformative research: research that makes a difference to our lives, and brings together diverse ideas and energies from across the disciplines to make this happen. The purpose was therefore not only to enhance research quality, raise the University’s profile, support and encourage postgraduate study and attract research funding but also had the explicit aim of contributing to the health of our society and offering benefits to our communities.

At the official launch of Te Whare Kura: Indigenous knowledges, peoples and identities, held at Waipapa Marae on 14 October, Professor Margaret Mutu (Māori Studies), who chaired the Steering Group that prepared the proposal for the TRI (and now chairs the TRI’s Steering Group) said she decided from the beginning that if the University wanted a TRI of this kind, it would have to be run by Indigenous people.

“I was very pleased,” said Margaret, to the guests and members of Te Whare Kura assembled at the Marae. “I knew intuitively that around the University we have a lot of brilliant Māori and Pacific researchers working alone. This was a great opportunity to bring them together.

“At that time,” she continued, “I laid down a rule. Everything would be done in terms of Tikanga Māori. I wanted Te Whare Kura to be deeply embedded in the Māori world, because that’s the only way it could have authenticity.”

Six months on, Margaret’s intuitions have been fully supported by the depth of talent that has come together, and the wealth of ideas and activities that are now emerging. “I was right. We have brilliant Māori and Pacific researchers in the University. We want to bring back to the surface the knowledge that is in our people, and we want our research to benefit our people.”

Dr Brad Coombes (School of the Environment), co-director of Te Whare Kura (with Dr Deidre Brown from Architecture and Planning), said that after a process of setting goals and intensively debating about their implementation, it was decided that Te Whare Kura would invest in human resources to help researchers, rather than becoming funders of research themselves. It will provide modest seed funding to initiate selected projects or collaborations, but will give priority to identifying and disseminating information about research and networking opportunities, and to giving administrative support and advice.

Helping provide this support will be Everdina Fuli, who commences next month as Business Manager, and Dr Lynette Read, Research Development Manager.

One of the TRI’s achievements has been to define four research groupings: Mauri Atua: Knowledge; Mauri Manāki: Economies; Mauri
From the Vice-Chancellor

The University has a strategic goal to grow its international student body. We seek to achieve a position in which about 20% of our undergraduates and at least 25% of our postgraduates are international students.

This is critical for a number of reasons. International students, who presently join us from over 100 countries around the world, add a great diversity of ethnicities, customs, experiences, religions and world views to our already richly multicultural University and city. This enhances the experiences of our domestic students, many of whom will delay their own overseas travel until they have finished their studies. Relationships that are formed between international and domestic students often last a lifetime, as we see when we hold alumni events around the world. So too do the relationships between international students and New Zealand. Many of our former students who have returned home retain an interest in this country, which often pays real dividends in research collaborations and in diplomatic, political, cultural and business settings. And, of course, international students make important contributions to the University’s revenues and the local economy. Their contributions are additional to, rather than a substitute for, those of domestic students, whose numbers are capped by government policy. Many jobs within the University and throughout Auckland rely on the presence of significant numbers of international students and their families.

The international student market is, of course, also very competitive and international students have many options available. Indeed, our international student numbers, particularly at undergraduate level, are only now recovering from the damage done to New Zealand’s image by the demise of several poor quality private providers in the early 2000s. In Australia, attacks on international students have placed their huge international student programmes at considerable risk, a risk that will soon impact on the institutions more generally.

We need to continue to work hard to ensure that The University of Auckland is an attractive destination for international students. There is no doubt that we offer a “value for money” experience. But a good experience for international students is also about being made welcome, making new friends and having a great time – something that all of us in the University can and must contribute to.

A unique and highly creative activity surprised even its organisers by the strength of support it received and the high interest it attracted from students and staff passing by.

Students from Elam School of Fine Arts and international students from around 60 countries were joined by Māori and Pacific students in the University’s main student quad on 28 September to create a giant collaborative painting on a three-metre by 11-metre Pacific-style tapa cloth which will later be on display at the University.

Concepted by Kathleen Kramlinger, International Relations Team Leader from the International Office, with support from Brian Lythe, International Student Adviser, the activity, entitled “A Home for all Cultures”, aimed to honour the cultural diversity of the campus and the greater Auckland community, while raising awareness of the University’s global connections and its role of providing a distinctive international educational environment.

