



## WORKING FOR A BETTER WORLD

PAGE 5

*Oxfam International executive director Winnie Byanyima was a guest of the Faculty of Arts recently.*

### PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

The Liggins Institute's Distinguished Professor Jane Harding has won a prestigious American award for her paediatric research.

PAGE 3

### MIGRATION MATTERS

The 2017 Winter Lecture series takes on one of the biggest challenges of the 21st century; the migration of people around the world; national identity, citizenship, borders and sovereignty.

PAGE 8

### CHANGING OUR WORLD

Oxfam International director, Ugandan-born Winnie Byanyima, *above*, is taking on the cause of poor and marginalised people around the world, especially the plight of women and girls.

PAGE 5

## 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

The University’s School of Architecture and Planning celebrates its centenary in September with a series of events including exhibitions, a symposium and an alumni dinner. A book about the School written by staff and titled *The Auckland School: 100 Years of Architecture and Planning* will also be launched. Alumni of the school and interested others are all invited to take part in this special occasion. To find out more and register visit [www.archplancentenary.ac.nz/](http://www.archplancentenary.ac.nz/)



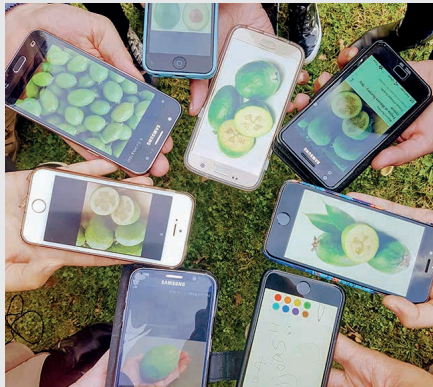
## RIVER’S “LEGAL PERSONHOOD”

In 2013, New Zealand took the unusual step of bestowing legal personhood on nature when this status was granted to the Te Urewera National Park in 2013. Eyebrows were still raised though when the same status was granted to the Whanganui River in March. “Many thought it was just plain weird,” says Dr Ryan Greenaway-McGrevy, senior lecturer in Economics. However, in a story published on news website Newsroom, he explains how this innovation could help us recognise the often overlooked contribution ecosystems make to the economy.



## FEIJOA PHOTO BEARS FRUIT

Urban planning students taught by Professor Dory Reeves celebrated feijoas while learning about community engagement and urban edibles recently. The students met up with local residents’ group the Feijoa Guild, who have planted a feijoa forest in the central city (Constitution Hill) that will be available for all to pick. The Guild recently held a Feijoa Festival complete with photo contest, which saw the planning students win a prize for their group entry, *pictured right*.



## HAWAIIAN FOOD NOW ON CAMPUS

Hawaiian food is now available at City Campus. Ha!Poke will be operating out of a container next to Mojo Coffee, now open in the HSB Courtyard from early July, offering a student-friendly menu, including a Budgie Meal. Pronounced ‘poh-keh’, poke is made up of superfoods, salads, raw fish and other proteins. Ha!Poke will also offer seasonal soups and broths, along with nutritious breakfast bowls. All fish is locally and sustainably caught, and all packaging is compostable. The cuisine has been brought to the University by two Californian brothers with a passion for healthy and sustainable food.



- WHAT’S NEW ..... 3
- IN BRIEF ..... 4
- COVER STORY ..... 5
- DID YOU KNOW? ..... 7
- WHAT’S ON CAMPUS ..... 7
- RESEARCH IN FOCUS ..... 8
- IN THE SPOTLIGHT ..... 9
- FROM THE COLLECTION ..... 10
- WHAT’S COMING OUT ..... 10
- CLASSIFIEDS ..... 11
- MARAMATANGA ..... 12

COVER PHOTO: Director of Oxfam International Winnie Byanyima, taken during her visit to the University’s Fale Pasifika in June.

Photo: Godfrey Boehnke

EDITOR: Julianne Evans  
[julianne.evans@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:julianne.evans@auckland.ac.nz)  
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## LIGGINS PROFESSOR GETS PRESTIGIOUS AMERICAN AWARD

**A world leader in the care of newborn babies, Distinguished Professor Jane Harding from the Liggins Institute has been honoured with a top science award.**

Jane has received the Norman J. Siegel New Member Outstanding Science Award from the American Pediatric Society (APS), which boasts 1800-plus members at the very top of their fields.

Jane came to international attention with her groundbreaking trial involving 400 babies born at risk of low blood sugar at Waikato Hospital.

The trial showed for the first time that dextrose (sugar) gel massaged inside a baby's cheek is more effective than feeding alone for treating low blood sugar, or neonatal hypoglycaemia.

About one in six babies born in New Zealand develop this condition, which in severe cases can lead to brain damage.

The gel has been widely adopted in New Zealand and many other parts of the world, and Jane is now leading the hPOD trial to see if the gel can be used as a preventative, keeping more babies out of intensive care.

During her recent lecture trip to the US and Canada, Jane said people were excited about the breadth of work going on in New Zealand.

“There was a recognition that there are things we can do better here than anywhere else, because of the organisation of our health system, the ability of researchers to find and follow up people, and people's willingness to participate in studies.”

In June this year, Jane's team won Health Research Council funding to continue tracking babies born at risk of low blood sugar into childhood, to check for effects on their later growth and development.

*Above: Distinguished Professor Jane Harding: world-leading researcher.*

## STILLBIRTH BREAKTHROUGH

New research led by Professor Lesley McCowan, Head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, has found that women who go to sleep on their back in the last three months of pregnancy are almost four times more likely to experience a stillbirth.

