

Massey News Articles for 2006

Honours for staff and alumni - New Year's Honours 2006
Student satisfaction levels continue to rise
Massey scientist contributes to British report on the greenhouse gas crisis
Seats in Parliament validate Hamas leaders' decision to stand
Mismatch between Māori expectations and mental health resources raises workloads
Astronomy team hits world headlines
Cultural disconnect behind Māori suicides
Low alcohol beer may not be the answer
Psychological therapy aims to alleviate suffering
Performance testing the impact of protein
Anxiety measure for elderly needed
Can a mathematician fix your washing machine? Study group to find out.
Colour purple rules the mailbox
Complete rethink needed for physical education
Scoring at home easier for most in Super 12
Iwi leadership defines Waitangi Day events
2006: looking at the year ahead
Innovators and exporters beware
The impact of war on world stock markets
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Performance reviews just as good in the pub
No advantage in widespread work place drug-tests
Bird flu expert to advise British government
\$1.5 million for top-notch Microscopy lab
Predicting the Ruapehu lahar path
Top scholarships for doctoral students
Highlighting dairy industry developments
Wellington graduation to be biggest yet
International offering enhanced
Schools get taste of Summer Shakespeare
Psychology centre hosts first workshops
Wharerata welcomes new manager
Contemporary Māori art in demand
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Prestige scholarships a \$350k head start
Growing pool of Māori PhD graduates
Top Māori achiever pursues double degree
Design students to exhibit furniture in Milan
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Premier research medal for mathematician
Māori Development attracts First Nations
New study addresses nursing crisis
Gender psychology in retirement planning
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Leading research into learning disabilities
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University extends deepest sympathy after flight tragedy
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Australasian urban history under conference
Students welcomed across all campuses
Our economic future in the hands of generation '?'
Volcano troubleshooting in Vanuatu
Tribute to a former leader, and life-long friend
Delivering sweet advice on nutrition
Focusing on needs is future for education
Marine designers to set sail for Italy
Massey stands by timely student offers
Battling disease through mathematics
Campus development a priority
Academic year kicks off in style
Strengthening partnerships
Full house at the Wildlife Ward
Successful Summer School ends
State of the art lectures on North Shore
New therapy aims to alleviate suffering
Masterclass with the wizard
Looking after man's best friend
Tuatara tourism and tangata whenua
Bond between Massey and Thailand strengthened by visit
Alumni honoured
'Smart' houses for home security and elder-care
Calculating the cost of blindness
Sports academy launched for future stars
New Zealand families truly global
Jericho prison siege part of Israeli election lead-up
Massey athletes at Commonwealth Games
New Zealand's oldest School of Journalism turns 40 this year.
Second thoughts the losers in the TradeMe sale
Governor-General impressed with campus heart and soul
Re-thinking the free radical
Women in the news how New Zealand measures up
Willow browsing reduces parasites in lambs
Winning formula for e-centre
Among the believers
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Harawira Craig Pearless, Master of Management '02
18TH Century Notes
Wild Times
Writing for Columbine
The lecturer's tale
In development
An education against odds
The economics of illicit drug markets
Anatomy of a designer drug
The statistics
Profiling an epidemic
In Review
On Turkish soil
After the hurricane
CBT and the art of motivation maintenance
French Revolutions

Leaving the beat
Rethinking Palestine
Fuels for thought
W.F. Massey's life and times
Reflections
College of Business says 'Yes'
Chinese immersion day
Gallipoli gift for new Defence chief
Check up for Edge
Top US bass player jams with jazz musicians
The secret lives of Maltese pagans
Parent hurdle to healthier kids campaign
Getting the good oil on avocados
MRI machine re-commissioned for research
Staff thanked for PBRF hard work
Montana poetry award for first book
Vibration treatment put to the test
Iwi creativity in the Great Hall
Huge potential for bioplastics
Landmark scheme for journalism school
Violinist on the road to study in Austria
The biochemistry behind tuberculosis
Cruise ships good for small Pacific states
Medical records to your mobile
Designers exposed in Melbourne
Walking the line for art collaboration
Vice-Chancellor's view from the top
Old rivals to meet on and off the rugby field
Success through styling design
Insulin resistance in Māori, Aborigines studied
Attitudes to working mothers entrenched
Project Wellsford to improve children's lot
Top scholarships for Massey PhDs
Consortium wins contract for new tertiary teaching centre
Nest invaders under scrutiny
First Comms graduates aim for stars
Ads, lies and regulations
Workplace injuries top \$20 billion a year
Scholarships to study puffery
US politics and the marketplace
Award for research on cigarette descriptors
Journo reunion draws international alumni
Massey's treaty with Versailles
Good news for cats and carpets
More antibiotics could cut elderly death rate
New head for School of Music
Double success for Social Work graduates
Whānau take the stage together
Business student remembered with award
Pasifika scholarships awarded
Traditional printing inspires today's students
Massey Musos' Manhattan Transfer
New funding model welcomed

History on the high seas
Norsewear art award for Masters student
Aviation to extend its international reach
Staying smart and sharp in the dairy shed
Hollywood vs history in The Da Vinci Code
Fellowships for scientists
Champion of free speech
Champion of the Humanities
Understanding Samoan overstayers
Life in the white for Antarctic researchers
Mary Mallon, 1957-2006
Teaching excellence recognised - 2006
Relay for Life raises cancer awareness and cash
Supporting future dairy leaders
Playcentre benefits not just for kids
College of Business prize recipients Auckland 2006
Record number of PhD graduates at Albany
Greater role for horticulture in the Third World
HIV warnings needed on Internet chat rooms
Eight-word essays give students a book boost
Award-winning journalist challenges students
Scholarship winners
Top aviation specialist briefs students
Why problem gamblers won't seek help
Meeting nutrition needs of ageing population
Westpac partnership for Asia Finance Conference
Award for book that challenges the textbooks
Getting to know what's beneath your feet
Women value workplace friendships
Council Report - March 2006
Examining the British novel
The adhesive bra look no back, no straps
Maths, knots and molecules
Project at the cutting edge of education
Young graduate now a PhD at 21
Putting equestrian excellence to the test
How do young adults choose food?
Hydro-electricity and eco-efficiency
A doctorate, master's degree and family
Oldest journalism school turns 40
Songlines
Sales jobs linked to bladder cancer risk
Massey's vision, community commitment praised by Minister
New look scholarships reward top achievers
Where next for the Solomon Islands?
Rioting reveals depth of Solomons' instability
Swift international reaction to researchers' stock market studies.
Successful conference issues challenge on boys' education
The stories behind the Victoria Cross
The key to cutting costs in the dairy shed
Teen dreams for the future
Share buyers saying getting rich not the main goal
Auckland graduation week a hot event

Celebration of campus growth and achievements
Nurses workforce study launched
Tertiary funding heading in right direction
Balancing gender in academia
Research reveals genetic damage to nuclear test veterans
Vets shed rookie tag
Info about sodium: is it worth its salt?
Open Days 2006 - Palmerston North
Students dominate Hokonui fashion awards
Samoan nightclubs offer women sanctuary
Student building promotes cultural diversity
Veterans want further study on DNA findings
Teen mess due to style and consumerism
World-class ranking for Riddet researcher
Prestigious food awards opened up to schools
Effectiveness of food industry accord challenged
Licking your way to the top of the class
Science article challenges thinking
Student City buzzes during Graduation
Council Report - May 2006
Robo-soccer for pulp culture fans
Paradise duck may not be such a bad egg
Immigrant workers resource for businesses
Gold rush impact on Hauraki Māori
Another round for successful Uruguay pact
New Partnerships in education
Celebrating Education firsts
'Google hacking' attacks rising
Engineers build then bust bridges
Research aid to more effective social work
Ceremony to honour Māori graduates in Palmerston North
New PhDs in Palmerston North
End of WWI the beginning of another ordeal
Malls to get even more mega says researcher
Young scientists shine at MacDiarmid Awards
Deputy PM calls on recovering police dog
Secondary students vie for international business competition
More awareness needed of risks of concussion
Pasture sensor wins top innovator award at Fieldays
Coin change marks end for foreign invaders
Noise also a danger for children in tunnels
More than \$272,000 ag/hort scholarships awarded
Trust drives success in the international market
An education in governance
Teenagers, roads, and risky behaviour
Expanding table on show
Business award for pharmaceutical supplier
First Highbury Scholarship Recipient to Graduate
Baby boomers blamed for age of impoverishment
Māori service providers praised
Massey researchers back Health Ministry tobacco labelling plan
Another high ranking for Finance researchers
A big tick from the TEC chair