“The symbolism of a tapa is of a blanket to comfort and envelop all cultures,” Kathleen explains. “It is also highly prized for its decorative value and is often found hanging on the walls as a decoration. It is traditional for a whole village to work together on a sheet of tapa, and it is customary to draw lines to provide guidance as to the direction and shape of the designs.”

Based on these traditions, the outlines for the grid were created with the assistance of fourth-year Elam students a few days prior to the event. The result on the day was all Kathleen had hoped for, and more.

“By 11.30am” she says, “nearly every space was occupied by someone representing their country, which was 60+ areas to complete.

“We had a Nigerian drummer filling up the space with excited beats that echoed throughout the Student Commons. We had children from Papua New Guinea and Sweden helping their parents to create their art, Elam students tracing the outlines of their feet as they danced across the tapa, the African club elegantly outlining the shapes of the wild animals of their mother countries, staff and student observers, and International Office representatives responding to dozens of questions about the significance of the activity.

“At the end of the day, it took 20 helpers to carry the finished product, still drying, to be laid out carefully in Old Choral Hall overnight. When I looked around at all the cultures represented by the tapa helpers, it truly was a diverse village, coming together in one place for a special moment. When the tapa safely got to its resting place, everyone clapped and cheered.

“There was much more than painting happening on this day. There was a true inter-cultural connection, and a sense of unity and respect for one another’s cultures. In the future, for those that view this and are coming from all parts of the world, we hope that they feel a sense of acceptance and identity when they look at our tapa blanket that was carefully crafted by our University village.”

This event comprised just one of a host of events held at the University to mark UN-HABITAT’s World Habitat Day. See “Insight: Maramatanga” opinion piece and photo on the back page.

Tangata: Wellbeing and Identity; and Mauri Tiriti: Governance, Rights and Responsibilities. All are defined in a way that accords with Māori and Pacific values, and offer a rich variety of research directions.

The speakers exemplified the interdisciplinary nature of the TRI, with Associate Professor Jan Crosthwaite, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, said she was delighted the faculty was hosting Te Whare Kura, and particularly pleased that it gave a chance to bring together so many people from across the faculties, who offer "enormous wealth of research skills and abilities, and are interested in the possibilities of research around these themes”.

Of Mauri Tiriti. Each theme is soon to have a congress to engage with staff throughout the University and further develop grant bids.

Judy Wilford
At the Fale Pasifika on 7 October more than 200 people from the Pacific communities of Auckland, along with visitors from Tonga and Samoa, gathered for an important and moving occasion that was both a commemoration and a celebration.

This function, hosted by the Centre for Pacific Studies, marked the first anniversary of the tragic tsunami which took the lives of almost 200 people in Samoa, American Samoa and Tonga, and deeply affected many more through the loss of their loved ones, properties or livelihoods.

The occasion also marked the launch of a beautiful book, Pacific Tsunami “Galu Afi”: The story of the greatest natural disaster Samoa has ever known.

Written by Lani Wendt Young (niece of Emeritus Professor Albert Wendt), the book is dedicated to the memory of those who lost their lives in the Pacific tsunami on 29 September, 2009.

As described in its introduction by Head of State of Samoa, Tui Atua Tupou Melese Taisi Tupoula Tufuga Ef, the book is “a most informative, most sensitively articulated and beautifully woven story not just about the impact of the tsunami on victims and helpers, but perhaps more tellingly about its impact on us as a people, as a society and as a nation.”

Hon. Hans Joachim Keil, Associate Minister for Commerce, Industry and Labour for the Government of Samoa (and editor of the book), spoke at the launch of the hope he had conceived in October 2009 for a book that would speak with the voices of those who had lived through the tsunami and those who had died, of those who had worked to rescue and rebuild.

He approached writer and English teacher Lani Wendt Young with his plan for a book based on interviews with the survivors, medical teams, volunteers, and others involved. She accepted the task and both agreed that any profits from the book’s sales would be given to assist victims of the tsunami.

At the launch Lani thanked all those who had shared their stories.

