



BRIGHT FUTURE

A new training course for current students piloted this year by professional staff stands to benefit almost everyone in the University community, and to be of potential benefit to other institutions.

The course, the first of its kind in New Zealand and possibly the first in any University in the world, has provided training for peer mediators, who are now eligible to apply to become nationally certified (by the Arbitration and Mediation Institute of New Zealand.) Already the students who undertook the course are internally certified to offer their services to fellow students who need help in dispute resolution.

Creator of the course is Barbara McCulloch, Mediation Manager for the University, who designed and piloted it in collaboration with others in the professional mediation community and with assistance from Associate Mediator Jane Mackenzie. Working with Barbara and Jane during the piloting process was a team of mediators who voluntarily assisted with coaching the role-plays which formed an essential part of the course. Some of this team also assessed the students' competence during and after training.

"Students accepted for the training were all doing well academically," says Barbara, "as it

was essential that those who took part would not be at any disadvantage in their degree programmes. Most were doing conjoint degrees, usually with Law as one component."

Participants received 40 hours' mediation training (in line with international best practice as laid down by the licenced accreditors), with an additional 30 hours of seminars and coached practice.

Mediation is a dispute resolution process in which the mediator assists people in finding their own solutions to problems involving other people. At the Mediation Service, Barbara and Jane are available for consultation with both staff and students but the number of students requesting referrals is growing all the time and, as Barbara says, if even one percent of the student population applied for assisted mediation, that would stretch their resources beyond capacity.

The piloted course is therefore of advantage in making the service available for many who might not otherwise have access to it, and also in allowing Barbara and Jane to put their energies into sharing their skills further and to ensure that the skills of conflict resolution are passed on.

Students were enthusiastic about what they gained and convinced of the value of what they

had to offer. "A community like the University really requires peer mediators," says Michael Ip, formerly a health professional and now studying Law. "It is a very complex environment, a melting pot of cultures, ideas and lifestyles, which students have to learn to manage - along with all the other demands they are facing."

Davy Mahon, a student of Law, Politics and Sociology, said the course had given him a perspective different from any of those disciplines. "I learned a lot about the energy that goes into listening... It takes huge concentration to listen and try to understand from both perspectives and to help people find some ground in between."

Sherry Han, a Psychology student, said prospective employers had taken a particular interest in the course. "In interviews they singled out peer mediation, took a particular interest in that and asked many questions about it."

Barbara's pride and pleasure in the students' achievement was evident in her words to them at the end of the course: "If you are the face of the future of humanity, then we will all be OK."

Taggio Price, Joshua Woo and Sherry Han Enjoy the final celebration for the mediation course.

Christmas message from OGH



Bernard Brown, well-known to staff as a lecturer in the Faculty of Law over many years, writes for *Uninews* about an event at Old Government House which is well worth noting in the year that marks the sixtieth anniversary of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and her husband Prince Phillip began their first tour of New Zealand in Auckland on 23 December 1953.

During their stay in Auckland, the royal couple resided at Government House - now the University's Old Government House. There they celebrated Christmas.

On Christmas Day the young Queen made from Government House the first ever "royal" broadcast to the Commonwealth and Empire from outside England.

The local consensus is that it was made from the Governor-General's Office - now occupied by Old Government House Manager Tim Biggs - which was already set up with some of the necessary electronic equipment. In her speech the young Queen spoke of the Tangiwai train disaster of the night before.

The royal couple were accommodated on the first floor - up the curved staircase from the main

hallway. On Christmas Eve they were serenaded with carols by Uncle Tom's choir (well-known for their popular performances on the radio station called the Friendly Road). Among the performers was David Lange, who, later, as Prime Minister of New Zealand, reminded the Queen of that occasion. (David Lange said she didn't remember a very chubby lad, but said she thought all of the singers looked quite well.)

David told me, maybe tongue in cheek, that the Friendly Road reminded him of Priestley's *The Good Companions* and was one reason that influenced him to accept the Companion of Honour Award rather than the Grand Cross of St Michael and St George, received by Sir Robert Muldoon, his predecessor as Prime Minister.

Geoffrey Webster, a veteran journalist of *The Auckland Star*, let it be known that an attempt by "a foreign snapper" to profit from unauthorised photographs of Her Majesty taken from an adjoining building (possibly the roof of the former ballroom) was met with the spontaneous global blacklisting of the photos.

Times change. The lustre of the Queen does not.

Bernard Brown

Gifted painting marks special relationship



Although Gus Fisher died on 20 July 2010, his beneficence has continued, with a major painting by Italian painter Girolamo Nerli being gifted to The University of Auckland Art Collection from Gus Fisher's estate in 2011.

Gus's widow Rene Fisher and his son Michael Fisher commemorated the anniversary of Gus's death with a special morning tea with the Vice Chancellor on Monday 23 July. They are pictured here with the Nerli painting, *The Blacksmith*, c.1895, which was bequeathed to the University. The work will be on permanent display in the University, in keeping with the terms of the bequest, and will feature in a forthcoming Auckland University Press publication on the

art collection.