Tights tested for rapid recovery
Top designers honoured
More evidence that 'light' smokes fool the smoker
Good news for cats and carpets
Getting to the guts of human nutrition
Getting an edge in global agribusiness
House prices rise but sales stay steady
World finance gurus gather in Auckland
Expert advises against Marineland dolphin re-stock
Outwitting possums with the Web
Music therapist wins Goal Setter award
Top teachers honoured
Larger whales take longer to die
Shooting for trans-Tasman supremacy
Fine-tuning fertiliser application
Council Report - June 2006
Getting down to the business of breeding
Te Whakatereia i te Matua Reo Kaupapa Māori language policy launch
Studying health impacts on older Samoans
Party pills may need more regulation
Taking Viennese music back to Vienna
Healthy food messages bombard modern mothers
Film, a mirror and 48 hours
What Palmy people really think:Marketing students get the low-down
Delusions of grandeur and international sport
Horse remains an unsung national hero
Flair for colour earns trip to Belfast
Two dozen axes and a cuckoo clock
Journos reunite in Wellington
Linking French and Kiwi film cultures
New bioreactor enables research advances
Centre at cutting edge of microchip design
Prioritising the primary industries
First Director Pasifika welcomed
Malls to get even more MEGA
E-learning's a breeze
Wireless networks to cover campuses
PhDs at Wellington
Milking marsupials
Māori newspapers aimed to colonise, assimilate
Native bats treated at Wildlife Ward
Finance research rates highly
Attitudes to working mothers still entrenched
Food industry advocate challenged to debate obesity issues
Massey consortium wins contract for new tertiary teaching centre
Signs of external involvement in kidnaps may be a ruse
Top scholarships for Massey PhDs
Parent star to new planet identified
Old rivals meeting on and off the rugby field
Prison literacy programme aims to connect families
Disaster research centre established
Sport Management graduates off to Asian Games
NZ agri-food research falling behind

Higher profile for SME research
Evaluating volcanic risk for the future
Another pointer to falling home ownership
Turbo-boost from wax packs
Study indicates genetic damage incurred by Vietnam vets
Combating Campylobacter with common sense
'81 Springbok tour images on show
Celebrating a bright future for Massey research
Capability building exercise pays dividends
Hothouse business flowers bloom
Rising house costs leads to more renters
Research professor elected to Royal Society
Farmers' markets research wins award
Asking questions gives better math results
Book reveals Gothic darkness in Kiwi culture
Defining 'Pacifians' a focus for conference
At-risk Pacific women focus of health research
Māori sports awards for Massey lecturer
Study in Sweden opens doors to the world
Another green light for Māori scholarships
VC's Symposium highlights value of e-learning
Direct route to Indian market for e-centre
Romanian doctorate for Prof Chisti
Industry hotline for College of Business
New research centre to assist in disaster preparation
Holding the pedal from the metal
Visiting museum studies scholar
Step on it for health and fitness
Medieval French in the 21st Century
City the ticket for new travel writing course
Bringing 21st century myths to new fiction
Pacific concert opens doors to community
Strong communities best for Auckland
Award for Stead biography-in-writing
Nearing the Neanderthal genome
Architect explores gender and interior design
Sociology researcher on rates inquiry panel
Car demand a barrier to transport change
Lizard relocation part of conservation study
Aviation innovation given further funding
International aid under scrutiny
Sexy subtitles and monsters in textbook
Sports students praise Massey academy
Radio selection thanks to Pirate Friday
Exhibition reveals untold migration story
Mechatronics students show off designs
New pilot to benefit ESOL students
International grant for Finance research
Turning waste to energy on the farm
Testing behaviour of clay-laden lahars
Adapting to Western life a health challenge
Historian's role in London memorial
Summer school enrolments up as students aim to get ahead

Prayer space for Muslim students at Auckland
What makes women tick on the football pitch
Awards for innovation and good taste
Can government policies bring happiness?
Survey reveals Māori mental health concerns
Jumping generations with pen and paper
New appointments to the Riddet Centre
Defining New Zealand's non-profit sector
Groundbreaking PhD partnership
Shihezi delegation seeks relationship
Knowledge Village visits Knowledge City
Quality partnerships to meet strategic goals
Literacy leader joins Auckland educationalists
Student satisfaction levels continue to rise
Fellowship recognises property expertise
Rats, fires and volcanoes tell settlers' story
Higher ranking for Finance research
Pacific collection needed to build knowledge base
'Exciting' research projects get \$6.3m funding from Marsden Fund
2006 College Research Awards
2006 Postdoctoral Fellowships
2006 Maori Awards
2006 Women's Awards
2006 Technicians' Awards
Toning down the taste of lamb
Waiheke commute for top flight instructor
Backpackers' economic importance to Samoa studied
Cairns and Apec talks a chance for Doha revival
Changing labour market which skills count?
New Chairs to advance agricultural science
Telling the doctors straight: I'm gay
Rats, fires and volcanoes tell settlers' story
Common sense combats food poisoning
The lyrics of physics poetry in motion
Fortified milk hits store shelves
Sweet tooth we're born that way
Veterinary software destined for the Swiss
Commitment to research centres applauded
Partnerships with Thailand paying off
Unhealthy eating habits ingrained early
Give-and-take benefits employment relations
Research professor elected to Royal Society
Maths website aimed at would-be students
2006 Research Medal Awards
Auckland Open Day serves up a taste of university life
College Celebration to hit full swing
New campaign showcases success
E-learning's a breeze
Boot camp for textile design student
New Zealand supercar launched in Britain
Palmerston North becomes a dragons' den
Beer on the edge
Stars and cars In the family

A lovely day in Kyoto
From gate to plate
Chain reaction
A fishy story
Painting by Numbers
Reviews
Cité life
Boston bound
Business in Britain
Pet occupation
First lady
Pure poetry
Road scholars
The Land of Babel
The player
Oh islands in the sun
Fresh and exciting documentary wins
Religious groups or potential terrorists?
Making the most of Open Days
Alumni launches Australasian chapters
Diabetes study looks at Manawatu Chinese
The impact of housing loans
Top athletes vie for Massey education
Sports Club of the Year awarded
Service coordination key to housing needs
Combatting beetle pests with parasites
Profiling sport and charity volunteers
Academic writing for non-English speakers
Open Days - Palmerston North
Massey elite athletes honoured with Blues
New strategy chief has Army background
'Small' magazine gets big win
Safety competition acclaimed
Claude McCarthy Fellowships for 2007
Juxtaposition highlights takeaway sound
Exercise prescription pays off
Trends show Catholic numbers growing
No foot, no horse
Functional food first for Omega 3 joint venture
Mental illness how we see it
Whaddarya? Defining young Kiwis' identities
High Court ruling opens up \$15,000 teaching scholarship
Chopper, vets, firefighters to horse rescue
Differing cultural attitudes to sexual identity
New Centre for Tertiary Teaching Excellence established
Students in space, 2008
Agriculture student of the year 2006
Three Journalism students win scholarships to Asia
Dust harms sawmill workers
Launching case studies in Māori business
Downhill racers test their engineering savvy
Successful free bus service extended until 2012
Huge backing for higher drinking age

