



## OUTSTANDING TEACHERS

From left: Professor Alison Jones (Education), Associate Professor Cather Simpson (Science) and Associate Professor Bryony James (Engineering).

“All comments about ‘being a good teacher’ must sound trite, because teaching always happens in the practice of it, not in the telling of it.”

This comment comes from Professor Alison Jones (Education), one of three University academics who won national Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards (in the General category) earlier this month for “practising” good teaching. The other recipients were Associate Professor Cather Simpson, (Science) and Associate Professor Bryony James (Engineering).

“A key focus of the awards is to identify and reward teaching practices that are student-focused and promote effective learning,” says Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon. “The University extends its congratulations to all three winners for their outstanding efforts.”

Alison Jones began teaching at the University in 1986, and joined Te Puna Wānanga, School of Māori Education, in 2004. She has had great success supervising postgraduate students, especially Māori and Pacific Island students and, in turn, says her students have provided the impetus for her own research. Alison identifies three keys to her teaching: forming a supportive

and inspiring relationship that will get the best work from the student; the importance of collective learning to the development of researchers; and the idea that researchers are writers, and that academic writing should be engaging and interesting.

“Perhaps because I don’t like unnecessary intellectual obfuscation, and poor argument depresses me, I enjoy unpacking ideas and making sense of them with others,” Alison told UniNews on email from England where she is currently on a research trip. “And I particularly love reading good writing – so that is what I expect from my students.”

Cather Simpson was appointed jointly to the School of Chemical Sciences and Department of Physics in 2007, and also contributes to an English course. Cather’s teaching philosophy is to help students learn what they need to succeed in their own lives, and she fosters an ethos of independence and self-motivation in students.

Active and co-operative learning are central to Cather’s classes, encouraged through activities such as “convince your neighbour” sessions, group problem solving and “problem of the day” exercises.

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### Robb Lectures



Professor Kwame Anthony Appiah, Princeton University’s Laurance S. Rockefeller University Professor of Philosophy, is the 2013 Sir Douglas Robb lecturer.

He will deliver three lectures on “Identity, honour and politics” on 19, 21 and 23 August at the Fisher & Paykel Appliances Auditorium (260-115), Owen G Glenn Building.

The first lecture will explore a philosophical account of the nature of social identities, focusing on the ways in which they are constituted through social interactions that involve both collaboration and conflict. Kwame will talk about the ways in which our social identities shape both our private,

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# Full steam ahead

“It’s awesome to see a tidal wave of brownness at The University of Auckland.”

With those words, the Business School’s Pacific Success Coordinator, Leaupepe Ralph Elika, welcomed 500 Māori and Pacific Year 12 and 13 students to the University’s annual STEAM Ahead event.

Organised by the Equity Office – Te Ara Tautika, STEAM Ahead gives senior Māori and Pacific secondary students an in-depth look at degree programmes, as well as the chance to attend lectures and to hear from current students about University life.

This year school students from around New Zealand attended the day-long programme, coming from Christchurch, Hawkes Bay, Taranaki, Central North Island, Northland, and across Auckland.

Ten students from Napier’s St Joseph’s Māori Girls’ College rose early to catch their flight and



St Joseph’s Maori Girls College, Shayne August Tai (front centre)

take advantage of the chance to familiarise themselves with the University, to learn the qualifications needed to enrol, and to hear about scholarships that may be available. Year 13 student Shayne August Tai, who is interested in

pursuing medicine and science, commended the programme.

“STEAM Ahead helped me make a decision on what to study by breaking down the courses I wanted to do to an understandable format. It was also interesting to hear about other student’s stories - some even related to my own life! They made the University feel welcoming and more like a home, which helps take away the fear of going to university.”

St Joseph’s Careers Adviser, June Stapley, praised STEAM Ahead as one of the “premier” events for her senior students. “STEAM Ahead is a great opportunity to see what the real world of university is like.”

Margaret Taurere, the Equity Office’s Pou Arahi Māori, said she was very pleased with this year’s event, which brought 64 schools to the University – up from 51 last year.