During his lifetime, Gus Fisher (1920-2010) endowed many charities and foundations including the Auckland Museum, Auckland Art Gallery, McCahon House Trust and Auckland Festival as well as the Gus Fisher Gallery at the Kenneth Myers Centre, which bears his name.

The Gus Fisher Postdoctoral Scholarship in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences was created to fund dedicated medical research into finding a cure for Parkinson's Disease, a neurodegenerative condition which Gus Fisher's mother had suffered from.

Keenly interested in assisting with promoting New Zealand art and culture, Gus Fisher was also a major arts patron. His love of beauty saw him develop an abiding interest in architecture, design and the visual and decorative arts, and he was a knowledgeable and passionate collector of painting, sculpture, antiques and objets d'art, amassing a collection of over 300 paintings in his lifetime.

Given an Augusta Award by Auckland Grammar in 2008, Gus Fisher made an acceptance speech which explained why he was so passionate about the arts, and also how he felt his association with The University of Auckland was a special relationship. He said, "Since my retirement, my life has been enormously enriched by my association with The University of Auckland. Always being aware of

the importance of a good cultural understanding for a healthy society, I was truly delighted to be associated with the creation of the University's art gallery." He went on to say that he had been "fortunate to be encouraged by parents who believed that those who could afford to support worthy causes were morally obliged to do so".

After his retirement, Gus realised his long held dream, received training in painting from Ernestine Maddox and began to make his own art works. On 28 April 2010, he was given the \$20,000 Patron's Award by the Arts Foundation, which he supplemented with a further \$30,000 of his own so that he could give \$10,000 grants to two young fashion designers, Beth Ellery and Emilia Wickstead, as well as to the painters Andrew McLeod, Michael Smither and the estate of Pat Hanly.

Gil Hanly, the artist's widow, accepted on the late Pat Hanly's behalf, and has put the funding towards the production of a major new book on the artist's work. This will be produced by Ron Sang Publications, and will include 300 colour plates and 50 photographs, with an essay by The University of Auckland alumnus Gregory O'Brien. Due out in August 2012, this book will feature a special acknowledgement of Gus Fisher's generosity.

Linda Tyler

Leadership at the University

A focus on developing leadership across the University is receiving broad support through consultation on the new Strategic Plan 2013-2020.

Leadership has been identified in Staff Surveys as an important focus and is considered a key contributor to achieving the University's ambition to be a genuinely outstanding organisation by international standards.

Vice Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon commented in a Leadership Framework video (available on the intranet) that "in a situation where we're trying to build a great university from a very resource-constrained base, the role of leadership throughout the organisation, not only people in leadership roles but people providing leadership in their daily work and contributing to the total leadership component of the University, is very important".

A Leadership Framework has been created to provide clarity and a shared vision of what leadership looks like at The University of Auckland. The framework was developed using feedback from academic and professional staff focus groups in 2009-2010, together with a research-informed capability tool which has been adapted to the University's environment.

Considerable research and consultation supports the framework to ensure that leadership capabilities help people at all levels within the University to succeed.

A key message in the framework is that we all play a leadership role; not just individuals in management positions. Regardless of our role in

the University we all contribute to our future through personal leadership and the way we support each other to achieve that future.

"The framework," said Stuart, "is a way of allowing each of us, wherever we are in the university, to think about the nature of leadership, and that everybody can make contributions to that leadership development. We want people to use the framework to think about how they can do that."

"All staff play a leadership role; leadership is not only a management position."

The leadership capabilities described in the framework are not overly prescriptive and are intended as guide to encourage, support and acknowledge leadership contributions across the University. Over time the framework will form a foundation for the way we carry out development discussions, performance feedback, promotions, recruitment, succession planning and remuneration.

Development programmes are first to be aligned with the leadership capabilities described in the framework. This will be followed by alignment with Evolve competencies in 2013 and by integration into recruitment and appointment processes.

More information about the Leadership Framework will appear on the Staff Intranet.

Promoting Pacific health

Over 80 people from more than 25 nations including 21 Pacific Islands, New Zealand, Australia and the USA met in Auckland for the 4th 2012 Non-Communicable Disease Forum, held for the first time in New Zealand.

The forum is held annually to stimulate action and report progress on the prevention and control of chronic diseases such as heart disease, cancer and diabetes in the Pacific. The Auckland meeting had a particular focus on strengthening the surveillance of chronic diseases to help prepare Pacific Island countries for a global set of indicators and targets due to be agreed on later this year. It also focused on the most cost-effective strategies for controlling tobacco use, preventing unhealthy diets, promoting physical activity and reducing harmful consumption of alcohol.

Hosted by the World Health Organisation (Suva Office) and the Secretariat for the Pacific Communities, and funded by NZAID and AusAID, the forum was co-organised by the Global Health

group at the School of Population Health.

Dr Judith McCool, head of Social and Community Health, said the forum was a great success in terms of the enthusiastic level of input from the delegates: "There is a real momentum building and new potential for change in the region."

