

LIGHTING UP THE FUTURE

PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE

The Faculty of Arts is about to launch its new Public Policy Institute, modelled on similar institutes from overseas and developed with input from across the faculties.

ART OF GARDENING

For 40 years Tom Tiauli has helped create and sustain the gardens that provide one of the pleasures of working at the University. He is now working with his third grounds manager.

MOVE OVER CHOMSKY

Since the 1950s linguists have defined themselves against Noam Chomsky, the most influential of them all. Now new thoughts on language are overturning his proposals.

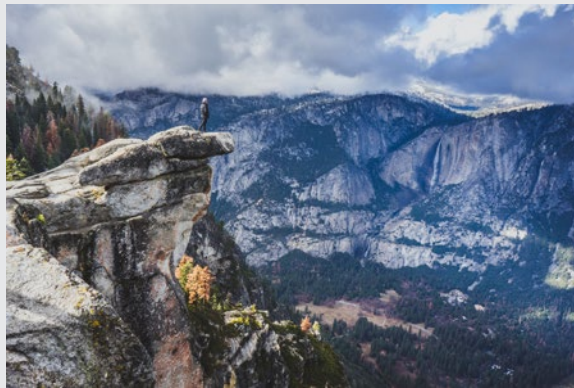
PHOTOGRAPHERS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Adrienne Cleland, DVC (Operations) and Registrar, congratulates Gordon Kang, winner of the 'Showcasing Sustainability through Photography' competition, held during the University's inaugural Sustainability Week and judged by Associate Professor Megan Jenkinson (Elam) and University photographer Godfrey Boehnke.



ENGAGING WITH THE OUTDOORS

'Yosemite National Park,' by Gordon Kang was overall winner and winner of the category "Partnership: implementing the sustainable development goals agenda through a solid global partnership."
"National parks and networks of parks are excellent ways to get the public engaged with the outdoors."



SAVING DARWIN

'Darwin,' by Joe Fagan, from the category "Planet: protecting our planet's natural resources and climate for future generations".
"Darwin is a rare species of sea turtle. He was made by students in ENVSCI101 from some of the 27,000 pieces of marine debris they found on Auckland's beaches during 2016."



WE HOLD THE POWER TO CHANGE

'In Our Hands,' by Johnson Zhuang, from the category "Planet: protecting our planet's natural resources and climate for future generations".
Climate change affects us all, and the power to save the Earth lies in our own hands. The future is in our control, and we have the power to change it."



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COVER PHOTO: LightScale II

The kinetic installation LightScale II floats through a virtual ocean like a giant whale, materialising environments, events and interactions with users. The installation generates a tactile data experience through 3D projections onto multi-layered gauze surfaces.

The kinetic structure consists of a 20-metre long carbon construction, mounted asymmetrically on a single point support. On a touch the construction oscillates freely through space. A motion tracking system combined with ultra sound sensors recognises touch, position and movement of the LightScale.

The project was first presented in Linz as part of the Ars Electronica Festival from 7 to 11 September.

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Professor Peter Shepherd: Callaghan Medal winner

TOP HONOURS SHARED

Six top honours were shared between researchers in the faculties of Medical and Health Science, Science and Arts in October.

The Royal Society of New Zealand Te Apārangi announced its 2017 awards, which included awards from the Health Research Council of New Zealand, at a gala dinner celebrating the society's 150th anniversary.

In Medical and Health Sciences, Professor Peter Shepherd won the Callaghan Medal for science communication. The award reflected Peter's leadership in increasing the public's understanding of science; notably a nationwide programme to keep biology teachers and their students up to date with the latest developments in life sciences and the annual Queenstown Molecular Biology Research Week.

Also in Medical Sciences, Professor Alistair Gunn was awarded the Beaven Medal by the Health Research Council of New Zealand for his pioneering use of mild cooling to treat babies with brain injuries at birth. He was first to show that even very delayed cooling could reduce brain injury in large animals around the time of birth, and to systematically work out how and when cooling needed to be applied to protect a newborn baby's brain from damage.

From the Faculty of Science, Dr Danny Osborne (Psychology) received the inaugural Royal Society Te Apārangi Early Career Research Award in Social Sciences for his prolific research programme which examines the psychological barriers to collective action. His research shows that people's basic needs for stability, beliefs about their collective ability to change the system, and culture-specific beliefs about past injustices all undermine collective action.

In Arts, Professor Cris Shore (Social Sciences) was awarded the Mason Durie Medal for his contributions to political anthropology and the study of organisations, governance and power. Cris first developed his historical-anthropological methods in an ethnographic study of the Italian Communist party and Eurocommunism.

Professor Tracey McIntosh (Māori Studies and Pacific Studies) received the Te Rangi Hīroa Medal for advancing understanding of the social injustices that undermine Māori wellbeing, inhibit social cohesion and cultural diversity in this country. Her research focuses on how to solve the inter-generational transmission of social inequalities, how they apply to Māori, and new indigenous knowledge and policies that work for Māori and Aotearoa.

Dr Aroha Harris (Humanities) was awarded the inaugural Royal Society Te Apārangi Early Career Researcher Award in Humanities for her substantial contributions to the award-winning Māori history, *Tangata Whenua: An Illustrated History*, which spans the entirety of Māori history.