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After the awards Cather told the *News* she would use the \$20,000 prize money to help accelerate a new “stretch” outreach project. “We will develop a web-portal, where school students can upload ideas about microfluidic flow - our initial topic. We’ll then convert these ideas to paper widgets with our lasers, and send them back through the post, so students can test their hypotheses, draw conclusions and then report findings back on the website.”

In 2012, Cather trialled the idea in physics teacher workshops with great success and she says she is now delighted to have funds to pay a

University student to develop the interactive web-portal.

Associate Professor Bryony James joined the University’s Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering in 1998 and was soon winning accolades for her outstanding teaching. Students describe Bryony’s enthusiasm as “infectious”, and appreciate her humour and approachability. Bryony is noted for her ability to explain concepts clearly. She carefully monitors understanding of potentially difficult core concepts; employs multiple techniques to cater for different learning styles; and uses memorable

demonstrations and examples that resonate with students and provide context for their learning.

“I really love my subject so it’s hard not to enjoy teaching it,” says Bryony “and our students are the greatest source of energy anyone could wish for, it’s like being plugged into the mains!

“It is also great to see that all three Auckland awardees are also accomplished researchers, which I think reflects the right balance for the country’s top University.”

## Highlighted Events

### The child penalty

Parenthood, employment and the “child penalty” is the title of a Combining Parent and Career seminar on Monday 1 August 1-2pm, at the Conference Centre Lecture Theatre, Building 423- 342 (22 Symonds Street). Sociology Professor Maureen Baker presents research findings on the employment consequences of childbearing for men and women and discusses how, compared to men, women tend to make more employment-related concessions for children, especially if they pursue high-level careers or parent without a partner. Throughout her 40-year career Maureen has taught sociology and social policy in Canada, Australia and New Zealand and has also worked as a policy adviser and researcher for the Canadian Parliament. Register by 30 July to: [n.mcgrinder@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:n.mcgrinder@auckland.ac.nz)

### Fast Forward

Recent and current work of leading national and international architects, planners and urban designers is the subject of the annual lecture series, Fast Forward, hosted by the School of Architecture and Planning. This year’s series of six lectures (of which one has already taken place) includes presentations by two internationally renowned architects, as well as sessions focusing on the Auckland Supercity. The lectures will take place weekly through July and August (31 July, 7, 14, 21 and 24 August) at the Engineering Lecture Theatre 1.439, 20 Symonds Street, from 6.30-7.30pm, and will culminate in a Mayoral Debate at the Fisher and Paykel Appliances Auditorium, Owen G Glenn Building, at 6pm on 4 September.

### Addiction research

An international expert on alcohol and drug policy will speak at the official launch of the University’s new Centre for Addiction Research at 12 noon on 9 August at the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, Grafton Campus. The recently established centre brings together researchers from across the University who are exploring the effects of dangerous consumption of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs, and of gambling, on individuals, their families, communities, and society. ASB Visiting Professor Thomas Babor from the University of Connecticut School of Medicine will speak at the launch and will also give a public health lecture at 5.30pm for a 5.45pm start on 15 August in Building 505, Lecture Theatre 2 at FMHS.

# Maidment Theatre opens



The Maidment Theatre is officially open after a celebratory launch on 11 July which included a Karakia led by Jeremy Hema, Iwi Liaison Officer at the University, and the Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon cutting a symbolic construction tape on stage.

Margo Athy, Programme and Business Manager for the Maidment, is “absolutely thrilled and delighted” to see the theatre open, extensively refurbished and all ready for its first performances, after a fire closed its doors in April. “It was great to celebrate with the team and all



those who made it happen, as well as the clients who have been inconvenienced by the closure,” said Margo. One highlight of the opening event was a short performance by the Auckland Theatre Company of a segment from *The Heretic* by Richard Bean, which is now on show at the Maidment. The performance, Margo said, was “particularly apt because *The Heretic* is a play that deals with academia, and the short piece consisted of a highly amusing discussion between two academics, played by Jennifer Ward-Lealand and Stelios Yiakmis”.

## From the Vice-Chancellor



Recent analyses of our financial future illustrate some of the challenges we face and why we need to be nimble in responding to them.