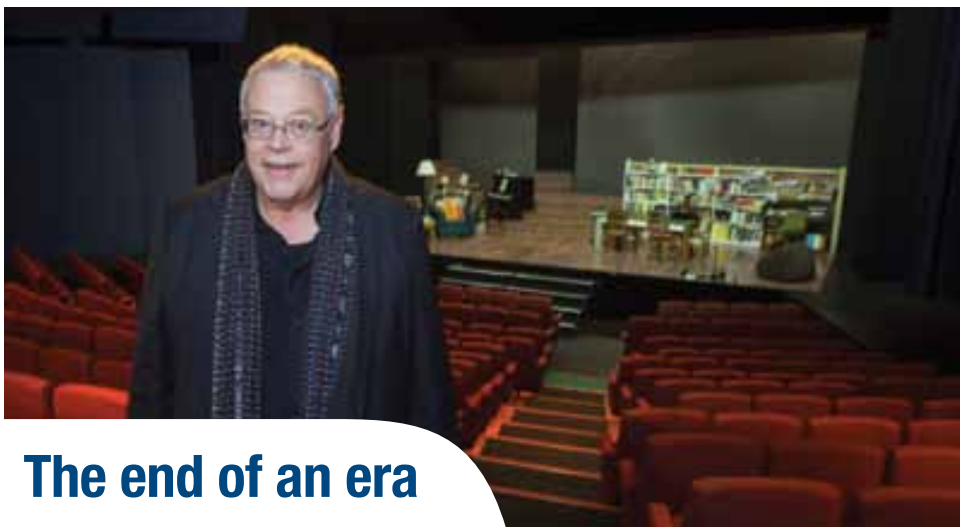
It was also deemed a success based on high participation and agreement of participants on the next steps required to slow the catastrophic rise in chronic non-communicable disease across the Pacific region.

The Global Health group was invited to assist in the organisation of the event because of its technical capacity in chronic disease prevention and control and its growing links with the Pacific. Dr Judith said that hosting the event was important not only for the profile of the unit but also for recognising the unique role The University of Auckland can play promoting health in the Pacific.

From the Vice-Chancellor



I have recently completed the annual budget briefing to Deans, academic heads and directors of Service Divisions, an event that kicks off the process leading to the approval of the University Budget and Annual Plan by the University Council in December. As in past years, developing the Budget will be challenging because of the significant external constraints. The Government will increase its funding of places in Science and Engineering by 2% and 8.8% respectively, but will hold funding rates in all other disciplines (including Arts, Creative Arts, Business, Education, Law) at 2012 levels, which represents a significant cut in real terms. It will also constrain our domestic tuition fees to a maximum rise of 4%, considerably less than what would be required to compensate for its own very limited increases in funding. This, together with a challenging situation for externally funded research, means we can expect revenue to rise by only 2% to \$958m. Against this very constrained revenue situation we have two major cost pressures. The first is staffing, where we continue to face a competitive international market for academics and domestic market for professional staff. Over the last six years we have been able to increase base salaries of academic staff by 38.8% and of professional staff by 30.5%. Merit and promotions increases have been on top of this at an annual cost of about \$7m. Such increases will be difficult to sustain in the future and we will need to ensure that our investment is, to the greatest extent possible, targeted at rewarding excellence. The second major pressure is in the cost of refurbishing and rebuilding our campuses. With an annual capital expenditure on buildings in excess of \$100m, we will continue to see increases in depreciation costs, operating costs (e.g. utilities) and, for the next few years, debt servicing. These investments in people and our campus infrastructure are undoubtedly necessary if we are to create for New Zealand a university of genuinely international quality, but they are made doubly difficult by a public policy environment that continues to favour lowering the cost of education over raising its quality. The presentation is available on the staff intranet at Planning and accountability.



The end of an era

It is hard to imagine the University's Maidment Theatre without its long serving Theatre Director Paul Minifie, who announced his retirement and left the Maidment, and the University, on 27 July after 20 years of service.

A testament to his professionalism, his concern during his last few weeks at the Maidment was not so much retirement as the business of running the theatre. In fact the foundations of a programme were already falling into place for the start of next year.

"I guess one needs to be prepared to let go but I'm also trying to make sure that there is a sense of continuity so it really has been business as usual," says Paul. "I'm sure as the time to leave gets closer, I'll become a bit more reflective."

From organisational restructures to changes in the student body as well as changes to the structural landscape of the University, Paul has seen it all.

"A big moment for the theatre happened in 1996 when Property Services went through a refurbishment of the theatre, adding to our

facilities. The student union no longer wanted organisational involvement with the theatre and so we came under the full control of the University.

"At that time, the Auckland Theatre Company was expanding its programme and venues and thought we would be a good location to use. The quality of the programme and the new audience contributed substantially to the theatre's growth."

As the Maidment has grown so too has its reputation for quality service, something which Paul takes great pride in, seeing not only the wider benefits of returning business and positive word-of-mouth but the lasting impression that people leave with. It's this lasting impression that has seen Paul's involvement at the University extend beyond the Maidment, most notably to a seat on the Cultural Blues Panel, whose change in name he commendably suggested from its previous title of "non-sporting blues".

As Paul recounts some of the major works that have taken place at the Maidment, there are whispers of nostalgia starting to sneak through.