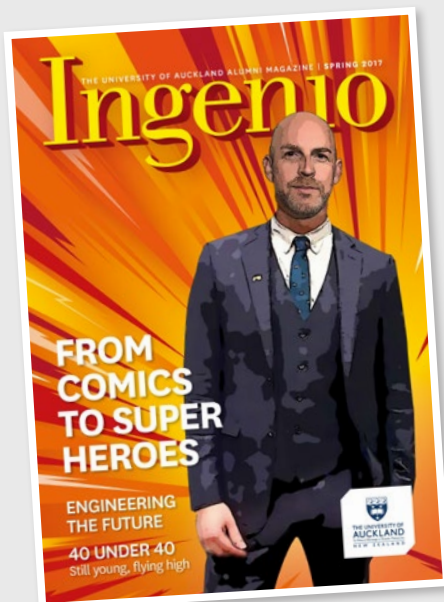
PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE LAUNCHED

The Faculty of Arts will officially launch its new Public Policy Institute (PPI) at the Fale Pasifika on 9 November.

The new institute is modelled on similar institutions overseas and has been developed at Auckland with input from across the faculties.

Led by inaugural director, Jennifer Curtin, Associate Professor of Politics and coordinator of the Masters of Public Policy, the PPI will foster independent, critical research on key policy issues affecting New Zealand and the global community. By bringing together policy experts from across the university, the PPI aims to form partnerships with local and central government as well as non-profits and communities and international partners engaged in evidence-informed policy research and evaluation.

www.ppi.auckland.ac.nz



READ THE NEW INGENIO, NOW ONLINE

'A force for justice' is the title of the Vice-Chancellor's editorial for the latest *Ingenio* magazine, which now has a circulation of 124,000 in print, with 25,000 more sent as pdfs.

In tune with the theme of the editorial, two of the alumni profiled are actively involved in promoting peace: Grant Bayldon, the New Zealand director of Amnesty International, and Esther Harrop, a senior New Zealand Defence Force officer who has been serving with the peace-keeping forces in South Sudan. Also in

this issue is an opinion piece by Dr Ritesh Shah (Education and Social Work) on the part played by education in times of conflict.

The staff profile is of Jackie Ede, disabilities adviser, who assists students living with what some refer to as "invisible disabilities" like Autism Spectrum Disorder and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

Featured in the cover story is LA-based alumnus Shane Thompson, vice-president of integrated marketing for Warner Bros. Pictures.

On the books page is the first novel by Amanda Lyne, former alumni relations manager at the University, based around dramatic events in her own family. Amanda also features in a short video that can be viewed on the website

www.ingenio-magazine.com

INTERNATIONAL ROLE FOR SAM ELWORTHY

Auckland University Press - and the University of Auckland - has a new reason to celebrate.

At the Frankfurt Book Fair, AUP director Sam Elworthy was elected to the executive committee of the International Publishers Association (IPA).

Founded in 1896 and based in Geneva, the IPA is the world's peak organisation of publishers associations, representing 70 organisations from 60 countries around the world.

Sam has played a key role in New Zealand publishing as president of the Publishers Association of New Zealand, chair of the Michael King Writers' Centre and the Book Awards Governance Group, and board member of Copyright Licensing New Zealand.

This is the first time New Zealand has had a representative on the IPA's executive committee.



40 UNDER 40

The University's 40 under 40 website is alive and well worth seeing.

In New Zealand and around the world we have more than 185,000 alumni, almost 70 percent of whom are under 40. The website features 40 of them, all high achievers in a variety of fields.

They are divided into six categories: the "Disruptors and Innovators" who have challenged the status quo; the "Performers" comprising writers, musicians, artists and film-makers; the "Humanitarians" who play important roles in bettering other people's lives; the "Influencers" who help change people's attitudes - and the world; the "Businesspeople" who have harnessed opportunities and the "Entrepreneurs" who have blazed new trails.

Some of the faces you will recognise, no doubt including this one, *pictured above*, who has joined our latest line up of MPs.

To see the 40 under 40, visit www.alumni.auckland.ac.nz/40-under-40

IN BRIEF

RUTHERFORD DISCOVERY FELLOWSHIPS

Associate Professor Claire Charters from the Auckland Law School is one of four from the University to have been awarded a 2017 Rutherford Scholarship. This will support Claire to investigate the ways indigenous people's rights are constitutionally recognised throughout the world.

Claire (Ngati Whakaue, Tuwharetoa, Ngā Puhi, Tainui) is one of ten people across the country honoured with a Rutherford Fellowship for her research entitled 'Constitutional transformation to accommodate Māori in Aotearoa/New Zealand: Lessons from around the globe'.

Administered by the Royal Society Te Apārangi, the Rutherford Discovery Fellowships support

New Zealand's talented early to mid-career researchers for a period of five years. The others from the University who have gained fellowships are Dr Emma Carroll (Science), Dr Max Petrov (School of Medicine) and Associate Professor Melinda Webber (Starpath).

INSURANCE OFFER

The University's insurance brokers, Mercer Marsh Benefits, have negotiated with the voluntary group insurance plan insurer, AMP Life, for another 30-day special offer for eligible staff to obtain Life, Trauma and Income Protection Insurance at discounted rates. The offer is available from Monday 9 October 2017 to Tuesday 14 November 2017 inclusive (certain limits apply).