The New Zealand Multi-Centre Stillbirth Study found that going to sleep supine – lying on your back – is associated with a 3.7-fold increase in overall risk of late stillbirth (after 28 weeks of pregnancy), independent of other common stillbirth risk factors.

This research confirms the findings from an earlier University of Auckland study, which was the first study internationally to identify maternal sleep position in late pregnancy as a risk factor for stillbirth.

Lesley says the findings are of particular importance as the risk of stillbirth associated with going to sleep on your back may be preventable with appropriate public health messaging for women in late pregnancy. Approximately 160 babies are stillborn in the last three months of pregnancy in New Zealand each year.

This simple intervention has the potential to reduce late stillbirth by around nine percent, possibly preventing the deaths of approximately 15 unborn babies annually in New Zealand.

## BETTER WORLD FOCUS OF NEW CAMPAIGN

**A vision for a better world is behind a new marketing campaign launched in June.**

Demonstrating the University's unique contribution and place in the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem, “Never Stop” is a multi-layered campaign which spans online film content and outdoor and digital channels.

It also includes a visually dynamic 30-second TV commercial.

Working with academic staff and students from different research areas across the University, the commercial “demonstrates the

valuable contribution innovation and research can make to improving people's lives”, says Dianne Head, the University's Director of Communications and Marketing.

The campaign aims to build brand awareness across a broad range of audiences within Auckland and throughout the rest of New Zealand. “It celebrates our desire for unending progress, and the University's mission to continuously strive for a better world,” says Dianne. The ad is set to run for a five-week period across TVNZ, MediaWorks and Sky TV channels and for a second period on TVNZ and Three On-demand.

Online film content includes behind the

scenes footage of the “Never Stop” commercial and in-depth interviews with the academics and students, detailing the significance of their research.



# WHAT'S NEW



## QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS FOR BUSINESS CHAMPION

Leading entrepreneur Geoff Whitcher's immense contribution to business and education has been recognised with his appointment as an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the 2017 Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Named by *Metro* magazine as one of Auckland's most influential business figures, Geoff has lent his considerable talents to establishing an entrepreneurship "ecosystem" based at the Business School since 2000, when he joined the University as its commercial director of development.

Helping to set up business incubator Icehouse, he was also a driver in the creation of student-led entrepreneurship programme Velocity, which launched as "Spark" in 2003, and Chiasma, which

builds bridges between academia and the wider science and technology industries.

Geoff has also mentored dozens of students over the years, many of whom have gone on to do MBAs at top international universities or gone on to launch successful start-ups.

Among them is Fady Mishriki, founder of wireless power technology firm PowerbyProxi, and biotechnologist Dr Privahini Bradoo, who founded toxic e-waste recycling business BlueOak Resources.

Known affectionately by his mentees as the "godfather" or "grey ghost", he quietly nurtures, extends and connects behind the scenes.

Before joining the University, Geoff's highly successful business career was primarily with Unilever in New Zealand and the United Kingdom, and then Fletcher Challenge in New Zealand and New York.

He says hugely unexpected and a reflection of many people's efforts.

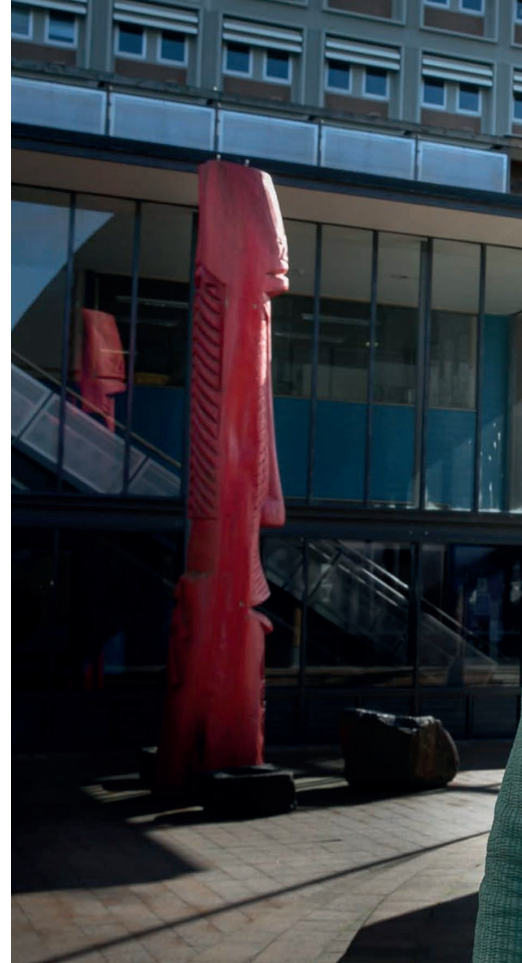
"I've been privileged to work with many of New Zealand's best and brightest – people you're immensely proud to be associated with.

"I've helped them graft entrepreneurial and commercial skills onto their academic qualifications and encouraged them to be the best they can be," says Geoff.

Congratulations also to Professor Peter Gilling in the School of Medicine, who was named a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to urology.

And to Associate Professor Robert Jacobs from the Department of Optometry and Vision Science, who was named a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to optometry and education.

A number of past members of staff, alumni and supporters of the University were also honoured in the list.



## RICH WORLD, POOR WORLD

**The world's eight richest billionaires now own more wealth than the poorest half of the world put together; which is around 3.6 billion people.**

Oxfam International executive director Winnie Byanyima opened her recent address at the University's Fale Pasifika with this sobering statistic from a 2017 Oxfam report titled: "An Economy for the 99%".

Invited on campus by Associate Professor Yvonne Underhill-Sem (Development Studies, Faculty of Arts) who is also co-chair of Oxfam New Zealand, Winnie joined a panel of University academics with a common interest in a fairer world.