He recalls productions that have moved people to tears and performances that have clearly moved him.

"Being part of the development of Black Grace is one of many key moments. When they were first established we all sat in a circle in the foyer and talked about hopes and dreams. Neil Ileremia wanted to lead a group of solely Samoan men to dance which was quite a new concept at the time – that men could use their bodies gracefully and with vigour.

"As the company grew and Neil led them, the work became really astonishing, of huge beauty and depth. That work went on here for four or five years and now the company tours places like America and Germany as well as nationally. I feel proud that that all happened here."

It is easy to see that the Maidment's 36-year history is steeped in a number of events that "all happened here". One of the city's oldest performing arts venues and has progressed from its first vision as a bridge into the community into a gateway into the University – a result that Paul credits to the University's support of the theatre.

Throughout it all, Paul has, for the majority of the theatre's history, been an instrumental part of the Maidment. "The thing I'm looking forward to when I retire is having time to think. To cogitate. I've worked in theatre for 44 years constantly, and I've spent 20 years here at the Maidment, managing and programming, juggling budgets, managing staff – so it'll be nice to have time to myself and just life generally.

"The theatre is well placed, as part of Campus Life, to move into a period with new management and the change that will bring, and I wish everyone involved good luck and a very successful future."

Highlighted events

Two law lectures

At a public lecture at 6pm on Thursday 9 August in Lecture Theatre 102-G36 at Old Government House, His Excellency Judge Kenneth Keith, ONZ KBE QC, will draw on his law-making experiences throughout a long and distinguished career to speak on "Conflict, counsel, courts, commissions ...Reflections on how law is made". Refreshments will be served at 5.30pm. RSVP to lawevents@auckland.ac.nz

At 5.15 to 6.30pm, also on 9 August, Professor Jane Kelsey will give a public lecture on "International law and tobacco" This will be held at the Gus Fisher gallery, 74 Shortland Street. RSVP to Anjeela Kumar on a.kumar@auckland.ac.nz or 09 923-4203.

Brainstorming invitation

The Equity Office seeks input from staff and students on a major new project, "Measuring Indicators of Leadership in Equity" (MILIE). Those interested are invited to attend a meeting to help shape its principles, indicators and objectives, Input will be invited on what information to record, on formats for presentation of data, and analysis and action-research cycles. The next session will be on 6 August, 12.30-2pm, Tamaki Campus, Room 373, Student Learning Building 730. The final session will be on 13 August from 12Noon to 1.30pm in the ClockTower Presentation Room, Building 105, Room 204. Please RSVP, indicating which campus meeting, to Natalie McGrinder on eo.admin@auckland.ac.nz

Shoulders of giants

In his inaugural lecture titled "On the shoulders of giants", Professor Andrew Hill will describe his journey from medical student at The University of Auckland to medical missionary to Head of the South Auckland Clinical School. He will interweave information about his extensive clinical research aimed at understanding the debilitating fatigue that patients experience after major surgery with his experience of being mentored and being a mentor. The lecture will take place on 9 August from 5-7pm at Ko Awatea Centre, Middlemore Hospital, 100 Hospital Road, Otahuhu. Andrew practises as a general and colectoral surgeon and is Director of Research at Ko Awatea.

Human power



Technology created by researchers from the Auckland Bioengineering Institute (ABI), which makes it possible to convert human movement into battery power, could in the future enable people to charge their electronic devices while they walk.

This is because artificial muscle generator technology developed by the ABI's Biomimetics Lab can scavenge latent energy from human motion to directly power devices and put power where it's needed.

Dr Tom McKay, Dr Ben O'Brien, Dr Todd Gisby, Associate Professor Iain Anderson and other researchers from the Lab, have been working on the artificial muscle generator technology for the past six years. Artificial muscle, the main component of the generator, is made of a rubbery material that has mechanical properties similar to human muscle and is capable of generating electricity when stretched.

Dr O'Brien says: "The advantage that we have over our competitors is in the small and soft circuitry that we have developed which controls the artificial muscle. Previously, artificial muscle generators were seen as unpractical to power portable electronic devices because they required bulky, rigid and expensive external electronics."

Our artificial muscle generators, because of their circuitry, are lightweight, inexpensive and compact so in the future they could easily be incorporated into clothing where they could harvest energy from the wearer's movement, he says.

"It means that people would not have to worry about the batteries on their portable devices dying out and because it would reduce the number and size of batteries required, it would mean fewer batteries ending up in our landfills."

Several international companies are interested in the Biomimetic Lab's artificial muscle generator technology and in March this year the research was named runner-up in the Excellence in the Field of Environmental Technology Research category at Monaco's CleanEquity investment conference.

The CleanEquity Monaco 2012 conference, sponsored by Prince Albert II, was conceived to accelerate cleantech innovation and implementation and provide expert intelligence on emerging clean technologies.

Photo: Push the plunger, the muscle is deformed and generates electricity to light up the fern.

Harvard professor shares expertise

Tertiary institutions in New Zealand, Australia and Canada are strengthening their cooperation in indigenous health education.