Turbos sign up to make SRI as home base for two more years
Future foods from technology students
\$5000 prize for Manawatu business dream
Design students' cars crash and burn
New vet nurses now qualify to work in Britain
Massey Blues honour top NZ athletes
Investigating strange hums in the night
Home affordability still falling
Equine root canal a New Zealand first
Bloodline argument racist rubbish, says researcher
Success is in fashion
2006 Research Medal winners announced
He Poroporoaki ki Ta Hugh Kawharu (1927-2006)
Little spotted kiwi dies leaving egg with mate
Ambush marketing laws come with complications
Managers are dinosaurs, say world experts
Tō Tātau Reo Rangatira: Inaugural Māori Language Conference
Bursaries for top English students
Study finds double standard in attitude to women's drinking
Hairy buttercup, happy cow
Squash world's elite hosted by PN campus
Saving some seats
Making the most of renewable energy sources
Pacific academic's research comes to life in Vaka Moana
Journalism students to work in Asia
Student swimmer wins supreme award
Cycle stopwatch wins business award
Big demand for mobile business expertise
Business graduates advised to spin dreams into reality
New tactic to reduce child abuse
Shorland medal for Massey scientist
Record graduation caps a year of celebration and success
The keys to success and happiness
Todd Foundation Scholarship for energy PhD student
Top engineering award for Massey innovator
Auckland stadium polls may be misleading
Seventeen new doctors in the house
Stopping dairy cow lameness in its tracks
Animal ethics award for veterinary scientist
Qualmark gives top ratings to student accommodation
Exposing the next generation of designers and artists
Top medal for Massey horticulture specialist
Graduates urged to look forward
Conference focuses on our planet, our future
Maximising education for a stronger primary sector
Top maths awards for Massey duo
Into the hot and deep end Massey grads at the Asian Games
New therapy can reduce stage fright
Radical new approach to learning failure
Massey sets new fees in line with other universities
Psychologists decode conversations
New reptile population for Hauraki Gulf islands
International interest in Asian airport research

More awards for tobacco research
Adventure sports causing many injuries
What's killing NZ's rarest dolphins?
Beef and lamb good for your bones
Agreement with Mexican University to provide academic exchange in meat technology
Equal access for fruit juice
Biologist awarded New Zealand's top science fellowship

Honours for staff and alumni

The University community was again well represented in this year's awards in the New Year's Honours list.

Leading theoretical biologist Professor David Penny was made a companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit. A co-director of the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution, Professor Penny was in 2004 awarded the Rutherford Medal - the country's highest honour in science by the Royal Society of New Zealand. He is one of the University's five Distinguished Professors.

Emeritus Professor Arthur Bruere was made an Officer of the Order for his services to veterinary science. A former University Council member, Professor Bruere is a current member of the New Zealand Equine Research Foundation. His areas of research expertise include a focus on transmissible disease among sheep and other ruminants.

Former staff member and agricultural researcher Dr Christopher John Baker was also made an Officer of the Order of Merit. After lecturing for 30 years, Dr Baker established the Baker No-Tillage Ltd, an enterprise commercialising technology developed at Massey.

Among Massey alumni acknowledged in the New Year's announcement by the Crown are recently retired Commissioner of Police, Robert Robinson, who was made a companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit. Alumnus and recipient of an Honorary Doctorate in

Literature from the University in 2002, writer and illustrator Tom Scott was made an Officer of the Order. Other alumni awarded in this year's honours are: Alan Jermaine (Q.S.M. for public service); Robert Khan (Q.S.M. for public service); Jacqueline Dromgool (Q.S.M. for public service); Roger Carson (M.N.Z.M. for services to the New Zealand Police); Helen Eskett (M.N.Z.M. for services to family planning); Robert Veale (C.N.Z.M. for services to the New Zealand Police).

The Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear joins with Massey staff in extending warmest congratulations to the University staff and alumni receiving awards in this New Year's Honours List.

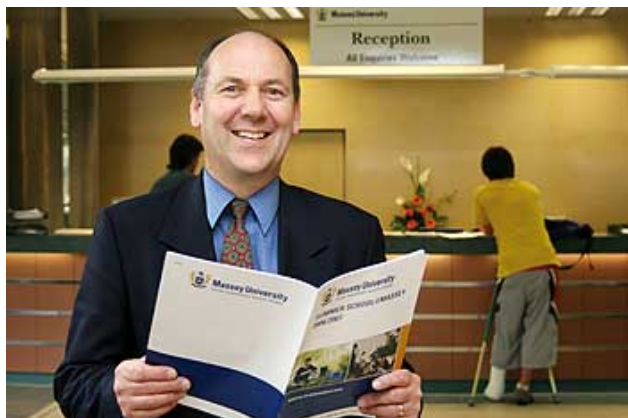
The New Zealand Royal Honours system are comprised of the Order of New Zealand, The New Zealand Order of Merit, and The Queen's Service Order and Medal, and a series of gallantry and bravery awards. A complete list is available on the NZ Governmental website: <http://www.dpmc.govt.nz/>

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Date: 05/01/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Alumni



National Student Relations Director Dr Pat Sandbrook.

Student satisfaction levels continue to rise

Student satisfaction levels at Massey have risen for the second year running, with only a tiny minority of students rating student services at the University anything less than satisfactory, good or very good.

And the biggest area of improvement and overall performance is in the satisfaction of extramural students.

Every year Massey invites about 20,000 students by email to participate in its satisfaction surveys aimed at improving service delivery.

About 4500 respond to the on-line survey run by AC Neilson containing 108 questions on all aspects of student services other than teaching, which is measured in a separate survey.

Last year 64 per cent of respondents rated the services good or very good, an increase from 62 per cent in 2004. This year it rose to 67 per cent.

When those who rated the services as satisfactory were added, the percentage rises to 95 and, for extramural students, just over 96 per cent.

National Student Relations Director Dr Pat Sandbrook says the University wants to not only get feedback from students but to respond to it. Systematic processes are now in place at each campus to work on the key areas that students identify for improvement. These efforts are being supported and encouraged by the senior managers in the University. There is a strong culture of service improvement. The results of each year's survey are discussed with the Students' Associations and actively incorporated into service planning. We believe this is the reason the satisfaction levels are so high and rising, Dr Sandbrook says.

The fact that so many are prepared to respond to such a detailed questionnaire demonstrates conclusively that these things matter to students and they have confidence that the feedback they provide is being heard and responded to by the University.

Details of the findings have been presented to students and staff involved in student relations and student services at all three campuses.

Dr Sandi Shillington, who is responsible for student services on the Palmerston North campus and for all extramural student services says the marked improvement in satisfaction levels particularly for extramural students shows the efforts made to be responsive to previous surveys were valuable.

We have introduced a new suite of services to students and I believe that's starting to show, Dr Shillington says.

The overall rating of 'good' and 'very good' have gone from 68 per cent last year for extramural students to 73 per cent this year, with just on 3 per cent rating our services 'poor' and less than 1 per cent 'very poor'.

She says the surveys show extramural students are much more likely than others to recommend Massey to potential students.

The introduction of Extraconnect an email a problem-solving service for students has contributed to the sense that Massey is doing a good job of resolving problems if and when they arise.

Massey University Students Association president Paul Falloon says it is good that Massey is one of the few or possibly the only university in New Zealand to annually gauge student satisfaction levels.

Mr Falloon accepts the survey has resulted in the University responding to potential problem areas and dealing with issues that might otherwise have been raised by students with their associations.

He says providing the cost is not too great he would like to see a similar survey or a single survey measure student satisfaction with academic performance because the current academic ratings are very generalised .

The University can chop things up between student services and academic, grounds and all aspects of what it provides but the student experience is a combination of all of those things.

Date: 19/01/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Extramural; Services

Massey scientist contributes to British report on the greenhouse gas crisis

There's a way out from the greenhouse gas crisis grow more trees, plant more stuff, and use it for fuel instead of oil, says Dr Peter Read.

The Massey University scientist is the New Zealand contributor to the massive report just released by the British Government and attracting headlines around the world.