Originally from Uganda but resident in the UK, she began a five-year term as the head of the international charity in 2013.

Winnie has made giving the powerless a voice central to her life; in particular, the often unheeded voices of women and girls in developing countries.

Her own life was disrupted by the chaotic political landscape in 1970s Uganda under Idi Amin, whose regime was characterised by extreme human rights abuses, corruption and violence.

Forced to leave the country at 18 after her student activism put her in danger, she fled over the border to Kenya and was accepted as a refugee to Britain. Later winning a scholarship to Manchester University, she went on to get a bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering, becoming the first female Ugandan to become an aeronautical engineer.

## IN BRIEF

### TRIBUTE TO ALASTAIR SCOTT

Alastair Scott, (1939-2017) one of the finest statisticians New Zealand has produced, died in Auckland on 25 May.

An Emeritus Professor of Statistics, Alastair served the University of Auckland with distinction from 1972 to 2005.

His research was characterised by deep insight and he made pioneering contributions across a wide range of statistical fields.

In particular, he was a world leader in survey sampling theory and the development of methods to efficiently obtain and analyse



data from medical studies. Alastair was an influential teacher and generous mentor to several generations of statisticians who valued his sage advice coupled with his trademark affability. Read Alastair's full obituary on the Staff Intranet.



Executive director of Oxfam International Winnie Byanyima, right with Associate Professor Yvonne Underhill-Sem, from Development Studies.

She said that while studying in the relative safety of the Manchester University library, her thoughts often turned to those still suffering at home. Eventually returning to Uganda in 1994, she served as a member of parliament and a founding leader of the Forum for Women in Democracy (FOWODE), which champions women's equal participation in decision-making.

Many years and a distinguished international career in diplomacy and political activism later, she is heading an organisation whose mission is bringing people out of poverty and restoring dignity and freedom to their lives.

And while progress has been made, it's a long road ahead.

Income and wealth, far from trickling down, she says, is flowing upwards at a frightening rate.

"This huge gap fractures our societies and undermines democracy. Huge wealth buys far more than a nice car, better education or healthcare: it buys impunity from justice; it buys elections, a pliant media, favourable laws. This in turn perpetuates policies that concentrate wealth, increase economic inequality, and entrench poverty."

We shouldn't be surprised, she says, that ordinary people feel left behind; a sentiment driving the 2016 populist movements in the UK and the US.

"These are people who have long been shunned from the economic spoils – it's a kind of public anger we're familiar with in the South." [Developing countries in Africa and Asia].

She says the "crisis" of gross wealth inequality keeps hundreds of millions of people trapped in poverty, no matter how hard they work.

"If our political leaders had genuinely tackled inequality head-on, 700 million fewer people would have been living in poverty at the end of the last decade, according to research by the Overseas Development Institute, discussed in Oxfam's report."

All is not completely bleak, however. She says great progress has been made in the last 20 years in terms of reducing the number of people who live below the extreme poverty line, which has halved.

"The first Sustainable Development Goal sets out to end extreme poverty by 2030 – so nobody will live below \$1.90 a day. If we achieve an end to extreme poverty, it will be a feat for humankind."

But she believes the paltry \$1.90 a day (the World Bank's official 'Poverty Line') is still too low to set the bar.

"Is that what developmental success *really* looks like? Oxfam works with young women in Myanmar on labour rights who can help us to answer this.

"They work in factories producing clothes for the likes of Primark, H&M and GAP. They work six days a week, sometimes seven, sometimes up to 23 hours a day, and earn less than \$4 a day. They struggle to make ends meet. They fall into debt. If they get sick they don't get paid. If they get pregnant they lose their job."

A human economy must take on gender inequality, she says.

"Neoliberal economics thrive on the social norms such as patriarchy and tolerance of violence and exploitation and women-as-chattel that disempower women."

And while workers at the bottom of the food chain, or in this case, the clothing chain, suffer

extreme deprivation, the brand owners are some of the richest in the world.

"The owner of the brand Zara is one of them. The owner of H&M is the 32nd richest person on the planet. It's an industry where the big firms consistently use their power to impose poverty wages for workers at the bottom of their supply chains."

Between 2001 and 2011 wages for garment workers in most of the world's 15 leading apparel-exporting countries fell in real terms while the rewards at the top "skyrocketed", she says.

So what does "success" look like in an inherently unjust environment?

"For me, for Oxfam, the realities of these women sit the heart of our vision of the future of global development. We have to imagine a better economic model than one that serves the super-rich while keeping these women and the majority down. We need to rewrite the rules of our economics so it is driven and shaped by human dignity – what we call a more human economy."

And as politicians are obviously not achieving it, Winnie believes academia has an important role to play.

"Academia itself is a powerful force. It was the work done in universities and think tanks that laid the foundations for neo-liberalism – what the governor of the Bank of England calls 'market fundamentalism', an ideology that has dominated the world in the past 30 or 40 years."

Such a tectonic shift wouldn't have been possible without academics forcefully laying the groundwork, she says.

"So we ask you: universities must again be ready to play their part to take the world in a new direction – but a better direction this time."

Business, she believes, can play its part by creating decent jobs and paying living wages, respecting the environment, giving women and girls equal rights and giving workers, farmers and communities a real stake in power and a fair share of benefits.

But inequality is at its heart, she says, a failure of government.

"Governments need to take back control of their economies from powerful elites with their armies of lawyers and lobbyists", and reform wages, taxation and public spending to tackle inequalities.

Ethical business, active government and gender equality, "That's what success looks like for us."