“With gracious hospitality survivors in both countries welcomed us into what was left of their homes and continually offered us the finest of whatever they had. With strength and courage they relived the nightmares of that day in September 2009. With humility and faith they entrusted us with their sorrows.”

Eminent writer and artist Albert Wendt congratulated his niece on accepting the huge challenge of weaving together the stories from hundreds of survivors to produce a book of the highest quality in just one year.

Also speaking at the launch was 11-year-old Poppy Wilson from Auckland’s North Shore, who was on holiday with her father and brother at Litia Sini Resort in Samoa at the time of the tsunami and was awarded along with her brother after their return with the “Area Commander’s Commendation for Bravery” by the Waitemata District and Rodney Area Police. Poppy spoke of the warmth of the Samoan people she met, who were generous and considerate even amidst disaster and loss.

Lani’s niece, Isabella More, a student in the School of Music, sang at the event, as did Darren Pene Patea, a graduate from the School and winner of the 2009-2010 New Zealand Aria competition.

Walter Fraser, Director of the Centre for Pacific Studies, said the whole event was a celebration of life as much as a commemoration of a sad event.

“It was a lovely evening with a large cross-section of the Pacific communities attending, and the programme was a moving tribute to those who survived.”

“The book celebrates the resilience of people.”

Judy Wilford
The University highly values its postgraduate students, who are essential contributors to our research culture, helping ensure our continuing development as a leading research institution.

One of the ways of showcasing and promoting student research is the annual event Exposure, organised by the Postgraduate Student Association (PGSA) in conjunction with the School of Graduate Studies.

The challenge Exposure presents for students is to highlight their research in a creative way, with a competition inviting entries in one of four categories; a poster display, an oral presentation, a multimedia presentation or a live performance.

The advantage Exposure offers postgraduate students is the chance to obtain publicity for their research in a less formal environment than a conference. It helps prepare them for their research in a more developmental way, and with a competition inviting entries in one of four categories; a poster display, an oral presentation, a multimedia presentation or a live performance.

The advantage Exposure offers postgraduate students is the chance to obtain publicity for their research in a less formal environment than a conference. It helps prepare them for their future careers by encouraging them to develop the communication skills they’ll need to present their work to industry, their peers and the media in the future.

This year the student-led entrepreneurial initiative, Spark, also played a part in Exposure, and the media in the future.

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In 2011, the Centre for Academic Development in conjunction with the School of Graduate Studies is introducing for the first time the Doctoral Academic Career Module, offering doctoral students the opportunity to explore a pathway to an academic career.

Career boost unique in NZ

In 2011, the Centre for Academic Development in conjunction with the School of Graduate Studies is introducing for the first time the Doctoral Academic Career Module, offering doctoral students the opportunity to explore a pathway to an academic career.

Unique in New Zealand, the module addresses two pertinent questions: “What is it to be an academic in the twenty-first century?” and “What do I need to do now to prepare for an academic career?”

The module will provide 12 fortnightly seminars over one year, with an emphasis on leadership in academia, teaching in practice, research, and professionalism. It will provide participants with an exceptional opportunity for networking and professional development.

Doctoral students interested in this module are advised to contact Dr Ian Brailsford, Academic Adviser (i.brailsford@auckland.ac.nz) or Dr Frances Kelly, Doctoral Skills Lecturer (f.kelly@auckland.ac.nz) in the Centre for Academic Development.

Distinguished engineer

On 4 October University staff and the people of Auckland had the chance to attend two seminars by Professor Hans Müller-Steinhagen, who spent eight years on the staff of The University of Auckland and is now Rector of the University of Dresden in Germany.

Professor Müller-Steinhagen led two seminars entitled “Power from the deserts for a sustainable energy provision” and “Fuel cells with wings”. For a story about his visit, his very happy memories of work and life in New Zealand, and his thoughts on the wider implications of sustainable energy, see the next issue of Uninews.

Intellectual harvest

Every year since 2006, thanks to the generosity of Dr Eve Seelye – and the Ralph and Eve Seelye Charitable Trust - the University has been able to award the Seelye Fellowships, with the purpose of attracting distinguished leaders in their fields. Between now and next September, five eminent academics will come to the University to share their skills and scholastic passions with staff, students and the community. These include experts in thermal engineering (from Spain), in law and psychiatry, in philosophical theology and in history (both from the United States), and a leader in health geography (from the UK). For more information on the latest round of Seelye Fellows, see the next issue of Uninews.