For more information or to apply, see www.marsh.co.nz/UoA

THE FUTURE IS NOW

It's intriguing to imagine what might inspire someone to lie on the floor of the largest cathedral in Austria; the answer can be seen on the cover of this issue of *UniNews*.

People were immersing themselves in the spectacular results of recent research from the arc/sec Lab for Digital Spatial Operations at the University of Auckland's School of Architecture and Planning.

They were at the Ars Electronica Festival, founded in 1979 at Linz in Austria to provide a platform for artistic and scientific encounters with technology.

This year more than 1,000 eminent artists, scientists and technicians from 42 countries, and from many of the world's top universities, gathered for five days in September for conferences, presentations, workshops, discussions and displays on the theme of *Artificial Intelligence - The Other I*, and to show their work to around 100,000 festival-goers.

The team from the University, led by Associate Professor Uwe Rieger from Architecture and Planning and Associate Professor Carol Brown from Dance Studies, were invited to present two interdisciplinary works - LIGHTSCALE II and SINGULARITY.

Although both exhibitions are visually spectacular they are also much more, explains Uwe.

"A computer is not just a tool any more, it's not a two-dimensional pixel display accessed by a keyboard and mouse. It is becoming part of our environment, allowing us to connect the physical world with the virtual world.

He believes this will radically change the way in which humans experience the world and will revolutionise the world of design in the near future.

"And this is what we are specifically testing with the arc/sec lab. We are trying to create intelligent environments around us. With these large, active installations the special thing we are doing is to explore and test these ideas of how we can merge digital information with physical properties. At the same time we use the installation to communicate to others how it works."

The Mariendom Cathedral - closed for renovations and therefore cleared of all objects - was the venue for LIGHTSCALE II, described by the organisers as one of eight highlights



of a festival which aims to provide a platform for artistic and scientific encounters with technology.

It uses 3D projections on a 20-metre long physical structure to create a work that oscillates in space, floating like a whale through a virtual ocean, encountering virtual objects, including schools of fish, which a whale might very well meet on its travels.

Equipped with systems that track motion and recognise touch and movement, it performs as a navigation tool for augmented spaces, responding both to the physical and digital environment.

SINGULARITY blends data, dance, music and architecture in an immersive performance that allows audiences to explore the way the human body interacts with space. As the dancers respond to the structures of light and, in turn, the light responds to the dancers, every performance is unique.

Created through a collaboration between the arc/sec Lab, Carol Brown Dances and French techno composer Jerome Soudan, the work was premiered at Auckland's Q Theatre in 2016. Its tour to Austria, where it was presented at the festival's opening, was supported by a Creative New Zealand Grant for the Arts.

Uwe credits Yinan Liu, co-ordinator of the Open Media Lab (OML), the digital support unit at the School of Architecture and Planning, with "opening the door to the virtual world" through the use of a software programme called Unity 3D, which enables the use of all types of digital tools, including virtual systems, robots, projectors and HoLolenses (mixed-reality

smart glasses developed and manufactured by Microsoft).

He also credits the students involved in the Open Media Lab with contributing to a truly innovative environment.

"We have 14 tutor-students employed to support their peers. For our workshops we rely very much on the student team, who are contracted each semester to give tutorial support for about 12 hours a week. This gives us direct access to the student body, which means we stay very well-connected. And the workshops wouldn't work nearly as well without them."

He admits the students "are much faster than the staff" at picking up anything digital.

They also contribute to, and benefit from, the strong and growing connections with industry.

"Because everything is so new and nobody knows what it will lead to, we can work with students to do speculative investigation of things that might come up in the future and of ways we might be able to use these discoveries."

He says this is something that companies don't really have the time for, but they do have an interest in supporting the research.

An example is the "Pop-up Reality Shop", a research project in which four students, supervised by Uwe and Yinan, have been investigating the use of Microsoft HoLolenses to augment spaces and displays of merchandise with digital information in a way that has the capacity to transform physical retail and online shopping.

This has been supported by Datacom and has the possibility of future commercial applications.

A group of Uwe's research students, based at Auckland Council's start-up hub AR/VR Garagerun and sponsored by Datacom, has been making presentations to international guests – from Silicon Valley, Harvard University, South Korea and Japan.

"I've been amazed by the extent and breadth of international interest," says Uwe.

A current research project which is crossing disciplines within the University is a collaboration between OML and the School of Medicine, in particular the Department of Oncology, which provides a platform for visualising data in 3D space in different ways and on different scales, ranging from organs or tumours to the cellular level, thereby creating new ways for medical staff to interact or collaborate.

Initiated by Dr Ben Lawrence from the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences and Dr Michael Davis from Architecture and Planning, it is now being developed by Karl Butler, OML's technician, in discussion with staff from the Department of Oncology.

Uwe believes the discipline of architecture, firmly based in spatial thinking and the interaction of humans with spaces, is well placed to be at the forefront of these investigations which aim to connect the virtual and physical worlds.

Discoveries, he says, are not so much about new inventions as about linking different kinds of knowledge and experience to create new alignments and new perspectives.

■ Judy Wilford

MY STORY

STAFF PROFILE

Tauetia Tiauli (Tom) has been working in the University gardens for almost 40 years

Where did you grow up?

I was born in American Samoa but we moved to Western Samoa when I was just a few months old.