These challenges arise on both the revenue and cost sides. Our biggest single source of revenue, that from domestic students, is both price- and volume-controlled by government. International student numbers are increasing, and with them revenues, but we are only now returning to the numbers we had in the early 2000s before the high-profile failure of several private providers damaged the “New Zealand Inc” brand. Growing our research revenues is also challenging because the pool of funds for which our staff may compete has declined markedly and many research grants and contracts do not meet the full costs of undertaking the research project. Meanwhile the costs associated with our much-needed programme of campus renewal and with attracting and retaining top staff in a very competitive market continue to rise.

The net effect of these pressures is that if we do not respond, our operating surplus (excess of revenue over expenditure) will by 2016 fall from the target 3.75% of revenue to just 1.8%, a shortfall of over \$20 million per annum. This is unacceptable, both because that lower surplus does not give the University an adequate buffer against revenue risks and because institutions that consistently fail to make a surplus of at least 3% may be subject to government intervention.

A number of developments are underway to ensure we do not find ourselves in this dangerous situation. We are actively seeking to increase international student fee revenues, particularly through new taught masters programmes being developed by the Business School. We will also be taking a more targeted approach to research funding, seeking to provide enhanced support for groups whose research capability best meets the requirements of funding agencies. At the same time we will be aiming to reduce costs through more effective procurement (e.g. of utilities, travel and consumables), by reducing costs of administration and perhaps by – for the first time – having to reduce or remove services, not because they have no value but because we can no longer afford to deliver them. This will be a difficult process for us all, but we are now at the point where we have no choice.

# Entrepreneurs soak up industry tips

A recent Spark Ideas 2 Business (I2B) intensive one-day workshop was held at the Business School for 300 staff and student entrepreneurs in preparation for the Spark \$100k Challenge, with entries closing in early August.

“It was fantastic to feel the buzz in the room as we kicked off with a full house,” said Spark CEO William Lockie. “The diversity of the crowd made for great networking and attendees took full advantage of the team-building opportunities in preparation for the \$100k Challenge.”

Speakers included Duncan Ledwith from The OpShop, which helps provide strategies for start-ups and SMEs; Mark Hardie from business incubator The ICEHOUSE; and Mark Gavin from intellectual property expert Hudson Gavin Martin.

During his session on market validation, Duncan Ledwith stressed the importance of thorough planning and testing before investing time and money on business ideas. He told students he had started nine businesses, about half of which had failed because he hadn’t used market validation.

“I’ve met people who have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars because their family likes their product – don’t do that.”

He challenged students to carry out extensive market research, including contacting industry experts for advice.

“This is New Zealand, you can get anyone on the phone in this country. It’s brilliant.”

William said the most inspirational parts of the programme were the industry break-out sessions where entrepreneurs – such as Alistair Sedcoe from Allpress Espresso, winner of the Entrepreneurs’ Challenge in 2009 – told their success stories and put the day’s learning into perspective.

This year’s I2B programme was in a new and improved format, and the Spark team look forward to it being the catalyst for first-class entries in the \$100k Challenge.

Spark is now in its 10th year, launching more than 100 new ventures, attracting \$140 million of investment and creating more than 250 jobs.

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intimate lives, and our public lives, in state and society.

The second lecture will look at the ways in which honour, both individual and national, connects with democratic life. Kwame will argue that there is reason to rely on a number of relatively well understood social psychological processes to create a culture of citizen honour

that can help sustain the political life of a democratic society.

In his final lecture Kwame discusses ways in which national honour, the honour in which we participate as citizens of our country, can be mobilised in cross-national dialogues about central questions of morality and human rights.

For further details: [www.auckland.ac.nz/robb](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/robb)



## Staff news

### New Director on board



Director of Alumni Relations and Development  
Mark Bentley

Mark Bentley is in his new role as Director of Alumni Relations and Development, which he says "feels a little like coming home".

Mark worked at the University previously as Director of Advancement and Marketing, and subsequently General Manager, of the NZ Leadership Institute, in the Business School.

"In the intervening years, whilst I have been away establishing the Auckland Communities Foundation as inaugural Chief Executive, I have watched the University's great progress in fundraising and friend-raising with interest from the sidelines. I am delighted to have the opportunity to assist in crafting a vision and operation that can take the University even further in the years to come."