Combatting memory loss

Business Manager of the Confucius Institute, Gillian Eadie, with her sister Dr Allison Lamont, created the concept for a company called Healthy Memory Company Ltd, based on Allison’s research on age-related memory loss and featuring a range of online training products designed to help build brain resilience in the 50+ age group. Now the company, much to their delight, has achieved second place in the Spark $100K Challenge.

For more information about Spark winners, see the staff intranet.
Autonomous painting by machine

In the middle of New York City a man on a bicycle, eager to get to his destination, weaves through rush hour traffic. Once there he quickly discards his bike, grabs his trusted hand-held camera and walks toward the exhibition space P.S.1/MoMA. He enters, speaks to acquaintances and films things he likes.

Finally he comes across a machine painting on a canvas, seemingly making its own decisions. The film rolls, the intrigue in his voice rises. He begins looking for the machine’s maker, he is looking for Simon Ingram, artist and Senior Lecturer at Elam School of Fine Arts, NICAI, at The University of Auckland.

Simon’s work with machines stems from his research into painting and artificial life for which he received a Best Doctoral Thesis Award in 2006. The machines began with simple software and hardware, a brush running on an X,Y axis, randomly programmed to dip into a paint pot and then make a brush stroke.

“Over time I was able to develop the sophistication and functionality of the machines. I was able to get to the stage where they are able to decide what to paint and when they are finished.”

Over the last three years, with Faculty Research Development Funding (FRDF), Simon has been able to work with a computer programmer to develop a random walk algorithm that has enabled the machine to paint autonomously in the gallery space.

News of his project reached the Northern Hemisphere and he was invited to put his research into peer-reviewed contexts in Bonn, Brussels, Chicago, Graz, Little Wolf and New York.

“When I first started exhibiting my self-making painting machines internationally I felt like Buzz Aldrin. A lot could go wrong and if it did, I’d have to improvise in an unfamiliar environment. Nothing has ever really gone wrong though.

“One of the interesting things about working with machines is that in their installation and operation throughout the exhibition, people get involved, and the work develops life of its own.

“A German curator once gave me a badly needed part two days before the exhibition’s opening. Gallery staff tend to develop a kind of loyalty to the machine’s cause, helping to keep it running throughout the show. Visitors stop, watch, and anticipate the next brush stroke. Some come back, some are amused, most are surprised that the machine uses oil paint - perhaps they think oil paint is somehow incongruous with technology. The work is not intended to be ironic about art or the creative act although it is sometimes interpreted that way. The paintings are often better than anything I could do as a painter. The point is not so much to replace the painter in me, but to collaborate and make things more interesting.”

Which brings us back to the man on the bike otherwise known as James Kalm, artist and art critic who films his own show on contemporary art in New York – *The Kalm Report* - in which Simon’s self-making painting machine featured.

“To exhibit in New York at PS1/MoMA and to have one’s work reviewed on *The Kalm Report* was a significant moment in my career. In effect James Kalm is making a critical archive of the New York art scene and I expect for this reason his project has gained a lot of attention. The way in which art criticism is mixed in with the uptake of moving image via the web makes for a kind of criticism that has freshness and immediacy.”

Simon realises that this may not have happened without the FRDF and has worked hard to develop his project, has used the funding judiciously, and tried to ensure his shows generate interest and more invitations to exhibit.

“It is a privilege to receive an FRDF and because of this you ensure that everything you are doing is going to contribute to the overall value of the project.

“The process gives you a lot of confidence, you raise your level of engagement and commitment. A funded project is an opportunity to do something fun, but also something serious, something that makes a difference.”

Jared Heffernan
**WEDNESDAY 3 NOVEMBER**

**Department of Applied Language Studies and Linguistics seminar**
Prof Paul Gough, Visiting Professor, UoA. Foreign language aptitude revisited again. 12-1pm RM 103, Fisher Bldg.