#### ■ Julianne Evans

*The event on 12 June featured a welcome by Dr Melenaitė Taumoeāfolau, an introduction by Associate Professor Yvonne Underhill-Sem and presentations by Dr Ritesh Shah and Associate Professor Jay Marlowe (Faculty of Education and Social Work) and Dr Rachel Simon-Kumar. (Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences).*

# Jackie Ede is a learning disabilities adviser

### Where were you born and where did you grow up?

I was an add-on, born at the end of the baby boomer generation in a 'little box on the hillside' on the outskirts of New Plymouth.

This was the rose-tinted 1960s where kids looked forward to the future and parents breathed a sigh of relief that world war had skipped a generation.

I spent most of my formative years in New Plymouth – splitting my time between the beach, my siblings and a pile of books.

### What was your childhood like?

My early childhood was pretty idyllic. Being the third of four kids, there was always something going on, including frequent visits to the hospital emergency room.

It's possible I was beamed into the wrong family; destined to play the balancing act in a whirling dervish of risk-takers.

This suspicion was aided and abetted by my elder siblings, who mounted a very convincing campaign (for several years) that I was adopted. I was easy prey to all sorts of tall tales. After all, there was no reason not to believe my mother was 29 for six years in a row.

Things sort of went downhill family-wise when I turned 10 and mum decided, in her infinite wisdom, to abscond with the runner-up to Mr New Zealand. But that's another story.

### Why learning?

My dad was a maker and inventor (of sorts). Our backyard was full of semi-completed projects: a raft-catamaran hybrid, several clapped out cars, and a hand-crafted Kiwi version of the Airstream caravan.

Over time I have come to understand that this ever changing landscape was dad's discovery zone. Learning has similar appeal to me. It's a state of continuous improvement; feeding my soul yet keeping me looking for more. Maybe it's an addiction?

### Did you have a favourite teacher?

My Year 13 English teacher, Ida Gaskin (who died early last year), stands out. She was the first woman in New Zealand to win *Mastermind* (with Shakespeare as her topic) and she was one smart cookie. She challenged us to think differently - religion, racism, sexism... all fell under her astute radar. I left her class a different person. I also knew more about Shakespeare than your average 17-year-old.

### Tell me about when you decided to go to university

From the moment I started thinking about the future, I knew I would go to university, despite being the first in my family to attempt it. An almost debilitating sense of social justice and uncontrollable passion for reading limited my other options. Besides, going to university meant leaving the provinces and finding my people, which I did.

### How did you find studying at the University of Auckland?

Guess what paper I benignly enrolled in? Race Relations in New Zealand. It was 1981. Need I say more? Keith Sinclair and Judith Binney did a valiant job at keeping the class intact but it was a volatile time. On the upside, there was no need to help us contextualise our learning; we were history in the making. The Springbok Tour forced us to think about what we believed in and take a stand. Leap to 2017 and student voices are on the rise again. The recent protests on campus have given me flashbacks but not in a bad way.

### What does your job involve?

As a learning disabilities adviser within Te Tumu Herenga (Library and Learning Services), I offer learning support to students with a range of disabilities like dyslexia, dyspraxia, Autism Spectrum Disorder and mental health conditions.

I question, listen, respond, assess, evaluate, recommend, review, motivate, suggest, nudge, encourage, laugh (a lot), redirect, reframe, reflect

and sometimes pull my hair out.

I say yes, no, maybe, and let me get back to you on that. I've been known to walk outside my office to 'silent scream'. I teach learning as a process (not a natural state) and show students how to do it for themselves.

Helping exceptional people achieve their academic potential in a system that doesn't necessarily fit with how they think or learn is not always easy but it is incredibly dynamic.

I never know what the day will bring. When I'm not advising students, I flit around the university promoting the benefits of inclusive teaching and learning practice to any staff willing to listen.

### Do you think what you do here can change people's lives?

I don't change people's lives. Rather, I help people change their own lives. Learning and other invisible disabilities often go undetected right through the school years (especially if one attends a lower decile school), so discovering it's okay to think differently can be transformational. Students change my life as well. It's impossible not to let their stories influence how I perceive the world.

### What drives you?

I'm driven to change stereotypes about disabilities. If there is one lesson I have learned from my years of working with neuro-diverse students, it's not to make assumptions about capabilities. People are not what you think; they are what they think.

My students also drive me; they are the change-makers of the future.

### What do you love doing?

I love standing in the foyer of the Kate Edger Building on City Campus, students streaming past me; a river of hope heading into the future and I'm being pushed along in the current.

Hold on, maybe that's a scene from *Vikings*.

# DID YOU KNOW

...that it's 140 years since Kate Milligan Edger became the first woman in the British Empire to earn a Bachelor of Arts and the first woman in New Zealand to get a degree?

Kate graduated with a BA from the University of New Zealand on 11 July 1877 after completing her studies through Auckland College and Grammar School.

Her story is well known and she is rightly held up as a pioneer of women's education. Less is known, however, about the women who quickly followed in her footsteps, or as she called them "The First Girl Graduates."

Among the early "girl graduates" from this



University, which opened in 1883 as Auckland University College, are sportswomen, founders of literary journals, authors and headmistresses of the country's top girls' schools.

One, Clementine Emily Harrison, graduated with her bachelors in 1884 and in 1885 was the first woman to gain an MA from Auckland University College.

She was immediately hired as a teacher by Kate who was the headmistress at Nelson College for Girls. Clementine left in 1891 to become the founding headmistress of Wanganui Girls' College.

After her marriage to Harold Mellsop, she retired from teaching but served on local school boards as the couple moved around the country. Reflecting her interest in golf, the Mellsop Cup is awarded in her memory each year to the country's top performing women's player; Lydia Ko is a recent recipient.

Another MA graduate and sportswoman, Marguerita (Rita) Pickmere, represented the University in tennis at the first Easter Tournament in 1902. The female competitors were chaperoned by their brothers.