What did you enjoy doing as a child?

I had 13 brothers and two sisters so we were a big family. I enjoyed helping my mum with washing and cooking. I loved sports like rugby and Samoan cricket. And my cousins lived in a house by the river. We used to swim there all the time. Until I was 12 we lived in Apia but I finished school in form 2 and then my parents brought me to New Zealand because they wanted me to continue my education here. They stayed here with me for about nine months, but then they returned to Western Samoa. I stayed on with my sister, who lived at Lynfield, near Lynfield College where I went to school (though not for long).

What was your first job?

The first work I did was something I really enjoyed. My parents had a plantation in Western Samoa where they grew crops like taro and bananas. In the holidays they used to take me there and I would help them look after the gardens.

Did you ever have a favourite teacher?

I think the best teacher I ever had was John Ibid, who came from Denmark and was my first boss when I came to work at the University in 1978. I was about 25 and the first question he asked was, "What do you know about trees?"

"Well," I said, "a tree's a tree." And he laughed and gave me the job straight away. He could tell I was keen. He taught me the names of the trees and all about how to look after them; he taught me about how to sterilise the soil, and about the different plants and what they needed.

After John passed away I worked with Tony Palmer. He taught me the common and Latin names of the plants and sent me on courses to learn about spraying.

Then Tony retired and Stanley [Jones] took over. At first he wanted to make the University gardens more like Albert Park. But he soon realised these gardens are different: we have a special collection of native trees from New Zealand and from other countries like Japan, South Africa and Germany. Some of them are quite rare.

What do you like about your job?

I just love the gardening: I enjoy seeing the trees I planted grow. Now, when I look at the trees around the lawn behind Old Government House, I see many that I dug the hole for, and put in the ground for the first time. Even the special kauri tree that is descended from Tāne Mahuta [the giant kauri tree in the Waipoua Forest in Northland] – the Vice-Chancellor planted the tree [at an official ceremony] but I dug the hole for it before he and the guests arrived.

Another one I prepared the ground for and dug the hole for was the Turkish Red Pine (*Pinus brutia*) which is a descendant of the one planted in New Zealand from seeds a World War One soldier brought back from Gallipoli in his pockets.

What are the things you're proud of?

I see the people walking through enjoying the garden and I'm proud I helped to make it. I was proud when my daughter was married here seven years ago. She wanted to be married outside and this was a beautiful place for the wedding. Afterwards, we had the reception at the Fale Pasifika.

Have you got a garden at home?

I don't now because we've moved into a different house but I used to have a beautiful garden. Every Saturday before I went to play golf I would gather armfuls of flowers and take them to the rest home. The old people loved to have fresh flowers. I used to take about 14 bunches each week.

What do you do when you're not working?

I like to spend time with my grandkids. My wife Luseane passed away three years ago and I live with my daughter Nola, her husband and their four children. My son, Afa George, lives in Melbourne and has five children. I go on holiday to see my grandkids whenever I can – and last year we all had a holiday together on the Gold Coast.

Most weekends, Saturdays and Sundays, I play golf at the Waitakere course, where my handicap is seven. It's a very hilly course, keeps me fit, and when I look around at the trees and the birds singing, it almost feels like I'm still at work.

Note: Tom says he's always pleased to answer questions about the different sections of the garden and the plants. He says not to hesitate to stop and ask when you're passing.



Above: Tom and his daughter on her wedding day in the University gardens.

DID YOU KNOW

... that Princes Street in the 1880s was the most prestigious address in Auckland?

The rich, as the saying goes, “made for the ridges”, where the air was fresher, the view was better and the neighbourhood would be made up of other suitably prominent families.

When the City Improvement Commission decided to subdivide much of the eastern side of the Albert Barracks Reserve in the late 1870s and early 1880s, it made sure the stringent conditions would attract the right sort of buyer.

Only one dwelling was allowed on each leasehold allotment and each townhouse was to be worth at least £700 (an enormous sum at the time) and have at least two storeys.

Not only did prospective Princes Street residents favour an elevated position near to their downtown businesses and the wharves, they also wanted to be close to important buildings like the Supreme Court, (now the High Court) the colonial governor’s Auckland residence (Old Government House), Choral Hall, (now Old Choral Hall), which was one of the main cultural venues of the city, The Grand Hotel (now just a façade), the newly created Albert Park and the new Synagogue (University House).

One of these was successful Jewish business owner Nathan Alfred Nathan and his family who had a fine Italianate style home built at 24 Princes Street in 1888, just around the corner from his father David Nathan’s residence, Bella Vista in Waterloo Quadrant, which is now Newman Hall.

Called ‘Wickford’, it was designed by Irish architect John Currie (1859-1921), one of the original members of the New Zealand Institute of Architects and a name associated with a number of notable buildings around town.

Alfred and his brother Laurence had inherited their father’s successful merchandising business, L.D. Nathan and Co, which had started from humble beginnings exporting flax and kauri gum from the Bay of Islands in 1840.

By Alfred’s time it had expanded into a large gum store, a bond store and a tea warehouse

on the corner of Commerce and Customhouse streets in Auckland.

Managing the family business with his brother for 60 years, Alfred was friendly and much loved by his staff and their families, while wife Emily Clayton was lauded as “an outstanding hostess” who presided over suppers that were “sumptuous sit-down affairs”.