They are doing this by sharing their knowledge, theory, experiences, ideas and resources through a research collaboration called Educating for Equity (E4E) funded by the International Collaborative Indigenous Health Research Partnership.

The project team is looking at innovative approaches to teaching and learning on indigenous health in regard to chronic disease. The Principal Investigator is Dr. Rhys Jones of Te Kupenga Hauora Māori, Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, and the aim is to improve the wellbeing of Indigenous peoples in each country.

Recently the E4E Aotearoa team met with Professor Nancy Krieger, an internationally recognised social epidemiologist from the Harvard School of Public Health who shared her expertise on implicit and explicit measures of discrimination. "Rigorous study of how racism harms health, like any other sort of scientific research, requires conceptual clarity about the theories we use to articulate causal relationships, and the methods we use to measure phenomena

and test our hypotheses," said Professor Krieger in a seminar at The University of Auckland.

The working meeting focused on development of an implicit/explicit bias instrument, for use in the E4E Aotearoa project, which will apply Professor Krieger's work on eco-social theory to health professional education research. It will provide a mechanism for examining unconscious biases and stereotypes among students and practitioners, and for better understanding how these "health professional factors" contribute to inequities in health care, and outcomes of chronic disease.

Research team representatives from Auckland, Christchurch, Wellington and Dunedin gathered for the working session, which was hosted by the University of Otago, Wellington.

Examining and addressing implicit and explicit biases through health professional education will help to reduce health care disparities and improve chronic disease outcomes for Māori. The methods and tools developed for this component of the study also promise to have broader application in other research and educational settings.

**Kathleen Kramlinger-Wills and
Dr Bettina Ikenasio**

EU Exchange Funding

Six University research teams have succeeded in securing Royal Society of New Zealand (RSNZ) funding worth a total of \$1,053,265 to participate in multi-institutional exchange programmes under the EU FP7 Institutional Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES) 2012. This represents an 85 percent success rate for University of Auckland applicants and follows a programme of IRSES support activities run by the Research Office, including a workshop for prospective applicants and editorial advice. New Zealand participation will be funded by the RSNZ from the "IRSES Counterpart Fund", which was for the first time oversubscribed.

There will be one further round under the current EU FP7 programme with a deadline in January 2013. For more information contact David Saunders, d.saunders@auckland.ac.nz.

AMRF grants announced.

The Auckland Medical Research Foundation (AMRF) has announced funding for six University of Auckland research projects and 18 travel grants. Projects will be carried out over a one to two year period and are valued at up to \$139,000. Congratulations to Dr Trecia Woulds (Psychological Medicine); Dr Justin Dean (Physiology); Dr Julie Lim, (Optometry and Vision Science); Dr Euphemia Leung (Auckland Cancer Society Research Centre); Dr Justin Fernandez (Auckland Bioengineering Institute) and Associate Professor Alan Davidson (Molecular Medicine & Pathology).

FRLP

The Future Research Leaders Programme is a unique training opportunity for academics that aspire to a research leadership role. FRLP has eight independent modules. The coming modules is:

Managing and leading people – 4

September, all morning. Register through frlp@auckland.ac.nz More information, including the 2012 schedule, is available from the staff intranet (intranet > research > strategic development >) mandy.brown@auckland.ac.nz ext. 82735.

WUN applications close 6 August

Applications are invited from academic staff/teams to the 2012 Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) Research Development Fund process (comprising both internal and external sub-processes). The University can propose up to three new Auckland-led projects per year for WUN recognition and pump-priming funding, and be a partner to any number of other member-led proposals.

Applications close: Monday 6th August, 5pm. To find out more, contact Robyn Hill, robyn.hill@auckland.ac.nz, ext. 83812

From the collection



Originary moments of modernism in New Zealand art are usually recounted anecdotally - Toss Woollaston in Nelson asking if he could copy Flora Scales's notes taken in classes at the Hans Hofmann School in Munich or Colin McCahon encountering Mary Cockburn-Mercer hobbling around on crutches in Melbourne in 1951.

Not all local interrogation of European experiments in abstraction starts on such a shaky footing. John Weeks (1886-1965) spent four years in Paris, drawn there originally from Edinburgh by the 1925 Exposition internationale des arts décoratifs et industriels modernes, the famous seven-month long Art Deco exhibition which dominated the French capital from April to October of that year.

Weeks came to painting through his work in advertising. As a signwriter, he took night classes at Elam School of Fine Arts in 1908 with

Edward Friström before graduating to the full-time course at the Canterbury School of Art. There he schooled the other students in Lettering and Design, before setting off to enrol at the Royal Scottish Academy School of Painting at the Edinburgh College of Art. Two years later, he was painting in a cubist style under instruction from André Lhote at a private academy in Montparnasse.

Travelling to French North Africa for 15 months in 1927-28, he returned to Paris with a repertoire of figurative and landscape subjects developed, including the Jewish washerwomen seen here. He explained what he had learned in a letter to his parents in 1929: "the more design and decoration there is in a picture, the more artistic it is. It is this artistic quality that I am going to work my hardest to obtain".