As Marguerita's brother was also competing, this proved to be no issue. However, in her memoirs, she recalled that the men, including her brother, took charge of ensuring the luggage got on the right train.

This resulted in her trunk being left in Wellington while the party travelled on to Christchurch to compete. She didn't get her trunk until after the tournament, forcing her to compete with a borrowed racquet and new shoes.

She lost her game but said, "It was greatly



enjoyed by all of us". After graduation she stayed involved in student life, helping to establish the student magazine *Kiwi*.

From 3 July to 18 August, Special Collections explores the lives of these and other early women graduates in a display outside the Reading Room, Level G of the General Library.

■ Sarah Dunbar, Special Collections

*Top: Rita Pickmere, BA 1901, MA 1902. University of Auckland historical collection. Part 2. MSS & Archives 97/5, 6.1.1.3j. Manawatu women's golf, ca. 1909. Clementine Mellsop is standing next to the cabbage tree. Ian Matheson City Archives, Palmerston North.*

*Left: Kate Edger in graduation regalia. University of Auckland historical collection. Part 1. MSS & Archives E-8, 2/2. Special Collections, Libraries and Learning Services.*

## WHAT'S ON CAMPUS

### WHAT IS HAPPINESS?

What: Society Salon

When: Tuesday 4 July 2017

Time: 6pm – 7.30pm

Venue: Old Government House, Cnr Waterloo Quadrant and Princes Street.

Cost: Free

Refreshments: Cash bar and complimentary platters. Queries: Natalie Newton: [n.newton@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:n.newton@auckland.ac.nz). What is happiness? Is the World Happiness Report reliable? How happy are we really? How can we be happier? Does our happiness come at a price? This event features Dr Antonio Fernando (FHMS), Dr Niki Harre ( Faculty of Science) and Dr Ross McDonald (Management and International Business).

### SUPPORTING OUR TEENS

What: Strategies to promote happy, healthy and resilient teenagers.

When: 12noon-1pm, Tuesday 18 July

Venue: Owen G. Glenn Building, Case Room 3, lower level; 260-055

The teenage years can be challenging for young people and their parents and caregivers. The next Combining Parenting and a Career (CPC) seminar looks at how to support adolescents to thrive during these years and to successfully intervene if necessary. Open to all staff, the seminar will be presented by Associate Professor Simon Denny (FMHS).

Find out more and RSVP at [www.auckland.ac.nz/cpc/teens](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/cpc/teens)

### AURELIAN TRIO CONCERT

What: Farewell Concert

When: 17 July, 7.30-9pm

Venue: Music Theatre, 6 Symonds Street, City Campus

Winners of the 2016 Pettman ROSL (Royal Overseas League) Arts International Chamber Music Scholarship will present a farewell concert on the eve of their departure to the United Kingdom.

Aurelian Piano Trio consists of current School of Music students, violinist April Ju and pianist Delvan Lin, with Waikato cellist Matthias Balzat.

Programme to be announced. Free admission.



## 2017 WINTER LECTURE SERIES IMMIGRATION: THE 21ST CENTURY CHALLENGE

**Immigration is always a topic guaranteed to polarise opinion, especially in an election year.**

And given the wave of populism and anti-immigration sentiment which resulted in Brexit and Donald Trump, it's an issue which is often "poorly understood", believes Dr Francis Collins.

Alongside Associate Professor Ward Friesen, (both from the School of Environment) Francis is leading the University's 2017 Winter Lectures. Themed around migration, the series will tackle settlement and tangata whenua, race politics and changes in the "preferred" migrant, and Asian and Pacific migration.

Francis's own research focuses on the particular way migration has been organised over last 30 years, since the introduction of the 1987 Immigration Act.

"There's been a shift from selecting migrants based on where they come from, like the UK for example, towards a 'human capital' approach, which uses a points system as a selection measure with criteria like skills, value, jobs and investment."

As a direct result, we are now a markedly more diverse society.

"We have a population with a wider range of backgrounds, who speak different languages, who have different values and norms and different religions."

The changes are also tied up with a shifting economic focus, says Francis.

"In the past, the focus was very much on the UK and Europe; now it's on the Asia/Pacific region."

Migration has also gone from a focus on permanent, long-term settlement to temporary visitors on a range of visas.

"In 1998 for example, only 32,006 one-year working visas were issued, but last year, the number was 192,688. Some would be holidaymakers, others arrive and become part of our society for a limited period or eventually become residents."

Many work visas are labour market-tested, meaning they are issued for areas like the dairy, healthcare and construction industries, where there are gaps not currently able to be filled by New Zealanders.

And it's simply not the case that all migrants come to jobs in Auckland, says Francis.

"They're going where the work is and therefore having an impact on that community. Dairy workers for example, who arrive from places like the Philippines with their families, go to rural areas where the schools might be small and in need of a roll boost. So that particular migration policy adds another dimension to the social fabric that we wouldn't necessarily have talked about ten years

ago,"

ago." He says another important issue is the range of occupations open to migrants and the political challenge that presents.

In April this year, Immigration Minister Michael Woodhouse announced that people seeking permanent residence under the skilled migrant category, and those in unskilled but "well paid" work, will have to be earning at or above the median wage of \$48,859.

This is a high benchmark that would effectively exclude half of the New Zealand workforce if it was applied across the

board, says Francis.

"The idea is to reduce dependency on migrant workers by sending them back home after their three-year stint. But some of these workers came in the first place because they wanted to settle here eventually.

"I believe this policy will create an underclass of workers who are dependent on their boss improving their wages to stay, therefore opening them up to exploitation. A lot of power will be put in the hands of the employer."