Alfred and Emily, with their four daughters and one surviving son, lived in style at Wickford, which became known for lavish social and cultural occasions and warm hospitality.

Lit up and sparkling for evening events, red carpets were laid along Princes Street and guests arriving in their carriages - later in cars - were attended by a team of servants; footmen, butlers, coachmen, cooks and maids.

Known for its beautiful staircase, ornate fireplaces and grand front drawing room, Wickford also featured sandblasted glazing, moulded ceilings and carved mantelpieces, some of which still grace the interior of the building, now known as Alfred Nathan House.

The Nathans also regularly invited their extended family to gatherings at Wickford to celebrate Jewish festivals. Like his father, Alfred

was actively involved in the Auckland Jewish community, serving as president of the Hebrew Congregation in 1900 and from 1916 to 1931.

His neighbours in Princes Street included chemist James Sharland, newspaper publishers Henry Brett and W. Scott Wilson, (of Wilson and Horton fame) butcher William Hellaby and brewers Thomas Whitson and Moss Davis

After Alfred died in 1931, Wickford first became a private hospital, Mt Pleasant, and then the home of the University’s registry in 1958. A fourth floor has since been added, and the rear has been extended to provide meeting rooms and extra offices.

And with seismic strengthening and refurbishment work almost complete, Alfred Nathan House will soon be back to its former glory, with the vast majority of its features retained and in some cases, reinstated where they had been removed at some point the building’s 129-year life; its history retained as a valuable part of the city’s colonial story.

■ Julianne Evans

References: Auckland Council University of Auckland Heritage Trail; the Jewish Online Museum; Te Ara Encyclopaedia of New Zealand; the University of Auckland News, March, 2004.



Above: Costume ball at Wickford, Heritage Collection, Auckland Public Library.

WHAT’S ON CAMPUS

CONTEMPORARY ART

Elam Artists Graduate Show 2017

When: 30 November–3 December, 10am–5pm.

Venue: Elam School of Fine Arts studios.

Immerse yourself in an exhibition of exceptional contemporary art by over 130 Studio IV, BFA(Hons), PGDipFA and MFA graduating students from Elam School of Fine Arts.

To find out more visit elamartists.ac.nz

ARCHITECTURE SHOW

MODOS Architecture Design Thesis Show 2017

When: 10–12 November, 10am–4pm.

Venue: Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland Street.

A free exhibition of over 50 design projects and theses extracts by Master of Architecture (Professional) graduating students that investigate a wide range of issues.

To find out more visit modos.ac.nz/exhibition

IRISH PRESIDENT VISITS

Keynote speech

When: 4-5pm, 27 October. Doors open 3.30pm

Venue: Fisher & Paykel Auditorium, Owen G Glenn Building.

The President of Ireland Michael D. Higgins, will deliver this address: “Ireland and New Zealand - of some origins and prospects of two nations who share so many experiences and interests.”

THE HARRY POTTER WASP IN OUR BACKYARD

It's one of our least-loved insects, with a particularly gruesome reproductive technique, but doctoral student Tom Saunders is on a mission to rescue our native wasps from their bad name.

Unlike their introduced cousins the German wasp, or Asian paper wasp, New Zealand's native parasitoid wasps do not sting and do not live in colonies. There are thought to be 3,000 endemic species in New Zealand, of which only around a third are known to science.

In his efforts to champion insects most New Zealanders have almost no knowledge of, Tom has scientifically described a species of native wasp and named it after a character from the *Harry Potter* series.

"I used the name *Lusius malfoyi* because Malfoy is a character in the books with a bad reputation who is ultimately redeemed, and I'm trying to redeem the reputation of our native wasps," he says.

But parasitoid wasps do have a gruesome reproductive technique, injecting eggs into the bodies of caterpillars, with the larvae feeding inside the caterpillar's body as the host slowly dies.

Tom decided to work on improving methods for wasp capture during his masters degree because, he says, we may be losing endemic species in New Zealand without knowing it.

"The big problem is lack of data, we do not know what species we have, how many there might be or what their host species are, so they can't be included in conservation planning.

"Much of my work in capturing them for my research was at the edge of the Waitakere Ranges, so they can be found even in people's backyards but most people don't know anything about them.

"If we don't put more resources into their taxonomy, we could be in danger of losing wasp species without even knowing it."

Parasitoid wasps are successfully used as environmental tools in New Zealand, with introduced species used to control a range of horticultural pests. Tom's doctoral research aims to test the viability of introducing a parasitoid wasp to control brown marmorated stink bug.

"The stink bug has recently been classified as a top environmental threat by the Ministry for Primary Industries and real effort is being made to keep it out of the country. Where it has spread, in places like Europe and North America, it is causing real destruction and economic cost."

MĀORI IDENTITY AND FINANCIAL CHOICES

The largest ever survey of Māori financial attitudes is underway, with 100,000 questionnaires posted to people who indicated Māori descent on the electoral roll.

The Māori Identity and Financial Attitudes Study (MIFAS), Te Rangahau o Te Tuakiri Māori me Ngāa Waiaro a-Putea, will shed light upon how Māori identity shapes financial choices, and explore what success looks like from a Māori perspective. It is also available online and in te reo Māori.