Dr Read says most of the report is devoted to emphasizing the seriousness of the situation. The Gulf Stream that keeps the North Atlantic much warmer than the North Pacific is slowing and may stop; bad news for our relatives in Scotland. Tele-connection of the glaciers on Greenland and Antarctica means that the whole glacier mass accelerates as bits get nibbled away by the warming ocean, causing tens of meters of sea level rise much faster than previously thought possible; bad news for the Beehive.

More CO₂ in the air means more CO₂ in the oceans, forming carbonic acid and extinction of the small organisms at the bottom of the food chain; bad news for the whales we struggle to save on our beaches.

Dr Read says he was honoured to present his research at Tony Blair's Stabilisation 2005 Symposium. Along with other research, this has been worked up to a formal paper, peer-reviewed by international experts, and assembled into the report just released.

On the Kyoto Protocol, Dr Read says it is a brave try but can never do the job, based as it is on economic theories addressed to simpler problems. It is no good relying on reducing emissions from the energy system. That may be the cause of the problem but it's not the solution, any more that trying to ski back up the piste is the answer if you want to have another go when you get to the bottom. We need a ski lift to get CO₂ out of the atmosphere fast, and fortunately mother-nature provides one.

Growing plants takes carbon out of the atmosphere by the fundamental life process of photosynthesis that combines CO₂ in the atmosphere and water from the clouds into the complex carbohydrates that supply the chemical energy for all life's ecosystems.

Doing without stored chemical energy is very difficult. We can easily 'de-fossilize' the industrial energy system by growing more plants and using them for fuel. With current oil prices it's actually cheaper, as they well know in Brazil where dual-fuel cars have switched over to sugar-based ethanol wholesale in recent times. 'De-carbonising' relying on windmills to get to the beach is something else.

But bio-energy on its own is just zero-emissions energy, like windmills. The trick is to link it to CO₂ capture, compression and storage underground. Linked to coal that's another near-zero emissions technology being developed to save the industry's skin as emissions penalties rise. But linked to bio-energy it becomes a system for getting CO₂ out of the atmosphere, extracting energy when the biomass is used for fuel, and then stopping CO₂ getting back then the more bio-gas you guzzle the greener you are.

Dr Read says done on a large enough scale, if Blair's scientists' warnings are heeded, it can get the atmosphere back to its pre-industrial state in a few decades. Whether that is enough to stave off an impending climate catastrophe no-one can know but we can try to be prepared.

*visit <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/internat/scienceassess.htm>

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Date: 30/01/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Enviromental issues

Seats in Parliament validate Hamas leaders' decision to stand

The parliament seats gained by Islamic political party Hamas in the Palestinian parliamentary elections signal the success of the Hamas leaders' decision to enter mainstream politics, says Middle-Eastern politics expert Dr Nigel Parsons.

Dr Parsons, who at the time of the last election in 1996 was a researcher in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, says the seats gained by Hamas are significant for the party which has historically boycotted general elections.

"Hamas leaders have taken note of the regional context: fellow Sunni Muslims in Iraq and the Egyptian faction of the transnational Muslim Brotherhood (of which Hamas is the Palestinian wing), are realising that to boycott out of principle ultimately leaves them out of government decision-making .

"Throughout 2004 and 2005 Hamas participated in a series of four local elections in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank and they did very well. On the basis of this success, and developments in Iraq and Egypt, the party decided to take part in the next general election, and at this stage it looks like they have won at least 53 seats out of 132.

Dr Parsons says the election results also confirm the popularity of the party for its efficient provision of social welfare services and reputation for honesty as much as for its Islamic agenda.

"The West gives the impression of dreading Hamas in Palestine, but people have voted for them, as the Egyptians have for the Muslim Brotherhood. There is more to the party than the suicide bombings Hamas has also established clinics, schools and essential infrastructure to replace that destroyed by the Israeli Army.

"They have proved to be reliable and fair, and, importantly, honest in their administration. People feel confident, when giving money to Hamas, that the funds will be distributed as intended.

A lecturer in the School of History, Philosophy and Politics, Dr Parsons recently published *The Politics of the Palestinian Authority (PA): From Oslo to al-Aqsa*, a book mapping the development of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) from a liberation movement to a quasi-government. It is the culmination of more than a decade's extensive fieldwork whilst based at Bir Zeit University in Ramallah, Palestine, and at the American University in Cairo, Egypt.

Dr Parsons conducted over 60 interviews with leading figures in the PLO and the PA, delegates to the negotiations with Israel, and the Palestinian political opposition.

Created: 1 February, 2006

Date: 30/01/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Mismatch between Māori expectations and mental health resources raises workloads

Maori mental health providers frequently work outside the scope of their contracts for the well-being of clients, a Massey University researcher has found. Dr Amohia Boulton examined the experience of Maori mental health providers for her Doctorate of Philosophy in Maori Studies. She noted the expectations of clients of Maori mental health providers differ from those who fund their work.



As a consequence, Maori providers regularly work beyond the expectations placed on other mental health workers.

They are expected to provide services that are aligned with the values and norms enshrined in Maori culture but often are not resourced to do so, Dr Boulton says. For many providers the regular and repeated provision of services outside the scope of the contract appears to be a normal part of contracting in Maori mental health.

Dr Boulton (Ngai te Rangi, Ngati Ranginui, Ngati Pukenga) says a more responsive health contracting environment, which takes account of both worldviews, is required. "One of the outcomes of this research has been a clear analysis of the mismatch that exists in the current contracting approach," says Dr Boulton.

"While the government has acknowledged that Maori mental health services provide a different and unique service, one which is desirable and valued, this research has shown that the generic models of contracting and performance measurement are ill-equipped to accurately monitor, assess or measure Maori mental health service provision."

Dr Boulton's research includes interviews with 35 individuals (including staff and managers from seven Maori mental health providers based in Tauranga, Manawatu, and Canterbury) and an analysis of contract and performance monitoring documentation. She found several ways in which providers went beyond the traditional job description. "

The additional work or service provided tends to fall into one of three categories: work undertaken to ensure a culturally-appropriate service; work done for the benefit of, or out of a sense of obligation to, tangata whaiora [Maori health consumers]; or additional work done to improve the service, resources, or staff capabilities.

"For example, instead of one face-to-face meeting with one tangata whaiora that lasted half an hour, delivering a culturally-appropriate service might require an all-day hui at a marae for that tangata whaiora and their whanau."

This could include transporting tangata whaiora to appointments or tangi, organising a hui for tangata whaiora and their whanau, or assisting tangata whaiora to trace their whakapapa (genealogy).

Dr Boulton is a Health Research Council post-doctoral research fellow based at Te Pumanawa Hauora, the Research Centre for Maori Health and Development at Massey University. Her current work is building upon this research, exploring in greater detail the issues and challenges that funders, planners and Maori providers have in contracting at the district and local level.

Date: 30/01/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Maori

Astronomy team hits world headlines

 [Watch the TVNZ Breakfast item](#)

Massey's Dr Ian Bond is one of a team of astronomers reporting on their discovery of another new planet in the latest issue of Nature Magazine.

The new planet is smaller than, but similar to Neptune or Uranus. The New Zealand astronomers are part of an international group involved in planetary discovery. Albany based Dr Bond provides the scientific lead to the New Zealanders who have become quite adept at using a technique known as gravitational microlensing to identify planets.

Last year the New Zealand researchers from Massey University, Victoria, Canterbury and Auckland Universities received a nine million dollar Marsden grant for their work. Their gravitational microlensing technique uses the gravitational fields of stars as huge naturally occurring lenses to assist magnification and observation of the galaxies.

Dr Bond has made a significant contribution to observation using this technique with the development of software that enables data captured by telescopes to be more easily analysed.

During the last decade, about 150 planets orbiting stars in our Milky Way galaxy have been discovered using a variety of techniques. Several planets with properties quite different from those in our solar system were found.

The aim of the work is to elucidate the processes involved in planetary formation and eventually to find extrasolar planets capable of supporting life.

Date: 30/01/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences



Cultural disconnect behind Māori suicides

Cultural disconnection is a key factor behind the high rates of suicide and attempted suicide among Māori, a Massey University researcher has found.