## Come to the 'Salon'

The University of Auckland Society is hosting its own unique 'Salon' during the second semester. Based on the famous 17th and 18th century French salons where poets, writers and artists presented and discussed their work, the 2013 Salon Series kicked off at Old Government House at 5pm on 17 July with "Poetry in Focus".

The next Salon session, all of which are free to University of Auckland Society members, is Fiction in Focus on 21 August with guests Stephanie Johnson, Sarah Laing and Charlotte Grimshaw and Alex Jespersen, a professional teaching fellow in the English department, as panel chair. The final session, Media in Focus, chaired by Professor Annie Goldson will be on 6 November and will feature David Hastings, Jon Stephenson and Gavin Ellis.

### Overwhelming support for Dean's reappointment



Business School Dean  
Professor Greg Whittred

Business School Dean Professor Greg Whittred has been reappointed for a further five years.

Vice-Chancellor Stuart McCutcheon says Professor Whittred had made an impact since joining the Business School five years ago.

"In considering his reappointment I consulted with senior members of the faculty. Their support for Greg was overwhelming.

"I am sure you will all join me in congratulating Greg on an outstanding first term as Dean, and on his reappointment for a further term."

Since the Dean joined the Business School in 2008, enrolments in the PhD programme have nearly doubled, as have research grant applicants.

Global rankings have improved, with all disciplines now ranked from 20 to 50 worldwide.

At the programme level the school has undertaken major initiatives in team-based learning and lecture recording.

At the same time the school's public profile has been significantly enhanced. Press coverage has risen greatly, with 60 major stories and 212 pieces in which staff were quoted in 2012.

## Second Winter Lecture

Can alternative medicines help you quit smoking?

Come along to the second of the Winter lectures Tuesday 30 July 1-2pm for some perspectives from a leading expert in the field. Dr Natalie Walker is Programme Leader from the Addiction Research programme at the National Institute for Health Innovation (NIHI) at the University. Her lecture will discuss the various complementary/alternative medicines used by New Zealand smokers trying to quit, and summarise the evidence for these methods focusing on safety and efficacy. Methods include acupuncture, the Allen Carr's Easyway programme, hypnosis, Nicobrevin, St John's wort, bioresonance therapy and cytosine.



Alex Jespersen



Professor Derek North and wife Alison (seated) with, from left: daughters Sue, Robyn and Diana, authors Tom Miller, David Richmond and Judy Murphy, and daughters Fiona and Helen.

Dr Thomas Miller, an honorary academic and former eminent researcher on immunopathology in the Department of Medicine, was sailing his yacht on the Kawau Harbour when he had a serendipitous meeting with a fellow yachtsman and former colleague, Professor Norman Sharpe.

After an enjoyable chat that evening about earlier days – the events, the personalities, the exciting advances in research and treatment – the two decided the history of Medicine at Auckland must be recorded before it was lost.

Unbeknown to Thomas and Norman, another former colleague, Dr David Richmond, who had been a Professor of Medicine and Medical Education in the same department, had been recording some of the key events with a view to writing a history.

When Thomas and David decided to join their efforts with those of Judy Murphy, formerly a cardio-vascular researcher in the department and now an honorary senior research fellow in the School of Population Health, the ultimate result was a wonderful book, published this year. Entitled *In the Beginning: A history of the Medical Unit at Auckland Hospital and the formative years of the Department of Medicine, The University of Auckland*, the book was designed and produced with strong support from Val Grey, graphic artist and medical illustrator for the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, assisted by Warren Jones, former faculty photographer.

The book can be obtained from the University Book Shop, or by contacting Thomas Miller on [t.miller@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:t.miller@auckland.ac.nz)

## Correction

Apologies for the inaccuracies published in the story on Professor Andrew Pullan in the last *University News*. In fact Andrew was HOD at Engineering Science from 2008 to 2010. He was not diagnosed with cancer until mid 2011. Professor Ron Patterson met Andrew while working at The University of Auckland.

## EU FP7 Marie Curie International Outgoing Fellowships 2013

Marie Curie International Outgoing Fellowships bring researchers from the EU to New Zealand for training and development which will benefit the EU. Previous years have seen fellows hosted by the Schools of Biological Sciences, Environment and Medical Sciences. If you are proposing to feature as a host in an application to the forthcoming 2013 round (deadline 7 August) please contact David Saunders ([d.saunders@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:d.saunders@auckland.ac.nz)) at the Research Office.