Broken into geometric shapes and colour blocks of russet red, blue, yellow and brown with black patterning, this watercolour shows Weeks flattening the form of figures to emphasise the two dimensional materiality of painting. Bending at their labours, the three washerwomen are arranged in a circle around a tub that is marked by a folded cloth which falls straight towards the bottom of the composition. Each one's head is at a different angle, and covered with a mitpachat, the headscarf worn by Jewish married women.

White sweeps of cloth suggest aprons, while the angularity of each woman's arm conveys the energy and rhythm of their dousing of the clothes. Bright sunshine attends their ritual, while behind them the background is as busy and vibrant with pattern as they are with scrubbing and rinsing.

Working in Paris in the Jazz Age, Weeks developed a form of modern painting that was embedded in decoration. The French adjective *decoratif* described a schematic or abstracted image, and decorative treatments of traditional themes such as landscape, still life or the genre painting of everyday life of common people, extended the repertoire of subjects acceptable for exhibition. In Weeks' work, decoration is achieved through the independence of colour as an element in composition. Losing its primary representational character, its function is to link areas of the composition together. Variations of hue, tone and value mark the recurrence of each colour around the picture plane.

The tonal value to give a particular colour was a technical problem which Weeks laboured over, and he believed that composing a picture was like composing music: "the colour must lead through from one passage to another, the forms must fill up and the tune make in itself a harmony", he wrote. Here is the echo of his French teacher, Andre Lhote, who frequently referred to colour harmonies, orchestration, melodic line and pictorial music. These ideas were introduced to New Zealanders in the works he exhibited on his return to Auckland, where he taught at the Elam School of Fine Arts from 1930 until 1954.

Linda Tyler

John Weeks, Jewish Washerwoman, watercolour on paper, 336 x 406m

Books



This collection of poetry both longs for and resists the north.

In storytelling couplets, the title poem engages with a woman's past, with yearning and newness as she looks outward from the shores of the Hokianga.

Written by Anne Kennedy and published by Auckland University Press, the poems comprise an exploration of present and future, here and there, north and south, earth and paradise, hello and goodbye. Fairytales are reconfigured, settlement explored, landscapes remembered. Though separate and various in tone and form, these narrative poems wave to one another - adding further pleasures to this sparkingly original book by one of our most interesting poets.

Anne Kennedy is a writer of fiction, screenplays and poetry and a former University of Auckland literary fellow, now based in Hawaii where she teaches, fiction and screenwriting at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa. Her sequence *Sing-song* (AUP, 2003) won the poetry category at the 2004 Montana New Zealand Book Awards, while *The Time of the Giants* (AUP, 2005) was shortlisted for the 2006 awards.

She came from Hawaii to launch *The Darling North* and appear at this year's Auckland Writers and Readers Festival.

What's on

THURSDAY 2 AUGUST

Inaugural lectures

5.30-7pm Lecture Theatre 1.439, Building 401, Faculty of Engineering, 20 Symonds St.

- 1) Prof Shane Xie, Chair in Biomechanics, Dept of Mechanical Engineering: *Biomechatronic technology for the future of healthcare*. 6pm.
- 2) Prof Peter Xu, Chair in Mechatronics, Dept of Mechanical Engineering: *Mechatronics for innovative smart medical devices*. 6.30pm.

Queries to foe-events@auckland.ac.nz

2012 Vice-Chancellor's Lecture

Exercise is Medicine.

Prof David Cameron-Smith, Liggins Institute and Dr Nicholas Gant, Dept of Sport and Exercise Science: *Nutrition and exercise: Protein for power versus carbohydrate for performance*. 7-8pm Fisher & Paykel Appliances Auditorium, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. Queries phone (09) 923 3258.

SATURDAY 4 AUGUST

Gallery talk

1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Dr Lynette Read, Faculty of Arts, explores recurring themes and motifs in Vincent Ward's exhibition and films, including the expressionist aesthetic that is characteristic of his work. Visit www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

TUESDAY 7 AUGUST

2012 Winter Lecture

Hazards, disasters, risks and responses: Auckland are you ready?

Assoc Prof Peter O'Connor, Faculty of Education: *Understanding human responses - 'a teaspoon of light'*. 1-2pm Maidment Theatre, 8 Alfred St. Queries to 373 7599 ext 87698.

Bioengineering research seminar

Prof James B. Grotberg, Director, NASA Bioscience and Engineering Institute, University of Michigan: *Multiphase flow in the lung*. 4-5pm Ground Floor Seminar Rm G010, UniServices House, 70 Symonds St.

2012 Vice-Chancellor's Lecture

Exercise is Medicine.

Assoc Prof Paul Hofman, Liggins Institute and Starship Children's Hospital and Prof Elwyn Firth, Dept of Sport & Exercise Science: *Exercise as life-long medicine*. 7-8pm, Fisher & Paykel Appliances Auditorium, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. Queries phone (09) 923 3258.

WEDNESDAY 8 AUGUST

Word presentation and graphics workshop

9am-12noon, Level 2, Fisher Bldg, 18 Waterloo Quadrant. Phone 923 7951 for more information or to enrol.