Dr Nicole Coupe focused on Māori suicide prevention for her Doctorate of Philosophy in Māori Studies.

In her five-year study, Dr Coupe (Kai Tahu, Te Atiawa, Ngāti Toa, Rangitāne, Raukawa) looked at the reasons for suicidal behaviour among Māori, whose rate of suicide and suicide attempts far exceeds that of non-Māori.

Statistics for Māori males aged between 15 and 24, for example, showed 50 out of every 100,000 attempted suicide, about twice the rate for New Zealand European males in the same age group.

Dr Coupe interviewed 250 Māori aged between 16 and 50 treated at hospitals in the Auckland, Waitemata and Counties-Manukau districts after suicide attempts, and a control group of 250 Māori selected at random from the same communities.

They were each asked 400 questions relating to their personal circumstances, health, background, income and employment, drug and alcohol use, whether they suffered from depression and anxiety. She found much higher numbers among the group that attempted suicide were not connected to things Māori. They didn't have a secure identity.

"Interestingly, the majority could actually say who their iwi was but they couldn't tell us much more than that. They were much less likely to speak te reo than the group from the wider community.

Dr Coupe's study found that not being connected to Māoritanga (Māori culture) is a key risk factor associated with attempted suicide among Māori. Other factors included poor general health, marijuana use, and interpersonal abuse.

She says is now working with the NZ Guidelines Group, a non-governmental organization which arose out of the national health committee, implementing guidelines for people at risk of suicide in emergency departments, mental health services and Māori health services.

She has been involved with suicide prevention work within Māori communities, and has advised the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Youth Development.

Created: 20 January, 2006

Date: 30/01/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Explore - HEALTH; Maori



Low alcohol beer may not be the answer

Banning alcohol or restricting sales at cricket matches to low-alcohol beer will not necessarily solve security problems at international matches, says Massey University sports science researcher Dr Stephen Stannard.

In the lead-up to the West Indies cricket series in New Zealand next month stadium managers and police are expected to review the availability of alcohol.

Moves to restrict sales of full-strength beer at recent one-day matches followed incidents during the recent series against Australia and Sri Lanka.

Dr Stannard, a senior lecturer in the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, says data available on security incidents at sports venues shows that there are other factors involved aside from the amount of alcohol consumed.

"The location of the match, and demographic variables such as age, family participation, and socio-economic status of those attending will also impact upon the relationship between alcohol consumption and security-related incidents, he says.

The Institute last year hosted a conference, Sport and Alcohol: Understanding the Mix, at which the catering manager from Sydney's Telstra Stadium, Andrew Dawson, was a keynote speaker.

Mr Dawson presented data relating to rugby union, league and Australian rules matches showing that the number of security-related incidents were not positively associated with the amount of alcohol sold at the venue.

More important was the code of football being played and whether the match was a domestic or international fixture.

"These factors determine the type of person or groups that go along to watch the game, which in turn will affect the impact of alcohol on crowd behaviour, Dr Stannard says.

He says the Australian statistics might help to offer a comparative insight to crowd behaviour and alcohol intake at cricket matches in New Zealand.

"Making alcohol less available at a sporting venue as the sole means of preventing unruly crowd behaviour is too simple a solution, and could be potentially ineffective.

"The Australian data clearly show that factors other than the level of alcohol intake need to be considered.

Date: 30/01/2006

Type: Research

Psychological therapy aims to alleviate suffering

Massey's Wellington campus will be the venue for a four-day conference for professional psychologists and advanced postgraduate students, from today.

School of Psychology head Professor Ian Evans says the conference, planned as an annual event called the Summer Institute, will focus the most recent evidence base for applied psychological practices.

"There is a need for professional development opportunities that are more intensive than one-day workshops. Professor Evans says.

"This will be an opportunity to hone skills and receive constructive, hands-on teaching.

Attendees will mainly be clinical psychologists working for district health boards, mental health services and in private practice.

"Each year this programme will bring to Wellington leading international presenters and local academic scholars, to offer an advanced educational programme, following the format of our highly successful postgraduate intensive teaching courses, he says.

The first course focuses on acceptance and commitment therapy (ACT), a new therapy Professor Evans describes as changing the landscape of empirical clinical psychology. It is based on the view that most psychological suffering is caused by fusion with literal thinking and a resulting attempt to avoid private experiences.

"The goal of ACT is to alleviate human suffering by accepting psychological pain and focusing on valued living, says Professor Evans.

"It is useful for people suffering from experiential avoidance disorders such as anxiety disorders, depression, and anger.

Unlike traditional cognitive-behavioural treatments, the goal of ACT is not to control or reduce unwanted psychological pain, but to let clients experience that rigid inflexible attempts to control psychological pain are a problem, not a solution. There is good evidence that it works.

Accepting a certain degree of psychological pain and discomfort is not the same as needing to be stoical or put up with unpleasant feelings. Acceptance is not the same as acquiescence or resignation. This is because the other part of the therapy is commitment — commitment to make important changes in behaviour patterns that are no longer adaptive, says Professor Evans.

Presenting the Institute are Dr Georg H. Eifert, PhD. and John P. Forsyth, PhD.

Dr Eifert is professor of psychology at Chapman University in Orange County, California, and the author of *The Anorexia Workbook* and *From Behaviour Theory to Behaviour Therapy*.

Dr Forsyth is associate professor and director of the Anxiety Disorders Research Program in the Department of Psychology at the University at Albany, New York, and is co-author with Dr Eifert of *ACT on Life, Not on Anger*, describing the application of ACT for persons struggling with problem anger.

Created: 11 January, 2006

Date: 30/01/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Conference/Seminar

Performance testing the impact of protein

How much protein is enough? Massey University sports scientist Dr David Rowlands and colleagues are investigating how protein intake helps cyclists perform better.

This is a world-first controlled study on the effect of dietary protein on endurance performance and may have implications for all athletes, Dr Rowlands says.

In order to learn more about the effects of protein intake on athletic performance, he feeds cyclists high- and low-protein meals immediately after they complete a 100km ride on cycle ergometers in the laboratory.

We are looking at how well the athletes could produce power two and four days after high-protein meals, compared with low protein. In the first four hours after exercise, muscles are most receptive to the benefits of protein and carbohydrate ingestion. They are primed for recovery.

Dr Rowlands and his team collect and analyse the gases exhaled by an athlete to determine what fuels their body is burning and the metabolic intensity of the exercise.



The volunteer athletes local cyclists and triathletes get valuable feedback about their physiology and performance.

When the study is complete we'll know more about how the quantity of protein impacts on physical performance, he says.

Proteins, carbohydrates and fats are the three basic macronutrients in our food. Protein's job is to repair tissue and maintain body tissue mass.

Dieticians typically recommend that protein makes up 15-20 percent of your energy intake, says Dr Rowlands. That's about 0.8-1g per kilogram of body weight per day, which means 56-70g per day for a 70kg person.

Athletes training for strength or endurance sports should eat 1.2-1.7g/kg/day.

"My recommendation is that athletes have a protein meal soon after exercising.

Dr Rowlands is based at the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health at Massey's Wellington campus. He has represented New Zealand as a duathlete and applies the theory to his own training by being more aware of protein intake during and following training and competition.

"I was surprised to learn that so little work had been done on the effect of the quantity of protein on recovery of endurance performance, as most past emphasis has been on strength and power sports, he says.

Results from the study, which was supported by food manufacturer Nice and Natural, dairy co-operative Fonterra, and raw materials supplier Bronston and Jacobs, are expected next month.

Photo caption: Computerised gas analysis measures the metabolic rate and what fuels the athlete is burning.

Date: 30/01/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Anxiety measure for elderly needed

Anxiety affects people of all ages but researchers are finding older people become anxious about quite different things from the rest of the population.

For younger people it might be public speaking, passing an exam, a job evaluation or paying the bills that cause nervousness and worry, but for their grandparents it could be as seemingly straightforward as being able to walk or drive to the shops.