And he says the policy hasn't worked elsewhere.

"International evidence suggests if you reduce wages (to remain below a particular threshold), you stigmatise migrant workers and create a whole range of jobs that become associated with people who accept low pay and conditions because they have no choice."

You also take away the hope of a brighter future for those people and their families.

Figures to February 2017 show net migration at 71,333. The figure is calculated by subtracting the number of permanent and long term departures (57,483) from the number of permanent and long-term arrivals (128,816).

This is historically high, says Francis. But also messy to calculate.

"It's actually not a record of people getting residence. Because when you arrive at the airport you have an option to tick a box that says, 'I will stay in NZ for 12 months or more'. But that doesn't count those who tick that box but in fact decide to leave after a month, for example. It's a political football."



In June, Labour leader Andrew Little unveiled Labour's new immigration policy which proposes to reduce that figure by an ambitious 30,000 migrants a year; cracking down especially on student working visas issued for courses in private institutions below undergraduate level, which he's calling "a backdoor to residency".

"This target is unlikely to be achieved because of the complexity and diversity of migration flows and a much greater risk is that politicians stoke fears and xenophobia," says Francis.

He says another common misconception, not supported by facts, is that rich, foreign migrants invest in property in New Zealand and thereby push up house prices for everyone else.

"In a 2015 survey of 891 migrants on temporary visas, only three percent were owner occupiers, the rest were living in rented accommodation; this study and others have shown no significant linkage between migration and rising house prices. The

number of recent migrants buying houses here is tiny; it just plays into the myth of the cash-loaded new migrant."

He believes immigration is not the main issue in housing inequality.

So how will we avoid the populist trap of blaming all our woes on recent immigrants?

"There is a need for tolerance and inclusiveness, and the right knowledge needs to be generated and circulated.

"Migration adds immensely to the social fabric of New Zealand; the challenge for us is to look beyond the political rhetoric and economic measurements and consider the wider role of migration in building society now and in the future."

■ Julianne Evans

*Above from left: Dr Francis Collins and Associate Professor Wardlow Friesen from the School of Environment will be giving the first winter lecture on 2 August.*

## Winter Lectures 2017

**What:** A six-lecture series themed on migration

**When:** Every Wednesday 2 August – 6 September from 1-2pm

**Venue:** Lecture Theatre 342, Building 423 (Conference Centre), 22 Symonds Street, Auckland

**Cost:** No charge

2 August

**Dr Francis Collins and Associate Professor Wardlow Friesen**

Worlding Aotearoa-New Zealand: migration and the making of national futures.

9 August

**Dr Rachel Simon-Kumar**

The 'desirable' migrant and the race politics of immigration.

16 August

**Professor Tahu Kukutai**

Never the twain shall meet? Bridging the Indigenous-immigration research divide.

23 August

**Associate Professor Yvonne Te Ruki-Rangi-O-Tangaroa Underhill-Sem**

Pacific migration to Aotearoa: More than meets the eye.

30 August

**Emeritus Professor Manying Ip**

Chinese in the cultural mosaic.

6 September

**Associate Professor Alan Gamlen**

Emigration and diaspora - what do they mean for citizenship, sovereignty and territoriality in the 21st century?

UNINEWS highlights some of the University's people and stories that have made the headlines in the past month.

### Poor nutrition in NZ childcare centres

Doctoral candidate Sarah Gerritsen of the *Growing Up in New Zealand* study was interviewed extensively for her research into early childhood education centres serving food to children that doesn't meet nutritional guidelines. Her story appeared in the *NZ Herald* and Radio NZ's Morning Report.

### Writing your way to happiness

Associate Professor Elizabeth Broadbent (FMHS) was quoted in *The Guardian* (UK) in a story on the use of expressive writing to improve health and productivity. Her study is called: 'Randomized Clinical Trial of Expressive Writing on Wound Healing Following Bariatric Surgery'.

### Māori leadership

In a feature interview with Radio NZ (National Sunday) Morning host Wallace Chapman, senior lecturer Dr Rachel Wolfgramm and Associate Professor Chellie Spiller (Management and International Business) discussed their research into generative Māori leadership and its social justice potential.

### Immigration matters

Senior lecturer Dr Francis Collins (School of Environment) talked immigration on TVNZ's flagship *Sunday* programme and Professor Kathy Campbell discussed all things science on Radio NZ's *Nine to Noon with Kathryn Ryan*.

### Alien invaders and whispering humans

From the School of Biological Sciences, senior lecturer Dr James Russell talked about new research on alien invaders on islands around the world in *Stuff* and on his blog in *National Geographic* and from the School of Psychology, Professor Michael Corballis featured in Radio NZ's *The Panel* "listeners' questions" slot on whether or not humans are the only species that can whisper.

### Stem cell reseearch

Also on Radio NZ, lecturer Dr Jenny Malmstrom from the Faculty of Engineering's Department of Chemical & Materials talked about her work with stem cells on *Our Changing World*.