**Liggins Institute Seasons of Life lecture**
Prof Paul Gough, Co-Director of the Centre of Research Excellence, the Liggins Institute: Superfoods: Can certain foods improve our health? 7.45pm Lecture Theatre 1.401, Faculty of Engineering, 20 Symonds St. Quinaries closes the festival with the release of his latest album ‘Latitude’, featuring Australian jazz heavyweight Bernie McGann (saxophone) and Carl Dewhurst (guitar) alongside NZ-based artists Olivier Holland (bass) and Ron Sansom (drums). Supporting act: Jimmy Garden Quintet. $15/$10. Contact jazzfest@auckland.ac.nz

**THURSDAY 4 NOVEMBER**

**InDesign introduction workshop**
12pm RM 103, 4th Floor, 76 Symonds St. Phone 923 7951 with queries or to enrol.

**In action**
Dance Studies end of semester showcase An exciting performance where staff and students show their artistic and creative choreographic works. 4pm Black Box. $10

**Fascinations in arts inaugural lecture**
Prof Linda Snyder, History Dept. The medical historian: Doctor basher or doctor defender? 6pm Conference Centre, 22 Symonds St.

**FRIDAY 5 NOVEMBER**

**In action**
Dance Studies end of semester showcase. 4pm Black Box. $10

**MONDAY 6 NOVEMBER**

**Public lecture**
Anna Baltzer, Award-winning author: Is peace in the Middle East possible? 6.30-8.30pm Fisher Bldg, Alfred St. Chair: Dr Nicholas Rowe. Visit www.palestine.org.nz

**WEDNESDAY 10 NOVEMBER**

**Department of Psychology seminar**
Assoc Prof Karen E Wellie, UoA and Anna J Wilson, UoA and University of Canterbury: Untangling the ‘dys’ from dyslexia and dyscalculia. 12noon HSB 604.

**Liggins Institute Seasons of Life lecture**
Prof Ian Shaw, Professor of Toxicology, University of Canterbury, Professor of Food Safety, Massey University: Is it safe to eat? 6-7pm Lecture Theatre 1.401, Faculty of Engineering, 20 Symonds St. Quinaries closes the festival with the release of his latest album ‘Latitude’, featuring Australian jazz heavyweight Bernie McGann (saxophone) and Carl Dewhurst (guitar) alongside NZ-based artists Olivier Holland (bass) and Ron Sansom (drums). Supporting act: Jimmy Garden Quintet. $15/$10. Contact jazzfest@auckland.ac.nz

**Facility of Arts inaugural lecture**
Prof Krishne Arulkumaran, European Languages and Literatures, Middle East Monarchy. ‘Gen’s republics and their female writers. 6.30pm Conference Centre, 22 Symonds St.

**ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE**

2011: Three bedroom house for rent in Devonport, for the academic year, dates flexible. Furnished or unfurnished, negotiable. Brick and tile, new nice view over water, children’s playground opposite. Email cjl@hufc.co.nz or phone 445 6621.

Apartment for rent: Large two bdrm apartment with terrace for rent in central Auckland. Walking distance to University, Britomart and ferry terminal. Fully furnished, fully-equipped with linen and bathm, all linen supplied. Secure with building manager on-site. Available for six months, (longer term negotiable). Please phone owner on (021) 564 836.

Art Deco apartment available for short term rental. Quintessential 1930s apartment, factfully restored with a subtle blend of Art Deco furnishing 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 bathrm and laundry. Perfect retreat for a busy academic. Carpark optional. Contact Dawn Judge, ph (021) 652 223 or email dawnjudgel@yahoo.co.nz

 Friendly housemate (preferably Chinese speaking) for fully furnished large house in Mount Albert. Quiet, quality furnished and fully available for shared use: almost new piano, new kitchen, spacious lounge and dining area, flat screen TV. Close to Tamaki Campus. Tidy and peaceful atmosphere. Sharing with one 30-year-old Asian female. $180 pw + expenses. Contact Aliceen on (021) 237 8749 or ag_bling8@yahoo.co.nz

 Available bedroom in three bedroom, bathroom townhouse in Epsom. Dble internal garage. Private sunny courtyard. Newly renovated. Dble Grammar zone, ENPS, ANI. Handy to shops, schools, parks, transport. No smokers/pets please. $650 pw. Available now. Contact Anna on (021) 125 9927 or annabella@gmail.com

 Peaceful Waikato Sunny 1 bdrm self-contained flat. Freshly decorated, 10 minutes to ferry for commuting. $190pw single or $245pw couple. Available early November. $220 pw. Email Gina g.judd@epsomgirl.net nz

 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 the house. $550 pw + $100 pw for electricity, gas and water. Contact Vincent on (09) 846 0322 or (021) 0262 6242 or email vincent1123@hotmail.com

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).