Yet when it comes to measuring and treating anxiety in the elderly, the mental health industry is yet to produce a scale for older people.

Until now, their mental health has been assessed by the same measures used for the wider population. Researchers from Massey's School of Psychology are working to shed much more light on the mental health issues specific to the older generation.



Psychology researcher Jane Bryce (pictured) has been interviewing people over the age of 65 in the Rodney area to find out more about what makes them anxious. She's finding the issues are different for this group but says they good news is that they are less anxious than they were when they were younger.

"Typically I found there is a 'been there, done that' attitude amongst older people. They can be often in a much more settled period of life and they know that life is not likely to throw so many curved balls at them anymore.

"Their children are grown and have their mortgages under control. Their grandchildren are no longer babies. Typically, people don't have great expectations of them or put much pressure on them.

Said one happy, 79-year-old man: I've mentioned the anxieties of old age and diminished physical ability. The aches and pains that one gets. But compensating for that is a sense of thanksgiving for the life that I have had, and I no longer have to be a major achiever. I can rest in what I have done, and that's an enormous benefit.

However, Jane Bryce found her sample group members were concerned about driving and being able to stay mobile.

Living alone was cited as potentially making them anxious as were thoughts about property maintenance and being able to face making big decisions.

The aim of the research is to develop a psychometric test for mental health workers to measure anxiety in the elderly.

The University's School of Psychology has already taken a lead in working with cognitive behavioural therapy and older people suffering from depression.

Created: 11 January, 2006

Date: 30/01/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Can a mathematician fix your washing machine? Study group to find out.

Mathematics has moved way beyond the classroom walls as the result of a Massey University initiative. The country's top mathematicians will gather at the University's Auckland campus soon for their third annual brainstorm on a wide range of industry and everyday problems.



The Mathematics in Industry Study Group members will sit down with industry seeking to find solutions in just days that might otherwise take months to develop. Some of the scenarios they face include the balance systems in washing machines; working out how much spray is retained by plants; and developing sophisticated models for agricultural land management.

The annual week long workshop is directed by Massey's Professor Graeme Wake and the Centre for Mathematics in Industry which he formed with a national group of academics in his discipline. Applied and industrial maths is different from 'pure' maths due to its cross disciplinary approach and focus on 'real world' results.

This study group is making a name for the results it has come up with in previous sessions in Auckland and at Australian based think tanks. Fisher and Paykel (Appliances) has participated in previous sessions and has presented the washing machine problem at this session. Says Philip Renwick, a spokesman for computer aided engineering at Fisher and Paykel (Appliances): Mathematicians have a different way of approaching things than engineers do. We are learning new ways of approaching things from them. It definitely adds another string to our bow.

Professor Wake is widely known for his success in applied mathematics and the Mathematics in Industry Study Group is also gaining widespread respect from both industry and government. The Auckland based event will be opened by the Hon Steve Maharey and those attending include the Government's statistician.

"The 2006 event is sponsored in part by the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology, the government research and development investment agency and is acknowledged for its potential to contribute to the commercial world and to technological breakthrough.

Professor Wake says there is increasing collaboration between mathematicians and companies who recognize that high level mathematical thinking can deliver them a competitive advantage. Industry now is only becoming aware of what applied mathematics can offer.

For three years Professor Wake has been leading a group introducing the benefits of applied maths to industry in Korea through his partnership with Korea's Advanced Institute of Science and Technology

MISG 2006 runs at Massey University's Auckland campus in Albany from January 30 to February 3. Full details are at <http://misg2006.massey.ac.nz>

Created: 1 February, 2006

Date: 01/02/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Colour purple rules the mailbox

Received any purple-coloured mail recently? Chances are you will.

Massey Marketing researchers have found that purple has a previously unrecognized appeal – at least when it comes to mail surveys.

As part of a wider survey, researchers Jan Charbonneau and Mike Brennan tested response rates to four questionnaire colours: red, green, blue and purple. In a survey of 1600 New Zealanders, drawn at random from the Electoral Roll, the different coloured questionnaires generated significantly different response rates. They varied from 60 percent response to a non-purple questionnaire to 71 percent response to a purple one. Purple was also the most effective across gender and all age groups.

They say that clearly shows that questionnaire colour can affect mail survey response rates – a finding that may have wider application.

The result surprised Jan Charbonneau and Mike Brennan: “Purple seemed the least attractive and the one most likely to make the questionnaire hard to read.” They can only speculate on why purple shows as more effective. “Research on psychological effects suggests blue is cool, typifying restraint, yellow connotes warmth, and red and orange warmth and action. Not much is said about purple.”

One view is that it's easier to see and find a purple questionnaire or reminder letter. “But this doesn't explain our findings because all four colours were visually intrusive. It might be a combination of perceptual and emotional factors, given that purple has connotations with royalty and a market-leading brand of chocolate.”

The purple phenomenon is likely to interest to those who regularly conduct mail surveys: “ Many techniques are used to improve response rates,” say the Massey team, “but the most effective, such as pre-paid incentives and reminders, add to cost and effort. But other techniques that don't cost more may also be effective. And one of these is colour.”

The full paper, titled *The Colour Purple: The Effect of Questionnaire Colour on Mail Survey Response* is available at <http://marketing-bulletin.massey.ac.nz>

Date: 02/02/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Complete rethink needed for physical education

Debate over whether schools should or can give children an hour a day of physical exercise misses the point, says the co-ordinator of Massey University's physical education teacher training Dennis Slade.

"The real problem is too few resources are being put into PE for primary schools, both in training for teachers and the numbers of specialist PE advisors available to assist the teachers."

Mr Slade says three well-structured PE lessons a week would be a good start, but so much depends on individual teachers' own physical competence, interest and knowledge. He fears not enough teachers have the confidence or the training to not only teach physical skills but do it in a way that ensures children enjoy the exercise by turning things like learning to throw into a game of strategy.

He teaches the specialist PE teachers for secondary schools but says by the time children get to high school or college its often too late.

"If they lack the competence to perform fundamental physical activities then you combine that with the shyness and self-consciousness that invariably accompanies adolescence, you've lost them. They don't want to take part, they make excuses, they rebel, they don't join in because they fear being laughed at or shown up as weak, clumsy or incompetent.

"To really make a difference in physical education requires a complete mind shift on the part of most of those responsible for children's education, from the Education Minister, the Ministry, the principals, teachers and parents, to accept that basic movement competency can and should be incorporated into almost every aspect of daily life, in the classroom, at home and in the community.

"There is an assumption that to learn critical thinking or develop communications skills you must be sitting still, which is completely untrue.

"Just as learning to read is not confined to the formal reading lessons in a classroom but comes from virtually every activity in which a child is involved throughout their lives, learning to use your body to its capacity and learning to care for your physical health can be and should be incorporated into almost every aspect of a child's life.

"Failure to act quickly and instil in children at primary school age not only the physical competence they require to remain healthy but the confidence to participate in and enjoy sports and try new things throughout their lives will only leave the obesity time bomb ticking."

Created: 5 February, 2006

Date: 03/02/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Education; Sport and recreation; Teaching

Scoring at home easier for most in Super 12

Home advantage for some Super 12 rugby teams is worth the equivalent of nearly a dozen points on the scoreboard before they even take the field, a Massey University researcher has found.

Associate Professor Hugh Morton, from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, analysed the results of every game for the last six seasons of the SANZAR competition, which is being replaced this year by Super 14.

Of the 414 matches in the 2000-05 competitions between the regionally-selected sides, 259 (62.6 per cent) were won by the sides playing at home, 148 were won by the visiting team and seven were drawn.

Dr Morton calculated the difference between the average number of points scored in games played at home and the average number scored in away games to give a score, that indicated each team's relative home advantage.

The teams with the highest rankings were the Johannesburg-based Cats, followed by Canberra's Brumbies, although Dr Morton singles out Canterbury's Crusaders as the team that performs consistently well at home every season and also won the competition more than any other side.