Department of Sociology seminar

Dr Phyllis Herda, Dept of Anthropology: *The 1918 influenza pandemic in Fiji*. 11am HSB 901.

NZ Asia Institute seminar

Dr Hugh Byrd, Architecture and Planning: *From Kampung to city and back again*. 12-1pm Rm 3.405, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds St.

Office 2010 upgrade workshop

1-4pm, Level 2, Fisher Bldg, 18 Waterloo Quadrant. Phone 923 7951 for more information or to enrol.

Fast Forward lecture

Rick Pearson, Director, Pearson & Associates: *X marks the spot: Interpretation design*. 6.30-7.30pm Engineering Lecture Theatre 439, Bldg 401, 20 Symonds St. Queries to n.guy@auckland.ac.nz

THURSDAY 9 AUGUST

Faculty of law public lecture

Prof Jane Kelsey: *International trade law and tobacco*. 5.15-6.30pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. RSVP to Anjeela Kumar, a.kumar@auckland.ac.nz

Faculty of law public lecture

His Excellency Judge Kenneth Keith: *Conflict, counsel, courts, commissions: Reflections on how law gets made*. 6pm Lecture Theatre, OGH. RSVP to lawevents@auckland.ac.nz

2012 Vice-Chancellor's Lecture

Exercise is Medicine.

Prof Professor Steven N. Blair, University of South Carolina: *Exercise is Medicine: What is the Evidence Supporting this Initiative?* 7-8pm Fisher & Paykel

Appliances Auditorium, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. Queries phone (09) 923 3258.

FRIDAY 10 AUGUST

Composition workshop

Dr Carol Brown, Dance Studies. 4-5.30pm Music Theatre, 6 Symonds St. Free. Queries to 923 7707 or concerts@auckland.ac.nz

SATURDAY 11 AUGUST

Gallery talk

1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Senior Lecturer Roger Nicholson, English, looks at medieval content in Vincent Ward's work, including relationships between history and fiction. Visit www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

SUNDAY 12 AUGUST

Concert

Searching for the New Sound. A concert of contemporary new art music by Auckland composers The Committee. 4pm ClockTower, 22 Princes St. \$17. Queries to k.mclennan@auckland.ac.nz

MONDAY 13 AUGUST

Executive Remuneration Conference

12noon-6pm Decima Glenn Rm, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. Queries to Pam Kam, phone 923 1286 or email p.kam@auckland.ac.nz

Student jazz ensemble concert

6.30-10.30pm Studio One, Kenneth

Myers Centre, 74 Shortland St.

Jazz Performance students present a mix of jazz standards, modern pieces and original work prepared over one term. Free. Also on tomorrow. Queries to concerts@auckland.ac.nz

TUESDAY 14 AUGUST

2012 Winter Lecture

Hazards, disasters, risks and responses: Auckland are you ready?

Assoc Prof Carol Mutch, Faculty of Education: *Media responses: From information to interaction*. 1-2pm Maidment Theatre, 8 Alfred St. Queries to 373 7599 ext 87698.

Bioengineering research seminar

Assoc Prof Stuart Parsons, Biological Science: *Putting the 'bio' into 'biomechanics': Patterns of limb movement in walking bats, and biomechanics linkage with echolocation call production*. 4-5pm Ground Floor Seminar Rm G010, UniServices House, 70 Symonds St.

Exhibition opening

Kiri Gillespie, Natalie Guy, and Glen Snow: *Ornamentation and its discontents*. 5-7pm George Fraser Gallery, 25a Princes St. Runs until 25 August.

Queries to l.williams@auckland.ac.nz Visit www.georgefraser.auckland.ac.nz

WEDNESDAY 15 AUGUST

Fermata lecture

Dr Simon Barker: *Scattering rhythms: The Koreanisation of the western drumset*. 5.30pm Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds St.

Fast Forward lecture

Luis Feduchi, Arqto, Brisbane: *Of ruins and unfinished buildings*. 6.30-7.30pm Engineering Lecture Theatre 439, Bldg 401, 20 Symonds St. Queries to n.guy@auckland.ac.nz

Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

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 David Feng (09) 303 0601 or Lauren Valcarcel (021) 103 4865 at City Sales or rentals@citysales.co.nz or log on to www.citysales.co.nz/rentals

Parnell cottage available mid-Sept 2012 to end July 2013. Two bdrms, study, two bthrms, car space. Quality furnishings, lots of books, central heating. Small garden, harbour views. 10 minute walk to university. One person or couple, N/S, no pets. \$550 pw + bills. Please email Sidney ssmi069@aucklanduni.ac.nz

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

Bach on Kawau Island: Older NZ couple visiting from 16 Dec-10 Jan seek basic reasonably-priced bach for few

days to fulfill 'bucketlist' and revisit youth.

Email m.playfair@auckland.ac.nz

Family of two adults, 12-year old daughter, small dog (Cavoodle, non-shedding coat) looking to housesit 18 August-28 Sept (flexibility with dates). Anything considered especially proximity to either Auckland Museum, St Mary's or UoA City Campus. References available. Please contact Andrea or Chris on (027) 672 2568 or (09) 845 2223, andrea_chris@xtra.co.nz

Looking for a housesitter over summer?