## The Genesis Oncology Trust:

The Genesis Oncology Trust invites applications for grants to support New Zealand-based initiatives that will lead to improvements in the prevention, detection, diagnosis or treatment of cancer, or improvements in palliative care. These initiatives can be biomedical, clinical, epidemiological or psychosocial. Contact Julia Zhu at the Research office for further details ([julia.zhu@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:julia.zhu@auckland.ac.nz)). The Research Office deadline for all grant applications is 13 August.

## Mobility funding opportunity

The Human Frontier Science Program Organisation supports innovative basic research into fundamental biological problems, with an emphasis on novel cross-disciplinary approaches. The organisation offers fellowships to researchers in member countries (including New Zealand) to work overseas, and for overseas researchers to work in member countries. Long-Term Fellowships (three years) are for applicants with PhDs in a biological discipline who wish to conduct research in the life sciences that is significantly different from their previous work. Cross-Disciplinary Fellowships target advanced graduate students or postdocs in physics, chemistry, mathematics, engineering or computer sciences, who have had limited exposure to biology but want to train in the biological sciences. The preliminary application deadline is 13 August 2013. Contact David Saunders ([d.saunders@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:d.saunders@auckland.ac.nz)) at the Research Office, or visit [www.hfsp.org](http://www.hfsp.org).

## Award winner

Paul Augustinus of the School of Environment has recently received an award from AINSE (Australian Institute for Nuclear Science and Engineering) to use the ANSTO nuclear science facilities in Sydney on the following projects: Refining the eruptive history of the Auckland Volcanic Field: implications for volcanic hazards and Identifying and quantifying human impacts on the environment: the sediment records from northern New Zealand lakes.



## From the art collection

At first blush, this painting from Ian Scott's *Authentic Traditions* appears to be textbook postmodernism. Combine "low" art (beer advertising) with "high" art (a photograph of Colin McCahon, twentieth century New Zealand art's biggest gun) with a conventional painting of iconic South Island scenery and a cluster of punga trees for ironic effect.

Back in 1993, not only was the New Zealand landscape tradition in art thought to be exhausted, painting itself was thought to be obsolete. Freighted with history, painting had been superseded by video, performance and installation as contemporary media. How better to memorialize the end of painting in New Zealand than with a nostalgic pot pourri of kiwiana, an artistic *mélange* of redundant cultural references from a time when beer was a dollar a can?

Yet despite all the elements in Ian Scott's painting being representational and recognizably symbolic, their dissonance emphasizes abstract, formal properties in painting in a modernist way. Colour blocks are pushed to the surface but there is no logic to the distribution, no cohesion to the pattern. Loud and important, a square of yellow is balanced with one of green above, and a floating rectangle of red hovers supernaturally over a predominantly blue and green landscape. Is the recently deceased modernist master, Colin McCahon (1919-1987) an angel heralding new beginnings for the landscape?

All the imagery is copied or appropriated. Rather than invent his own version of the Great New Zealand Landscape, the artist has repainted a classic Douglas Badcock original of Central Otago. Worthy of inclusion in a collection of table



mats of New Zealand scenery, this view is carefully, and conventionally, composed. It gives the viewer a bird's eye perspective of a ploughed field with a stone church and autumnal poplars reflected in the glassy surface of the Clutha River which flows diagonally across the foreground. A dramatic sky casts shadows on the snowclad peaks behind. Timelessness is the painter's aim, with the work a celebration of bucolic agricultural life in the hinterland, or as South Islanders prefer to call it, the heartland.

Commercially successful, Douglas Badcock (1922-2009) once sold 42 paintings in an afternoon at Smith & Caughey's, and published three books on his art in the 1970s. Badcock frequently aced the Kelliher Art Award, an art competition which ran annually in New Zealand from 1956 to 1977 with a prize of £500.