"Cultural identity provides a set of rules and guidelines for living, and is a very powerful driver of behaviour," says Dr Carla Houkamau, who is running the study with Associate Professor Manuka Henare (Mira Szasz Research Centre) and Professor Chris Sibley (Psychology).

Our earlier work on Māori identity has made it clear that for Māori to advance economically, and for policy to support that, we need to first understand cultural differences in what Māori value, their notions of wealth and security, and the possibilities they see are available to them as Māori," she says.

As Associate Dean Māori and Pacific Development at the University's Business School, Carla is concerned that more Māori are not enrolling in commerce degrees.

"The Māori economy is an important and growing part of New Zealand's economy and by 2040 Māori will be a significant proportion of our working-age population. I see so many opportunities in business and education positions with not enough graduates to fill them."

Historically, the Māori population has experienced worse social and economic outcomes than other New Zealanders; however Māori businesses and tribal enterprises are re-emerging as a significant force, in particular in the primary sector, and by receiving Treaty settlements. Māori have significant opportunities for growth and contribution to the New Zealand economy.

Says Carla: "This study is about planning for the future. If we do not have reliable data on the attitudes and opinions of a large group of Māori it makes it harder to develop Māori economic policy that is more responsive to the cultural and social realities of Māori communities.





Dr Barbere Chacha (left) with Tom Gregory.

RICH LABORATORY FOR RESEARCH

Visits from overseas academics very often generate new possibilities for student exchanges and academic collaborations.

This was certainly true of a recent visit from Dr Barbere Chacha from Laikipia University in Kenya, who was hosted by the research group on Conflict, Terrorism and Peace (CTAP) in the Department of Politics and International Relations.

Dr Chacha, who likes to be addressed as Chacha, has been conducting research which focuses on political assassinations in Kenya and on violence associated with elections. He has been very involved in the truth and reconciliation commission, which has generated a great deal of controversy, and is the current recipient of a prestigious Global South Scholarship to the University of New South Wales in Australia.

The violence Chacha studies has abated a little but is not yet over. His research lies at the intersection of history and current events.

Dr Tom Gregory from CTAP says the purpose of his visit was to encourage partnerships between the University of Auckland and the University of Laikipia.

Chacha is fully in support of this. “There is a problem of training and expertise in Kenya,” he says, “especially in terrorism and counter-terrorism. Kenya has been a victim of terrorism for a long time but has not been able to marshal the required training, especially at an academic level.”

“From our point of view,” says Tom, “we are interested in the kinds of issues that Chacha is addressing in his research.”

Because of the history and current events in his own country, his research perspectives are quite different from those of researchers based in New Zealand.

“The global fellowship is to try to facilitate these kinds of collaborations,” says Tom, “and we are hoping that eventually this could be a three-way collaboration [between the University of Auckland, the University of NSW and a partner university such as Laikipia].

Of particular interest to Chacha is the likelihood of some of his top students undertaking the Master of Terrorism and Conflict at Auckland. Four are definitely interested in enrolling and he is investigating avenues for gaining scholarships for them.

Chacha has done a great deal to advance the study of human rights at his own university. He gained the support of the Kenyan Human Rights Commission to establish a Human Rights Centre at the university, which has now become a regional office for the Commission, one of eight across the country.

He has also succeeded in establishing a course in human rights, taken by all students across the university. This was introduced at first-year level, but is likely to be moved to a more advanced level, as the issues have proved quite challenging for students in the early stages of a degree.

Chacha sees the University of Auckland as very advanced in the field of political conflict, and of having much to offer in this area.

His greatest desire would be for a Centre of African Studies to be established here, which could function as a centre to train people before they go to Africa to work, to do business or to participate in aid programmes. It would also be of value in advising government in aspects of New Zealand’s foreign policy, as does the long-established Centre for African Studies at London University.

Africa, says Chacha, is an emerging power with enormous potential for productive change, and therefore offers a rich laboratory for political research, especially in areas relating to conflict.

“In this country, we like to think of ourselves as good international citizens,” says Tom. “We take pride in our aid programmes and the help we give around monitoring elections and providing humanitarian assistance. I agree that establishing a centre of this kind would advance our effectiveness in international relations and would ensure that the institutional knowledge is in place to make our foreign policies as effective as they can be.”

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

THE BONES REMEMBER

There has been continuing international coverage of a Liggins Institute study that showed the benefits from exercising early in life continue into adulthood, and that bone retains a “memory” of early exercise. Senior Research Fellow Dr Justin O’Sullivan has been quoted.

ROBOTS AS FRIENDS

Associate Professor Elizabeth Broadbent (Psychological Medicine) has been involved in research demonstrating that many older adults using AI-based personal robots come to interact with the robots as important companions.

COMMERCIALS BOMBARDING OUR KIDS

Children are being bombarded with an average of 27 junk food advertisements a day in their schools, homes and on the streets, as shown by research by Professor Cliona Ni Mhurchu (Population Health), conducted jointly with the University of Otago.

RAINY DAY READING

Jamie McDonald, a student in Computer Science, has developed an app that can suggest what book to read based on the person’s mood and the weather.

CAPITAL GAINS - AND LOSSES

Dr Ryan Greenaway-McGrevy (Economics) made the point in a media report that most countries with a capital gains tax allow people to claim back their capital losses against their income, so if house prices were set to fall, a capital gains tax regime could be one way to make people more willing to sell.