Spare a thought for the Stormers. Either there is something in the Cape Town water or their sceptical fans are not providing enough support to spur them to victory. They have a negative home advantage, and every year until last year scored more points away from home.

Dr Morton notes public perception of home advantage, even among sports commentators, is not always accurate.

Examples include the Blues on Eden Park, who are the only team apart from the Stormers with a negative home record, albeit a slight one.

And Carisbrook, the so-called House of Pain, does not always favour the Highlanders. Despite their overall third ranking, they had negative home records in 2002 and last year.

The Highlanders had one season where they won every game at home and lost every game away. But that was an unusual season for them.

A team who walks onto their home field in effect has seven points already on the board, Dr Morton says, but in a Super 12 match something like 40 to 60 points in total might be scored, so that seven points is useful and no team would turn it down, but it's not always vital to the outcome of the game.

Other sports in which home advantage has been studied, such as cricket, tennis, golf and the summer Olympics, show that a clear home advantage does exist.

Factors that are relevant to home advantage in rugby include crowd support or lack of it, travel fatigue, psychological state of the players, and referee interpretations.

Because the competition doesn't involve all teams playing each other both home and away, the quality of the opposition is also a factor.

Dr Morton's research paper is due to be published shortly in the British Journal of Sports Sciences. He plans to expand his research to include the effects of jetlag, which he says is not an issue between New Zealand and Australia, but is significant when teams travel to and from South Africa.

A very quick analysis I looked at suggests that when a team travels to South Africa, the jetlag isn't so bad. But when a team comes back from South Africa, even though they have a week's rest before their next game, there is a residual effect on their performance. It's like subtracting a certain number of points before the team even starts the match. So this jetlag factor might improve predictability, and help give a plausible reason why teams are not performing so well under certain circumstances.

Dr Morton sees several practical applications for this research. In the United States home advantage figures for basketball, football and baseball are regularly published in the sports papers.

These figures can be used as a means of forecasting. If you know what the home advantage is and what the

two teams' points rating are, you can do the arithmetic and forecast what you might expect the result to be. Of course, you can't always guarantee it's going to be right.

To my knowledge, these figures aren't used very much by coaches. They tend to select their best players and if that doesn't work they change the composition of the team. They see the team as a compilation of individuals rather than as a whole. This analysis gives the coaches a feel for how well the team as a whole performs at home.

Average points differential for home and away games in Super 12, 2000-05								
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Team Averages	Ranking
Cats	30.6	1.9	17.8	14.7	6.7	-1.6	11.68	1
Brumbies	5.8	18.0	-8.5	22.9	18.4	13.4	11.67	2
Highlanders	16.4	21.4	-5.6	18.2	14.2	-5.8	9.8	3
Crusaders	9.3	9.0	20.5	5.9	1.6	9.4	9.28	4=
Waratahs	4.3	28.3	6.9	-3.2	16.0	3.4	9.28	4=
Bulls	18.7	-3.5	-8.1	-7.6	14.4	34.3	8.03	6
Chiefs	6.5	12.4	-5.0	7.8	-0.7	14.6	5.93	7
Reds	9.5	0.9	15.7	4.7	14.6	-12.5	5.48	8
Sharks	-4.1	3.5	31.2	-5.3	-7.5	4.0	3.63	9
Hurricanes	11.8	0.9	-9.8	2.6	13.7	-0.1	3.18	10
Blues	-8.6	1.3	7.0	8.8	0.0	-9.5	-0.17	11
Stormers	-3.2	-1.2	-4.3	-9.0	-3.6	3.8	-2.92	12
Annual averages	8.1	7.7	4.7	5.1	7.3	4.5	6.2	

Created: 3 February, 2006

Date: 03/02/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Iwi leadership defines Waitangi Day events

Events organised to celebrate Waitangi Day throughout New Zealand are likely to take precedence over protest activity in a comparatively quieter political climate, says historian and Treaty of Waitangi researcher Dr Lachlan Paterson.

Occurring side by side, a mix of commemoration and commiseration marks the historical day and national holiday, and a record crowd is anticipated at Bay of Islands Treaty Grounds this year.

A lecturer in the University's School of History, Philosophy and Politics, Dr Paterson says that Waitangi Day as a focus for protest tends to escalate according to significant political issues of the moment, such as the Fiscal Envelope in 1995, and the signing of the Foreshore and Seabed Act in 2004.

Waitangi Day is a political day, and although there are no major issues uniting Māori this year, [Māori Party MP]Hone Harawira has invited politicians and other people to give state of the nation type talks at the Nga Puhi marae at Te Tii on the 5th, Dr Paterson says.

Of more than 60 events planned nationwide to celebrate the 6th, Dr Paterson says the family and community-focused festivals of sport and culture, games and music demonstrate the leadership of iwi groups in the organisation of such events.

What we have seen over the past few years is the initiative of iwi groups to lead celebrations, and to invite community participation, as a way of promoting unity.

These initiatives also help to boost a group's profile, and may counter the tendency of media to focus on Māori protest on the day. By publicising these events, people gain a more holistic view of the day and what is going on.

Alongside the music, food and cultural performances planned, presentations, korero and workshops on the Treaty encourage people to consider issues such as personal identity, multiculturalism and national values.

Created: 3 February, 2006

Date: 03/02/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

2006: looking at the year ahead

The decision by the Tertiary Education Commission Board of Commissioners to disallow Massey's application for an increase in fees beyond the five percent limit will affect our revenue in 2006. This decision is compounded by the low-fee regime that has existed for the past six years.

The relative fees for major undergraduate programmes in New Zealand universities in 2006 is shown in the table below. We have chosen not to appeal the TEC decision largely because the TEC timetable for decision making and appeal puts us squarely in the major enrolment period and it is the view of management that students enrolling at Massey should be aware of their financial commitments for fees in the current year.

The fee differentials that have existed and will continue to exist limit our ability to invest in staff, infrastructure, services and capital developments. Yet, our major resource, and our major investment, must be in our staff and the associated salary levels for Massey should rightly be no less than those of other universities. Similarly, our per capita investment in library and IT should be on a par with that of other universities. Over the next five years, re-investment and new investment in capital facilities is required for each of our campuses. Over the same period, the fee differential confirmed by the TEC decision, effectively removes \$15.5 million from our capital budget.

In light of the TEC decision, a review has been implemented, measures are in place to ensure that we stay within budget and a revised budget will go to Council. No across-the-board reductions in costs are proposed but rather greater scrutiny of existing budget items to extract best value and of any proposed new expenditure. While fiscal prudence must be the keyword for 2006, our continued commitment to focused excellence cannot be just rhetoric but must be underpinned by ongoing strategic investment in staff and infrastructure.

Professor Judith Kinnear
Vice-Chancellor

A big year for research

This year more than 1000 Massey staff are preparing for the Tertiary Education Commission's periodic assessment of research quality.

The first major deadline passed on 22 December 2005 when more than 900 staff submitted information on their research outputs to the Library for data entry and verification. This information forms a key component of the assessment to be conducted by the TEC later this year.

The results will be known early in 2007 and will allow the University to publicly demonstrate its considerable research capabilities. The assessment also drives a large proportion of the \$200 million Performance-Based Research Fund, of which Massey is projected to get \$30 million in 2007.

The University's research policy framework is also undergoing a thorough overhaul this year. Late last year the Vice-Chancellor's Executive Committee approved new policies providing for improved cost recovery for research contracts and for delegation of contract signing authority to approved staff outside Research Services. Other policies under review include those on Intellectual Property, Research Practice (responsible research conduct), Approval of Research and Consultancy Proposals and Professional Time. A new accounting and financial planning framework for University Research Centres is also under development.

Michael Peters
Director Research Strategy and Policy

... and for teaching

This year will see a continued focus on the quality of our teaching. Over its history Massey has built a deserved reputation for excellence and innovation in teaching, through all modes; face-to-face, extramural and more recently in the area of online teaching.