Established by the beer baron Sir Henry Kelliher (Dominion Breweries was his company, as heralded by the beer advertisement silkscreened on this work), its aim was "to encourage artists to paint the essential character of the New Zealand scene and the ways of life of its people". With missionary zeal and considerable capital, Kelliher, who was from Otago himself, had hoped to stem the tide of modernism and abstraction in the 1950s. As a twenty year old immigrant from Bradford in Yorkshire, Ian Scott had entered the competition, winning the junior section with *Low Tide*, *Anawhata* in 1965 while in his second year at art school. Colin McCahon, who was Ian Scott's lecturer at the Elam School of Fine Arts in the mid 1960s, had nothing but contempt for the Kelliher with its "aesthetics of the cake tin or tea towel" and called it the Kelliher prize for calendar art.

Rather than a postmodern critique of authorship with a random collection of copies arranged non-hierarchically, Ian Scott's *New Zealand Evening* is a serious consideration of the twilight of a tradition. He emulates the way American painter Robert Rauschenberg encouraged his viewers to tease out the links between seemingly unrelated imagery. He asks us to consider not only the status of this mode of landscape in the contemporary art world, but also the relationship between abstraction and representation in modernism. This continued as the theme for his work with recourse to combining imagery from pornography and minimalism until his recent death from cancer on 27 June 2013.

Linda Tyler

*Ian Scott (1945-2013) New Zealand Evening (Central Otago) 1993, acrylic, enamel and silkscreen on canvas, 1160 x 1270mm*

## From the cultural collection

Sir George Fowlds is a name that may not be recognised by many current staff or students. But the Scottish born businessman and some time New Zealand Minister of Education was President (equivalent to Chancellor) of the Auckland University College from 1920-1933.

After his death the Auckland University College Council resolved to award an annual medal in his name to the most "distinguished honours student" in the year. The silver medal, designed in Auckland by Walker and Hall but produced in their Sheffield foundry, featured a profile of Sir George seemingly based on a 1933 sketch by L.D. Morrison. On the other side was the Auckland University College coat of arms framed by *pohutukawa* leaves. The ribbon under the coat of arms was kept empty in order to be able to engrave the name of the winner on it. The original die for the Fowlds Memorial Medal cost 7 pounds 10 shillings and each medal a further 1 pound 10 shillings.



Medals were awarded from 1939 to 1947. At that point there were several outstanding students in the same year and the Professorial Board was unable to choose between them. The decision was made not to present a single medal but to award Fowlds Memorial Certificates to one student per faculty. In 1962 there were further changes and the Fowlds Memorial is now celebrated by the awarding of several Fowlds Memorial Prizes.

The few remaining un-awarded medals now form part of the University's heritage collection of objects and artifacts that help to tell the story of the University's activities. Fowlds's contributions to the University are also recognised by a memorial stone just inside the Clock Tower main entrance and membership of the Sir George Fowlds Society recognises benefactors who have made substantial donations to the University. The University Library also holds a very large collection of his papers and archives which were donated by his family.

Elizabeth Nichol

Records Management Programme Manager  
Office of the Vice-Chancellor

# Chemical Sciences showcase



School of Chemical Sciences Showcase committee and presenters from left to right: Dr Peter Swedlund, Min-Young Lee, Lisa Pilkington, Dr Viji Sarojini, Hugo Fong, Freda Li, Dr Jianyong Jin (Committee Chair), Julie Kho, Tanya Rutan, Dr Mandy Herbst-Johnstone, Dr David Barker, Prof Margaret Brimble (HOS), Elisa Lam, and Teresa To.

The School of Chemical Sciences fifth Annual Research Showcase went off with a bang in June providing a platform for 96 PhD students to share their work. Presentations included posters, "thesis challenge" talks and six selected full presentations from students near the end of their projects.

Topics included polymers for antifouling coatings, femtosecond spectroscopy of fullerenes, Pinot noir aromas, food science, and the complex syntheses of natural products for pharmacological evaluation. The key note presentation from Dr Lance Gravatt, Chair and Director of Te Arai Biofarma Ltd, advocated "cause and effect thinking" which resonated with the audience.