SIZING UP TO BUY ONLINE

A group of former students (Angad Nayyar, Nishij Nimmagadda, Kyle Thumbadoo and Nicky Penhall) have developed an app that allows online shoppers to find the perfect shoe size, and reduces the chances of having to return wrong-sized products. The app, Strutagio, won the Velocity Innovation Challenge last year and received a \$1000 cash prize. It was a finalist in the Velocity \$100k Challenge last year and has now hit the headlines.

TOUCH IF YOU DARE

Reuben Paterson (b. 1973)
Fish to Water 2010
glitter on linen
1018 x 1526 x 35 mm

Surreal and mysterious, Ngāi Tūhoe artist Reuben Paterson's shimmering 'Fish to Water' dares the viewer to touch it.



Constructed from glitter-covered linen, the work possesses a fragile tactility and painterly luminescence which has become synonymous with Paterson's oeuvre over the 20 years since he graduated from the Elam School of Fine Arts in 1997.

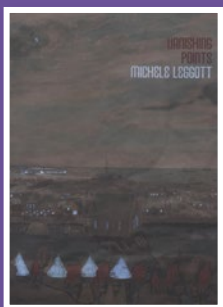
Elevating glitter from the realm of children's arts and crafts to high art, Paterson's work triggers our primal attraction to shiny objects, drawing viewers in and tempting physical exploration of its surface.

The artist further underscores tactile responses by layering darker background colours over the lighter foreground. In this way, he seduces the eye and creates the impression of watery depth.

Originally part of Paterson's 2010 exhibition *The Water Between Us*, 'Fish to Water' signalled an evolutionary moment in the artist's practice. Previously his work had been based on patterns, often derived from kowhaiwhai other customary Māori art. In this work, Paterson shifts from the abstract to the representational realm, envisioning water as a psychological and physical boundary and divider.

The Water Between Us exhibition explored the roles and politics of water with particular focus on the Karangahake Gorge – a border between tribal lands of various iwi. Paterson raises questions which reverberate throughout New

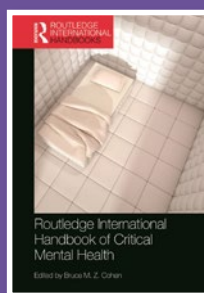
WHAT'S COMING OUT



Vanishing Point

Professor Michele Leggott's latest volume of poetry concerns itself with appearance and disappearance as modes of memory.

It is full of stories caught from the air and pictures made of words. It stands here and goes there, a real or imagined place. If we can work out the navigation the rest will follow. Michele Leggott was the inaugural New Zealand Poet Laureate 2007-2009 and received the Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement in Poetry in 2013. Her collections include *Heartland* (2014) and *Mirabile Dictu* (2009), both from Auckland University Press. She coordinates the New Zealand Electronic Poetry Centre (nzepc) with Brian Flaherty at the University of Auckland.



The Routledge International Handbook of Critical Mental Health

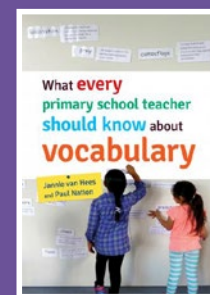
"[This handbook] provides a comprehensive,

wide-ranging and up-to-date portrayal of a wide variety of critical approaches towards psychiatry in a global context," writes Allan W Horwitz, Board of Governors Professor of Sociology, Rutgers University, USA. "It is an essential tool for all students, researchers and clinicians who are interested in alternative models of the theory, history, politics and professional practice of mental health and illness."

Featuring original essays from some of the most established international scholars in the area, the Handbook, edited by Dr Bruce

Cohen from the Department of Sociology, discusses and provides updates on critical theories of mental health from labelling, social constructionism, antipsychiatry, Foucauldian and Marxist approaches to critical feminist, race and queer theory, critical realism, critical culture and mad studies.

Bruce is the author of *Mental Health User Narratives: New Perspectives on Illness, Being Cultural and Recovery* and *Psychiatric Hegemony: A Marxist Theory of Mental Illness*.



What every primary school teacher should know about vocabulary

This book, written by Dr Jannie van Hees from the Faculty of Education

Zealand history: What is mine versus yours? What is ours versus theirs?

'Fish to Water' captures catfish and schooling tropical freshwater species in an aquarium tank, showing an innate understanding of the weightlessness and light of an underwater world, but rendered in unrealistic burnt oranges and yellows of retro 1970s furnishings.

This strange monochrome adds an ambiguous anxiety to the work. The viewer is invited to ponder its origin – perhaps it is algae? Or pollution? With its distinctly rusty hue, maybe it refers to the Karangahake Gorge's goldmining history? A likely answer is all of the above – the picture is loaded with multiple meanings.

Drawing attention to its own artificiality of colour, medium and tactility, Paterson's work defies categorisation while inviting the viewer to make their own meaning.

The final laugh is the artist's: mocking his own artificiality in entitling his work, Paterson riffs on the idiom "like a fish to water" (often used to emphasise how someone adapts to a new situation with ease) to allude to the difficulty of the process used to make the work.

■ Chance Wilson, ARTHIST734 Art Writing and Curatorial Practice student, 2017.

and Social Work and Emeritus Professor Paul Nation from Victoria University of Wellington, is for teachers of young children aged from five to 12 years in primary schools, who want to support students' English vocabulary. Most of the children will be native speakers of English, although a significant number will be from homes where other languages are used dominantly, or at least interwoven with English. This needs to be taken account of in approaches to developing learners' vocabulary knowledge.