**MONDAY 1 NOVEMBER**

**Windows 7 upgrade workshop**
2-4pm CAD, 4th Floor, 76 Symonds St. Phone 923 7951 with queries or to enrol.

**TUESDAY 2 NOVEMBER**

**Department of History seminar**
Dr Sara Buttriss, UoA, CinderBella: Twilight, fairy tales and gendering the CinderBella: 1pm

**Bioengineering research seminar**
Julian Paton, Professorial Research Fellow, Bioengineering research seminar Twilight, fairy tales and gendering the CinderBella: 1pm

**SUNDAY 31 OCTOBER**

**NZ National Eye Centre Open Day**
11am-3pm Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. The day will include lectures from leading researchers of ophthalmology, optometry and vision science, research displays and plenty of hands-on activities for young and old, including 3-D vision exhibits and optical illusions. Queries phone 933 6717 or email d.mathews@auckland.ac.nz

Visit www.nz-nc.org.nz

**FRI 29 OCTOBER**

**What’s on**

Women and political leadership: Beyond the symbolic 1pm S GB 108, City Campus. Speakers:
- Prof Linda Trimble, University of Alberta, Canada: Comparing media representations of women leaders: Helen Clark and Jenny Shipley.
- Dr Jennifer Curtin, UoA: Pathways to power: The careers of Helen Clark and Julia Gillard.
- Prof Josephine McLeay, Victoria University of Wellington: Women and moral leadership: the case of Sue Bradford.

With Nikki Kaye, National MP, Auckland Central and Sue Bradford, former Greens MP. RSVP to j.curtin@auckland.ac.nz

**School of Critical Studies in Education seminar**
Dr Niels Kryger, Aarhus University: Danish ‘adolescents’ own voices: The freedom and obligation to be independent and autonomous. 4.30pm RM N56, Faculty of Education, Epsom. RSVP to d.mathews@auckland.ac.nz

**ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED**

Flat wanted for mature academic couple with a 4-year-old son. Mt Albert or surrounds preferred, and an enclosed yard is essential. Would consider a long term (12+ months) house-sit. Contact Barry on b.milne@auckland.ac.nz

Seeking apartment or house close to University of Auckland. House to rent from 1 January 2011. Villa is walking distance to shops, mall, theatre etc. Bus stop outside the house. $550 pw + $100 pw for electricity, gas and water. Contact Vincent on (09) 846 0322 or (021) 0262 6242 or email vincent1123@hotmail.com

Conservation shareholding. Rare chance to share in a 420ha covenanted bush area on Mangawhai Heads. Enjoy joint ownership of whole property with 17 other conservation-minded shareholders. Shares include four own freehold houses, sunny bush setting, alternative energy systems. Walking tracks, clean streams. Phone Pat on (021) 404 489. Ray White Rosedale. Email: ray.whiterosedale@gmail.com

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For sale: Shea butter has nourishing, healing and anti-inflammatory properties. We are selling cream containing 50% Shea butter (other luxury products contain 25% or less), coconut oil, beeswax, organic rosehip oil and essential oils, all organic, essential oils, all organic, packed in 50 ml jars ($15). This Shea butter is made by a women’s cooperative in a Malian village, and all income from sales pays for their nurse and health-related materials. Ideal for gifts and personal use. Your purchase will make a real difference. Contact Kaaren Hiyama at sheabuttermal@gmail.com

**Looking for a group of anglers to join?**
Prof James L Jones is looking for a group of anglers to join him in the South Island. He is happy to learn and ready to share the fun of the occasional fishing trip as well as the costs. Would prefer a group around my age and fishing on the Hawke’s Gulf. Please phone 0226934386 or email j.kruell@e克reece.ac.nz

**TRAVEL**

I have 12 years experience in booking travel for university staff and lecturers. I pride myself in ensuring that your travel plans are sourced at the lowest possible cost, while meeting your travel requirements. Contact Karen on karen.embleton@monotaro.co.nz or 940 0064 (wk) or (021) 188 7781.
This small, practical and highly readable book is written for young people making large decisions about what they want to do and how they see their futures.