Retired UK couple visiting their grandchildren in Auckland are looking for housesit/s over late November-January. Houseproud, reliable, honest and mature; contact mosels20@btinternet.com

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

Bach on Waiheke. 1930s refurbished family bach at Orapiu; brilliant views and close to beach, with mooring. Two dble bdrms inside, and a renovated sleep-out. Please ring 624 5422 evenings or (021) 688 558 or email jaldeng@xtra.co.nz Reasonable rates. A deposit of \$50 is required to secure a booking.

MISCELLANEOUS

City Legal Services. Rainey Collins Wright is a small law firm centrally located at L1 Princes Court, 2 Princes Street. We are near the University, with good parking. We can assist with property transactions, trusts, wills, administration of estates, enduring powers of attorney and relationship property matters. Please phone our senior solicitor Nichola Christie on 379 5828 to discuss your needs, or email nchristie@rainey.co.nz Visit www.rainey.co.nz

Hair salon at Grafton. Kookachoo hair salon is situated opposite Auckland Hospital at 65 Grafton Rd. University staff can enjoy a permanent 10% reduction on all services and products, including Moroccan Oil. We provide a full range of services, whether you want to refresh your current style or try something new. You can book on line at www.kookachoo.co.nz where you will find a full list of services and prices, or call 379 4731 to talk with our senior stylists Amanda or Rita and book an appointment.

Telling tales transcription services: Transcribing your digital audio files into any format. Interviews, lectures, your stories, family history. Writing, typing, editing and proofreading services. \$30 per hour. Phone or text (021) 234 6309 or (09) 945 0700 or email julia@tellingtales.co.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.



SUPPORTING OUR ELITE ATHLETES

University sport in New Zealand is facing a period of change.

With voluntary student union membership now in place across the country, the resources available for sport have become strained as unions place an emphasis on securing members and on events that can maintain or increase their student body.

The governing body for university sport, University Sport New Zealand (USNZ), faces its own crisis around its ability to add value to its members – a fault due partly to voluntary student union membership but mostly to a lack of any clear purpose. If they cannot add much in the way of benefit to students and universities it may well see the end of well-established inter-tertiary national competitions such as Uni Games or Snow Games.

By comparison, sport at our University is on the up, with more opportunities than ever before and participation and involvement growing rapidly. The interfaculty tournament is growing from strength-to-strength with over 800 students involved and faculties beginning to lend their full support.

We are starting to see and acknowledge more of our elite athletes who are competing on a global stage. They are some of our best and brightest who are not only representing our country but are also tremendous ambassadors for the University and, in the case of our more well-known alumni such as Mahe Drysdale, help to raise the profile of our organisation.

In addition to our current Olympians, four students and 11 alumni, there are many others who compete on the international stage. In our student ranks at the moment are Vodafone Warriors, Blues players and New Zealand Silver

Ferns as well as world class competitors in rowing, orienteering and hockey – all high performing athletes, all using a dedication and focus applied to both sport and academia and all doing so while studying at our university.

Recently Matt Ogden (pictured second from left), an Engineering student, was crowned with the men's title at the Junior World Orienteering Championships – the first male from outside of Europe to win the title in the competition's 12-year history. And another, Bobby Kells who is also studying Engineering, competed in the Under-23 World Rowing Championships and returned with a bronze medal from his international debut.

While we are happy to celebrate these successes we are, however, in a precarious position of needing to do more to become an institution that is as renowned for its ability to support high performance athletes as it is for its academic standing. Key concerns for many athletes are being able to afford to compete while also being able to meet academic requirements.

Students attending events such as the World University Games or a world championship need to fundraise around \$7,000 to compete. This is a large amount of money when placed on top of the costs of living and study. We have made some provisions for such instances and some students have been lucky enough to get small grants from the University as a contribution towards their costs.

Outside of these grants though we offer little in the way of financial support, with the exception of scholarships such as the Prime Minister's Scholarship and, in partnership with Auckland University Rugby Club, the John Drake

Memorial Scholarship, which is quite specific in targeting prominent secondary school rugby players before they start university.

For some the juggling act becomes too much and without the necessary support, they elect to leave their degrees incomplete. Former World Cycling Champion and New Zealand's first Olympic Cycling gold medallist, Sarah Ulmer, is a notable example, being a few classes short of her Bachelor of Science, while 2011 All Black Anthony Boric has still to complete his Bachelor of Engineering.

To address this we are hopeful of beginning a programme which provides support to high performance students in sports (and in the arts) to help plan for their futures and balance the commitments from each discipline. The objective is to help students who have commitments outside of the University, due to having to perform at a national or an international level.

The ramifications of not providing a strong support network, academically or financially, are obvious. We risk losing that student to another institution, in New Zealand or overseas, capable of providing the required level of support – if the student elects to study at all.

Or, in a worst case scenario, the sport loses an athlete who, faced with academic and financial burdens, chooses to forego the sport entirely and the country potentially loses a world champion.

Louis Rattray
Director of Sport and Recreation

Photo: Courtesy New Zealand Orienteering Federation.