## FROM THE ART COLLECTION

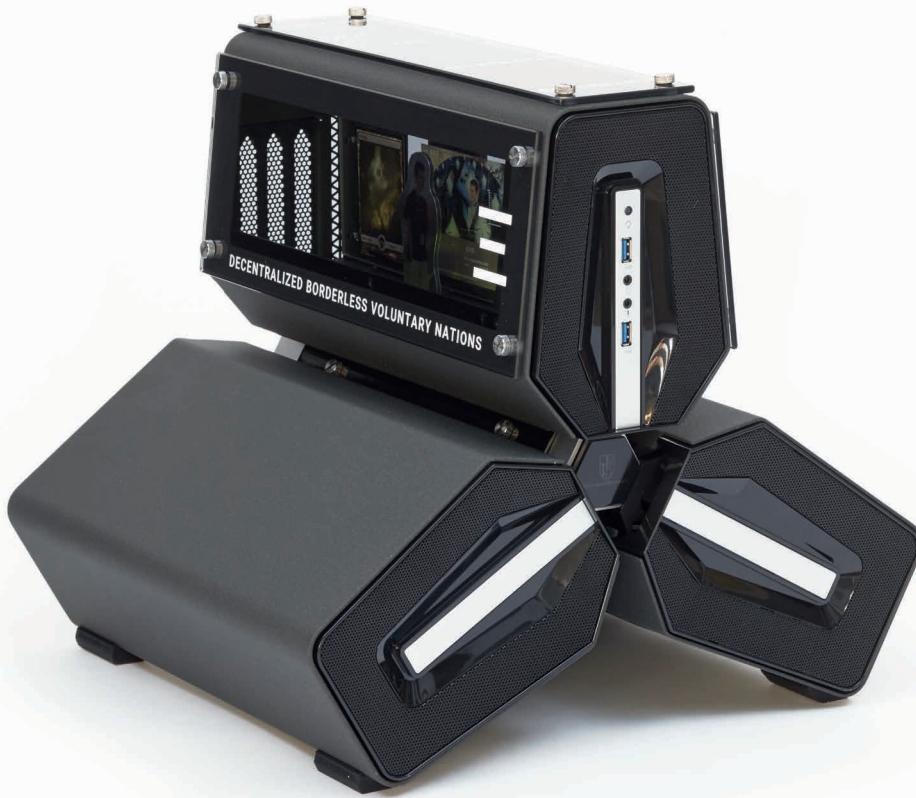


Image left: Simon Denny, born 1982, *Blockchain Future States Startup Case Mod: Ethereum 2016*, MTN 94 spray paint and UV print on Deepcool TRISTELLAR Mini-ITX, UV print on Aludibond, laser cut Plexiglas components, custom designed postage stamp, Magic-The Gathering cards, Paulmann Eco Stripe RGB, Paulmann power supply, 450 x 450 x 420mm.

Last year, following his representation of New Zealand at the Venice Biennale in 2015, Distinguished Young Alumnus Simon Denny was selected to show his sculpture at the 9th Berlin Biennale.

At this event, Denny continued his investigation of the circulation of data and its uses in three sculptures.

These were displayed in separate booths like a trade fair, along with a video he made in collaboration with an advertising company. The film explained the software shared by the three featured companies, collectively titled Blockchain Visionaries.

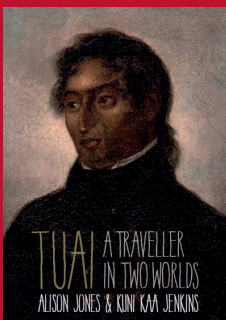
Reminiscent of the Mitsubishi logo in shape, Denny's sculpture mimics the appearance of some high-tech computer hardware.

It refers to BitCoin, invented by the pseudonymous Satoshi Nakamoto in 2009 as a peer-to-peer system of trading on the internet using digital currency.

Despite its association with dodgy dealings, BitCoin has hit the big time: last year Cambridge University researchers estimated that 2.9 to 5.8 million people are owners of a cryptocurrency wallet.

BitCoin transactions are verified and recorded in a distributed ledger called a blockchain – part of the title for this sculpture. Denny's full title for the sculpture - *Blockchain Future States Startup Case Mod: Ethereum* – includes the name of Vitalik Buterin's company Ethereum which utilises

## WHAT'S COMING OUT



### Tuai: A Traveller in Two Worlds

In early 1817, Tuai, a young Ngare Raumati chief from the Bay of Islands, set off for England. He was one of a number of Māori who, after encountering

European explorers,

traders and missionaries in New Zealand, seized opportunities to travel beyond familiar shores to Australia, England and Europe in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

*Tuai: A Traveller in Two Worlds*, which launches this month, is his story.

Written by Professor Alison Jones (Faculty of Education and Social Work) with Professor Kuni Kaa Jenkins of Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangī, the remarkable story of Tuai is an exciting addition to our history.

One of the first Māori to go to England and return, Tuai contributed significantly to European studies of Māori language and culture, and attempted – unsuccessfully – to get English settlers for the south eastern Bay of Islands as a protection against Ngāpuhi. It's an engrossing tale that gives a Māori point of view of Pākehā, 20 years before the Treaty. Published by Bridget Williams Books (July, 2017).



### New Zealand Trade Negotiations

In the first academic survey of New Zealand's trade negotiations from the 1970s to the present, Stephen Hoadley, Associate Professor of Politics and International Relations, has

reviewed trade diplomacy from early attempts to sell beef to Japan to current efforts to secure free trade agreements with Europe, Britain, and the United States.

The book details the setting of precedent, starting with closer economic relations with Australia in 1983, after which a dozen more free trade agreements were negotiated successfully, boosting New Zealand producers' access to overseas markets.

Stephen's book examines the institutions, processes and political debates of trade negotiations and distils lessons from the New Zealand negotiators' experiences.

This book is a useful background for anyone wanting to understand the basis of our current economic relationships around the world.

Published by The New Zealand Institute of International Affairs (June, 2017).

### Tears of Rangī

In this book, subtitled *Experiments Across Worlds*,

blockchain technology as the foundation of a shared global infrastructure.

For example, the United Nations World Food Programme used Ethereum Blockchain to transfer cryptocurrency vouchers for food to 10,000 people in Syria.

There are other aspects to the sculpture's components which seem cryptic but are simply bits of ephemera associated with Ethereum. The company's diamond-shaped logo, for instance, is rumoured to have derived from the collectible trading cards game called Magic: The Gathering, so a few of these cards are included in the sculpture, as well as a photographic self-portrait of the artist.