Other industries present covered many areas of chemistry featured in the School and reflected many different types of University-Industry interactions. For example Fonterra's Ashley Hoskin emphasised the role of University-based research in lifting people's head out of the box of industry-based research while Peter Graham from Fisher and Paykel Healthcare described a different relationship in which The University of Auckland polymers group provide immediate expertise to solve problems and provide staff training. Aldrich Chemistry's Jim Challis and BOC's Wendy Saddler-Moyes both said support for the research showcase was important for their companies in keeping abreast of developing research needs and products.

## What's on

### THURSDAY 25 JULY

#### Vaikolaa seminar in Pacific Peoples' Health

From evidence to policy and practice, Pacific Health Section, School of Population Health. Speaker tba: *The critical early years of life: Preparing for Pacific educational and economic success*. 1-2pm, Rm 220, Bldg 730, School of Population Health, Tamaki Campus. RSVP to t.vea@auckland.ac.nz

#### Winterfest

7-10.30pm, Student Quad. Think Europe in winter, think beer gardens, think carnivals, think fairy lights. Bands and a DJ will provide the sounds, the Quad will be light up like a Christmas tree and we'll have the heaters on so come party in our pop up beer garden. Queries: [www.auckland.ac.nz/whatson](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/whatson)

### SATURDAY 27 JULY

#### Gallery event

1pm, Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Live saxophone performance by Callum Passells in response to Anri Sala's 3-2-1. Queries to: [gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz) Visit [aucklandtriennial.co.nz](http://aucklandtriennial.co.nz)

### MONDAY 29 JULY

#### CRSTIE Distinguished Fellow Award Seminar

Prof Johan Muller, University of Cape Town: *Roots of disciplinary difference and the curriculum*.

4.30-6pm, Rm N356, N Block, Gate 4, 60 Epsom Ave, Epsom

### TUESDAY 30 JULY

#### Second 2013 Winter Lecture

*Charms and harms of natural medicines*.

Dr Natalie Walker: *Can alternative medicines help you quit smoking?*

1-2pm, Maudment Theatre, 8 Alfred St. A series of six weekly lectures. Admission is free and open to the public. No bookings required. Queries to 373 7599 ext 87698.

#### KERU/CRSTIE seminar

Michael Young, University of London and Johan Muller, University of Cape Town: *Knowledge and knowledgeable practice: two traditions of professional education*. 1-2pm, Rm N356, N Block, Gate 4, 60 Epsom Ave, Epsom.

### WEDNESDAY 31 JULY

#### Access to Powerful Knowledge Symposium

9.30am-4pm, Rm N356, N Block, Gate 4, 60 Epsom Ave, Epsom.

Presented by the Knowledge and Education Research Unit (KERU) and the School of Critical Studies in Education (CRSTIE).

RSVP to [a.moller@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:a.moller@auckland.ac.nz)

Queries to to Assoc Prof Elizabeth Rata, [e.rata@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:e.rata@auckland.ac.nz)

#### Fermata seminar

Dr Warren Drake: *Cracking the Wagner code*. 5.30pm, Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds St. Free.

#### 3 Minute Thesis Competition final

5.30-7.30pm, OGGB4, Level 0, Business School.

Queries to [3mt@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:3mt@auckland.ac.nz)

For more information visit:

[www.auckland.ac.nz/3minutethesis](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/3minutethesis)

#### Fast Forward Lecture series

Dr Suzanne Vallance, Lincoln University: *Insurgents or citizens: The role of civic expertise in building a resilient city*.

6.30pm, Engineering Lecture Theatre 1.439, 20 Symonds St.

### THURSDAY 1 AUGUST

#### Innovation, Technology and Science Careers Fair

10am-3pm, Atrium, Faculty of Engineering, 20 Symonds St. Network with potential employers and find out about internships, graduate programmes and job vacancies. Students and alumni are welcome to attend. Visit [www.auckland.ac.nz/uaq/auckland-careerhub](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/uaq/auckland-careerhub)

### FRIDAY 2 AUGUST

#### School of Music lunchtime concerts

Showcasing School of Music students in both individual and ensemble settings.

*Flute and piano students*. 1.05pm, Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds St. Free. Queries to [concerts@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:concerts@auckland.ac.nz)

### SATURDAY 3 AUGUST

#### Gallery talk

Curator Andrew Clifford, Centre for Art Research, responds to Anri Sala's work with a discussion of the politics of improvisation in art and music.