The book, published by NZCER Press, draws strongly on research, but is written in a non-academic way so that teachers are given clear, direct advice. Each chapter ends with a discussion of relevant and useful research so that teachers can read more deeply on topics that interest them.

Many resources are included, such as a Picture Vocabulary Size Test, ready-to-use activities for word consciousness-raising, and information about word parts.

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

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From mid-November until mid-February the University offers accommodation at discounted rates, while the students are on vacation. Accommodation ranges from basic single rooms with shared bathrooms to upmarket studio rooms and self-catered 3 bedroom apartments. So when the rest of Auckland is fully booked and prices are high, you can rely on Auckland Summer Stays to help you out. Discounted rates available to staff members. Rates are from as little as \$85 per night for the entire 3-bedroom apartment. Spread the word and let family and friends know about us. Contact: louise.newbury@auckland.ac.nz

ACCOMMODATION 15 MINUTES FROM

UNIVERSITY: 4-bedroom, 2 bathroom plus large study, fully furnished townhouse 15 minutes from University in Northcote Point with city views, 2 carport spaces plus public transport outside door, available for the summer from November to May. Suit visiting academics or professional families. \$770 per week. Phone Madeleine on 021 844 531

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

PARIS APARTMENT TO RENT: Located on the Left Bank, near the Latin Quarter, the apartment is light, quiet, on the fifth floor with a lift and an open view over Paris. It is fully equipped with TV with over 100 channels, Wi-Fi, kitchen with fridge/freezer, oven, microwave, bathroom with bath and shower. The apartment sleeps 3, is near a Metro station and several buses providing easy access to the main tourist attractions. It is rented by the week. November to March \$900, April to October, \$1200. Email: kotlar@ihug.co.nz

MISCELLANEOUS

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TIDAL CHANGE IN VIEWS ON LANGUAGE

Recent Hood Fellow, Dr Daniel Dor, is from the Department of Communications at Tel Aviv University. Emeritus Professor Michael Corballis writes of their shared interests.

I first met Daniel at a conference in Rome, and discovered that we had similar views on language and its evolution. These views are radically at odds with those of Noam Chomsky, generally considered the foremost linguist of our time.

In Chomsky's view, language is fundamentally biological, not cultural, as a radical rewiring of the brain which happened in a single step in our own species, even in a single individual, at some point in the past 100,000 years – well after our species is thought to have emerged. This singular event created a mental structure unique to humans, which he calls universal grammar.

According to Chomsky, language is a mode of thought, not of communication. Communicative language, with all its variety and imperfections, is a mere side effect of this sudden and dramatic reconstitution of thought.

While Chomsky's work has provided important insights into how language is structured, his account of how and when it emerged sounds more Biblical than scientific, and seems clearly counter to evolutionary theory.

Daniel, in his own words, "turns the Chomsky proposal on its head." In his view, language is primarily a means of communication, not of thought, and is a cultural invention rather

than a product of sudden and adventitious biological change. It probably emerged during the Pleistocene, from perhaps nearly three million years ago, as our forebears adapted from an arboreal existence to a more open life on the savanna, with increased pressures toward cooperation and social living.

Cultural adaptation would have led to gradual selection of biological changes leading to language in all its modern forms. Contrary to the Chomskyan view, culture preceded biology, rather than vice versa.

These changes may have co-evolved with such nonlinguistic innovations as the manufacture and use of tools, enhanced empathy and "theory of mind," enlargement of the brain and perhaps even bipedalism.

These are stories yet to be fleshed out, but Daniel's work is clearly an important part of a tidal move away from the Chomskyan approach.

Daniel's approach dove-tailed nicely with my own thinking, and has featured in my writing since 2015, including my recent book *The Truth about Language: What it is and where it came from* (University of Chicago and University of Auckland Presses, 2017). I was therefore pleased and privileged when Brian Boyd asked me, along with Fred Kroon, to co-sponsor Daniel's visit. While he was here, we had some discussion as to which of us had more influenced the other. I'm inclined to think that I was the main beneficiary, and look forward to further sharing of ideas.

Daniel is more than a linguist. Although trained in linguistics with a PhD from Stanford University, his questioning of orthodox Chomskyan theory made it difficult for him to secure an academic position, and he worked for some years as a reporter. Even now, he finds himself in a Department of Communications, rather than one of Linguistics.

As a political activist, he has been a watchdog in Israeli politics. He has written extensively on the role of the mass media in influencing political opinion, and it was perhaps just a happy coincidence that he was here in the lead up to our general election. While he was here he had useful discussions with people from English, Philosophy, and Political Studies, as well as with those interested in linguistics.

We will remember him with gratitude and affection, and hope that he comes back. He seemed to like it here.

■ Michael Corballis

*Note: Daniel Dor is a well-known linguist and social activist. His Hood Lecture, delivered on 18 September, was called "Across the Divide," drawing on his groundbreaking book *The Instruction of Imagination: Language as a Social Communication Technology* (Oxford University Press, 2015). Here Daniel is seen at the Hood Lecture with Distinguished Professor Brian Boyd (left) and Michael Corballis (right).*