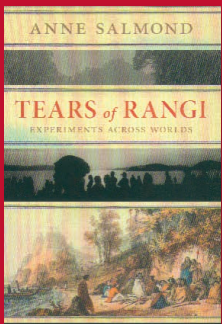
With the Ethereum blockchain, instead of amassing BitCoin, you earn Ether, a type of crypto token that fuels the network.

As well as being a cryptocurrency that you can trade, Ether is used by the application developers to pay for fees and services on the network. It seems these systems are the way of the future.

One of Denny's aims with this sculpture may have been to emphasise a link between the blockchain technology and free market capitalism.

This suggests that the ideology behind the latter is based on a concept of an omniscient and autonomous self-governing market, an abstract idea which has its realisation in blockchain technology.

■ Linda Tyler, Director, Centre for Art Studies



Emeritus Professor Dame Anne Salmond looks at New Zealand as a place where multiple worlds engage and collide. Beginning with

a fine-grained enquiry into the early period of encounters between Māori and Europeans in New Zealand (1769-1840), Dame Anne then investigates clashes and exchanges in key areas of contemporary life - waterways, lands, the sea and people.

We now live in a world of gridded maps, Outlook calendars and balance sheets. But in this substantial volume, published by Auckland University Press, we have a chance to see how, in New Zealand, concepts of whakapapa and hau, complex networks and reciprocal exchange, may point to new ways of understanding interactions between peoples, and between people and the natural world.

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## CHINESE STORY IS OUR STORY

**The evolving story of the Chinese community in New Zealand over the last 30 years can be used as a social barometer to gauge how far we've moved on since 1987, writes Manying Ip.**

That was the year when the country opened its doors to migrants from 'non-traditional source countries'. The arrival of the new Chinese immigrants from diverse regions, including Hong Kong, Taiwan and the People's Republic can arguably be said to be the single most controversial issue of the new immigration policy.

Governments all round the world typically treat immigration as a political-economic issue based on cost-benefit analysis, and the human dimension is often forgotten. The typical questions considered include: who are the "quality migrants" considered good for the country? How many should be brought in to sustain the economy, or to replenish the ageing workforce? What might be the impact on infrastructure and welfare?

In the process of such pragmatic policy consideration, the immigrants themselves are often commodified, reduced to mere figures on the cold calculations of a balance sheet.

It is often forgotten that immigration is a social issue with heavy emotional and personal costs for the immigrants and their families. For the immigrant community, there are long term issues of identity and ethnicity.

For example, for how long would the term 'immigrants' be conflated with 'Chinese' in New Zealand parlance? In this country's bi-cultural context, where can the Chinese fit in the cultural mosaic?

The fact that Chinese are often regarded as "new immigrants" is testimony to how long they have been neglected and relegated to the fringes of New Zealand mainstream society. Sizeable

numbers of Chinese arrived in the 1860s, the country's most visible minority, noticeable because of their perceived cultural differences. They were itinerant workers forced to leave their families behind; a highly conspicuous cohort who were treated essentially as outsiders without citizenship rights. Stereotypes and myths of the Chinese abound. In the 1900s they were "inscrutable" and "unassimilable". After a few generations of local-born Chinese excelling academically and professionally, they became the "model minority" who supposedly only kept to themselves and didn't integrate.

Today, the rather bitter joke circulating among the Chinese is that any ills of New Zealand society can be blamed on them. From the rising house prices in Auckland to the short supply of milk powder in supermarkets, the accusing finger is often directed at the Chinese. Then there is the Auckland traffic jam (and everyone knows that 'Asians are bad drivers!'). When they're employed they're accused of taking jobs away from "real New Zealanders" and when they study, they are a burden on education.

They are also a liability on New Zealand health and welfare. If they leave New Zealand, that just shows their disloyalty and lack of commitment. Much ambivalence continues to be widespread amongst New Zealanders. While economic ties with China are considered important, the Chinese, especially recent arrivals, are treated with suspicion. I believe the changing place of the Chinese in this country's cultural mosaic is one of the most salient features marking New Zealand's transformation in the 21st century.

One can see how far New Zealand has progressed or otherwise by examining the mobilities of the Chinese. Whether they've been able to settle down as full citizens, or

whether they are not able to integrate socially and economically and have to become return migrants, or circulatory transnationals.

As a visible minority, the Chinese have faced formidable hurdles to 'fit in', to find suitable employment and to engage meaningfully with mainstream New Zealanders who view them as potential threats and liabilities. However, after 30 years, some substantial transformation is visible and there are various Chinese success stories, many of these partly facilitated by the spectacular rise of China as an economic power. While the Chinese in New Zealand are widely seen as a useful link to the country's second largest trading partner, and an increasingly formidable political power in the Pacific, genuine social integration is yet to be achieved.

In September, this country will have a general election, and the Labour Party has just announced its proposed policy of cutting immigration numbers 'by 20,000 to 30,000', by targeting unskilled workers and international students. There is a distinct echo of the mid-1990s New Zealand First slogan of "cutting immigration to the bone". The words "Chinese" or "Asian" are not explicitly used, but the community feels burgeoning hostility.

Ultimately, the story of Chinese New Zealanders is that of a diasporic population, with various links to a distant sending country. Whether the community can establish a strong sense of belonging as full citizens is not only a Chinese story, but a New Zealand story, illustrating the strength of its inclusive national identity.

*Emeritus Professor Manying Ip (School of Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts) will be giving a Winter Lecture on 30 August in the Conference Centre Lecture Theatre at 22 Symonds Street.*