1pm, Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St.

Queries to [gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz) Visit [aucklandtriennial.co.nz](http://aucklandtriennial.co.nz)

### TUESDAY 6 AUGUST

#### Third 2013 Winter Lecture

*Charms and harms of natural medicines*. Prof Cindy Farquhar: *Hype or hope? Complementary and 'natural' remedies in the treatment of couples with subfertility*.

1-2pm, Maudment Theatre, 8 Alfred St.

Admission is free and open to the public. No bookings required.

Queries to 373 7599 ext 87698.

### WEDNESDAY 7 AUGUST

#### Fast Forward Lecture series

Pip Cheshire, architect: *Rammed earth and carbon fibre: One project up north*. 6.30pm, Engineering Lecture Theatre 1.439, 20 Symonds St.

## Classifieds

### ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

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## CASINO DEAL: A LEGACY OF HARM

The Prime Minister, the Rt Hon John Key's deal with SkyCity to grant them a 35-year casino license appears not to recognise the wide range of harms their operations are having and will continue to have on Aucklanders.

These arrangements need to be understood in the context of how gambling has proliferated in New Zealand over the last 30 years.

One way of viewing the gambling industry is to see it as primarily an extractive industry similar to mining or native forest logging. Instead of creating something new, gambling obtains its profits by tapping into systems that already exist, in this case the financial activity in a local economy.

While a small amount of mining or logging may have limited impacts on the natural ecology—a forest will regenerate after the loss of a few native trees—larger scale extractive operations have impacts that are unsustainable. Similarly, small-scale low-potency forms of gambling, such as card games and housie, generate little harm, but large-scale gambling operations generate harms that trample widely over the social and financial ecology of surrounding communities.

International research has pointed repeatedly to how high intensity, high volume gambling has a broad range of harmful effects on populations. The harm from problem gamblers alone spreads misery through families, promotes property crime and fraud, manufactures mental health issues on a large scale and eats into the viability of many businesses.

Indeed, placing a large casino smack-bang in

the middle of a city the size of Auckland can be compared to placing a large open-cast mine in the middle of Tongariro National Park. For both, it is the immediate precious natural or human ecology that will bear the brunt of the negative impacts.

Many of the provisions in Key's deal are harm-producing rather than harm-reducing: 230 new pokies, 240 seats at automated gaming tables, 40 extra gaming tables, \$20 dollar bill acceptors and the system for monitoring gambling behaviour.

Each of these measures will be added to an already highly dangerous gambling environment. For example, installing \$20 bill acceptors onto machines may not seem like a major change, but it flies in the face of efforts overseas to moderate the pace of machine gambling through measures such as forced breaks and limiting each bet to one dollar.

While the detail has yet to be released, Key's deal specifies measures which on the surface appear to reduce problem gambling. These include increased investment in host responsibility and the tracking of problem gamblers. These are weak concessions when placed against a backdrop of measures aimed at ramping up business.

In line with the mining comparison, problem gamblers can be likened to seams of gold running through a community. They may comprise a minority group of players, perhaps only 10-20 percent, but they spend vastly more than ordinary players. They are, therefore, responsible for a sizeable proportion of the profits.

From a business point of view, it seems unrealistic to expect SkyCity to willingly avoid a source which accounts for much of their profits. Problem gamblers are just far too valuable to be seriously managed out. For this reason, industry efforts at host responsibility are at best seen as public relations exercises aimed to provide the impression of protection. Host responsibility, like mine safety, only becomes meaningful when activities are subject to independent scrutiny and evaluated against best practice standards.

A further concern is improvements in the capacity of the Casino to monitor gambling behaviour. What are the privacy implications of a commercial operation possessing detail on a very personal aspect of one's life, one's gambling behaviour? What systems will be put in place for casino operators not to use that information for marketing to vulnerable individuals?

John Key's deal fails to observe the main principles set up in the 2003 Gambling Act. The local community has not been consulted, the minor concessions to harm minimisation are outweighed by increased consumption, public health provisions are ignored and nothing has been done to assess the wider and longer term negative impacts on Aucklanders.

Associate Professor Peter Adams is head of the University's School of Population Health and is Director of the University's Centre for Gambling Studies.

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