Who You Are is What You Do: making choices about life after school, written by Heather McAllister, Student Centre Manager at the National Centre for Creative Arts and Industries and published by Beatnik Publishing, is strong and lively in style and addresses itself directly to its intended audience. “Thinking about life after school? Not sure what the future holds? Don’t panic! This book holds the key to your most important asset: you.”

The book offers questions to help its young readers understand themselves, information on how careers have changed for the 2010s, practical tips on choosing tertiary courses in New Zealand, and real-life examples to give inspiration. It includes blank pages to write down ideas.

Heather is a philosophical counsellor specialising in life-direction guidance for teenagers and adults. While she was manager of student recruitment at The University of Auckland she spent several years counselling and advising students regarding the transition from secondary to tertiary education. Much of this book is inspired by her discussions with thousands of students around the country about their life goals and dreams.

The result is an appealing and colourful volume, designed to have continuing use as a personal guidebook.
World Habitat Day is the one day each year when we are urged to reflect on the state of our towns and cities, and the basic right of all to adequate shelter. It is also intended to remind the world of its collective responsibility for the future of the human habitat.

This year The University of Auckland acknowledged this day through a series of events and happenings over a two-week period.

As Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary General, said: “This is an annual opportunity to reflect on how we can make our towns and cities better places for all. With the theme ‘Better City, Better Life’, this year’s observance highlights the actions and policies that can improve well-being for the billion people who live in slums and other sub-standard housing around the world.”

The University of Auckland kicked off with a phenomenal event, organised by Kathleen Kramlinger from Auckland International, which provided a colourful opportunity for students around the world to express their cultural identity (see story page 2, and photo above). The resulting colourful mural will be unveiled in the Auckland International Offices in the near future.

Habitat day activities finished with a panel discussion on the Shanghai Expo, exploring how it really addressed issues of urban sustainability. In between we had the photo competition which this year attracted over 40 entries, and a highly topical panel discussion on transport. The Gus Fisher Gallery provided the backdrop for a reflection by the University team of delegates to the World Urban Forum in Rio in March 2010.

All of these activities were an expression of a partnership agreement The University of Auckland signed with UN-Habitat in June 2009 to become one of 20 or so Universities around the world with a special relationship. As a result the University co-chaired the Universities Round Table at the World Urban Forum.

In Shanghai on 9 October I had the opportunity to continue discussions on the partnership with Bernhard Barth from UN-Habitat. Gulelat Kebede, the Chief of the Training and Capacity Building Division has accepted a visiting fellowship and will be in Auckland in April 2011 for four weeks to help develop research possibilities around the partnership.

So what is this all about and how will it help the University deliver its strategic objectives?

On the research front, UN-HABITAT events expose our research to the practical and political realities of policy implementation, providing high-level opportunities to discuss with mayors from around the world. The Habitat Partner University network is starting to yield potential research collaborations and the UN-HABITAT link is providing another important means for the University to develop its links with Pacific universities.

From a student perspective, the relationship will start to yield possibilities for internships with UN-HABITAT in Nairobi and elsewhere. Already the University is benefiting from the UN-HABITAT link, receiving postgraduate and PhD inquiries from students.

In August Professor Anna Tibajuka, who signed the agreement with Auckland Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon on 19 June last year, handed over the reins of UN-HABITAT to Joan Clos, best known for his transformational leadership as Mayor of Barcelona from 1997-2006. He will lead UN-HABITAT’s World Urban Campaign which provides an opportunity for the new Auckland City to both share and learn from other cities about how best to achieve sustainable urbanisation.

Professor Dory Reeves
School of Architecture and Planning

From the editor

It’s time for a change for Uninews, with a new, bright format (created by Brigid Cottrell and her talented design team in Communications and Marketing), and new content. Look for new features in the near future. Your Feedback and suggestions will be welcome on uninews@auckland.ac.nz or on ext 87383.

Judy Wilford, editor