The University's commitment to excellence in teaching is reflected in the success of staff members every year in the National Tertiary Teaching Excellence awards scheme, including two award winners last year.

The Vice-Chancellor has added her support through the establishment of the Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Teaching Excellence. This scheme provides four significant awards (valued at \$10,000 each), which are highly valued within the University.

With the introduction of Government initiatives to enhance the quality of teaching and learning within the

university sector, Massey will continue to be committed to gaining further recognition for excellence in teaching.

Gordon Suddaby
Director Training and Development Unit

New initiatives for international enrolments

In line with the decline in Chinese student enrolments right across New Zealand, international enrolments are forecast to fall this year, but we are expecting enrolments to stabilise as we develop new international markets. Of particular interest is the growth in Study Abroad numbers, mostly from the USA and Europe, and the focus on projects involving groups of students from one overseas source.

Examples are the intended group of PhD students under negotiation with the Higher Education Council in Pakistan and the extramural international delivery of the BAvMan in Singapore.

We will seek to create one or more high-level international relationships in teaching and research associated with one of our prominent research centres to help leverage funding opportunities both in New Zealand and overseas.

The English Language Centre has been re-shaped to include the Certificate of University Preparation programme and will work with the International Office to generate new business, particularly around customised short course programmes for overseas groups.

We expect a further update of our international marketing strategy and some innovative market development following the commencement of Moira Hagenson as National Manager of International Marketing and Admissions.

John Raine
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Auckland and International)

Excellence in partnership

This year the University moves forward on two Government-funded projects to develop teaching and research partnerships with the equine and agricultural industries.

The projects are two of six awarded last year under the Partnerships for Excellence scheme. They involve Government investment of \$8.95 million for a trust established by Massey and Lincoln Universities, to enhance research in the agricultural and life sciences, and \$5 million for the University to create a research-based partnership with the equine industry.

Equine and agricultural research are two of the University's particular strengths, and the funding is a milestone for both the University and the industries.

The projects will integrate research and learning with industry requirements in particular developing leaders capable of taking New Zealand's primary industries into a new phase of productivity and export-led growth.

The funding agreements between the TEC and the University for both projects are being finalised and it is anticipated that the signing will occur within the next few weeks.

As well, all agreements between the partners and the University have been agreed, and the details of the programmes to be worked in the first two years are being specified.

Both projects are expected to commence in April and should be in full swing by the end of the year.

Both partnerships are based in the College of Sciences. I look forward to bringing you up to date with the next steps in these exciting ventures.

Professor Robert Anderson
Pro Vice-Chancellor
College of Sciences

The gains from change

Last year the College of Education reviewed almost every aspect of its organisation and structure. The College is now organised around four academic units in Palmerston North (School of Educational Studies; School of Curriculum and Pedagogy; School of Arts, Development and Health Education; and, Te Uru Marauau) and one composite academic unit at Albany (School of Education—Albany).

The Institute for Professional Development and Educational Research (IPDER) has been disestablished. Externally funded research contracts will now be administered in academic units in an attempt to better align research resources with workloads. Organisational changes have also been made in the central services units of the College and the Centre for Educational Development.

In addition to embedding those changes, major activities in the College for 2006 will include a major redesign of the B Ed (Primary Teaching) degree programme; implementation of recommendations from reviews of the general M Ed, the M Ed Psych, and the Early Years programmes; increasing the number of papers available in e-learning format; and, increasing the research activity and capacity of the College.

Also significant this year is the 50th Jubilee celebration of the College of Education, which will be held during Labour Weekend in October and the 25th Jubilee celebration of Te Kupenga o te Maatauranga.

Professor James Chapman
Pro Vice-Chancellor
College of Education

A Nobel Prize winner and a new Finance Masters

We can already say that 2006 will be a significant year for the Department of Finance, Banking and Property.

Our new Masters in Finance will be offered for the first time at Palmerston North and Auckland.

It's an important qualification for today's business world and in line with an international move towards more specialisation in finance education.

Mid year we have the Asian Finance Conference in Auckland, organised by staff from the Department of Finance, Banking and Property and the Department of Commerce.

This is perhaps the most significant finance conference ever held in New Zealand. As a mark of that, the keynote speaker will be Nobel Prize winner Professor William F. Sharpe who helped develop the model that financial markets now use to value shares and other financial assets.

And of course we intend to beat our own track record for research. Last year we ranked 12th out of 170 universities in the Asia Pacific region for research productivity. Watch this space.

Dr Martin Young
Department of Finance, Property and Banking

Mentoring young scientists

One rewarding aspect of 2006 is that we are seeing the gains made in 2005. The United States-Japan workshop for young investigators held in Palmerston North last year had an aim to mentor each participant to have an original publication published in *Molecular Biology and Evolution*, the top ranked international journal in the field.

We now know all seven New Zealand participants (all from the Allan Wilson Centre) have had their papers accepted, and we expect to see the first of these appear in the March edition of this journal.

We are also preparing for our annual phylogenetics workshop in February which despite not being promoted and restricted to 50 scientists, has gained a strong international following with researchers from Australia, the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Belgium, Germany and Israel attending.

Professor Mike Hendy
Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution

Hot button social research

During 2006 ongoing research into the labour market will continue to be a key project for social science researchers.

The shortage of skilled workers now constrains the growth of more than half of all New Zealand businesses, and labour supply will remain an important hot button item in terms of economic development.

Research from the Labour Market Dynamics Research Programme has highlighted the pressure points: good quality information about the contemporary labour market, the ability of education and training institutions to meet the demands of the labour market, the importance of generic skills and the labour market experiences (often negative) of particular groups, especially immigrants, school leavers and older workers. Slowing economic growth will not alter the importance of these factors.

Professor Paul Spoonley
Regional Director (Auckland)

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Boom in creative writing
Massey University now has the largest number of undergraduate creative writing papers in the country.

The launching of Advanced Fiction Writing (139.329), taught by newly appointed lecturer Dr Thom Conroy, means that all the major genres in creative writing are covered.

These include papers in poetry, writing for children, life writing, travel writing, media script writing, fiction and playwriting.

All of these papers are taught in the School of English and Media Studies.

This year the Palmerston North City Library will host a series of evening readings mainly in poetry and fiction that recognise the growth in creative writing at Massey as well as the growing number of professional writers that now teach at the University.

For more information about the Literary Evening Reading Series, contact organisers, Dr Bryan Walpert and Dr Thom Conroy.

Dr Angie Farrow
School of English and Media Studies

Design flourishes in Auckland

The Auckland School of Design looks forward to another successful year. 2006 is a very special year, as we will be holding our first Degree Show with the full cohorts of young designers exhibiting the outcome of their research projects in Industrial, Graphic and Transport Design. Again this year, we will be working closely with the industry. So far we have already received generous offers of sponsorships for the Degree Show, to be held in November.

Azhar Mohamed
Acting Regional Director - Auckland

College of Creative Arts
New Zealand School of Music a reality
After some successful co-operative activities last year, the New Zealand School of Music begins full-scale operations in 2006, providing a wide range of opportunities in music education, research, composition and performance.

Combining the resources of the former Massey Conservatorium and Victoria School of Music, this innovative joint venture will be led by Massey's Associate Professor Matthew Marshall as Head of Performance, and Victoria's Dr Greer Garden as Head of Composition and Musicology, until a director is appointed.

A full suite of music qualifications to PhD level, to be jointly awarded by both universities, will be offered in Wellington, with jazz programmes also at Albany; some options will be available extramurally.

In addition, the school will teach papers for music majors in Massey and Victoria Arts degrees. Further information is available at www.nzsm.ac.nz

Judith Nathan
Transition Manager
New Zealand School of Music

Contributing to the Māori mental health workforce

The aspiration of the Te Rau Puawai team for 2006 is to continue to support our students so that they can contribute to the acceleration of the Māori mental health workforce.

Te Rau Puawai is a joint venture between the University and the Ministry of Health. As a Māori mental health workforce development scholarship programme, it continues to achieve a favourable pass rate of over 80 percent with 100 graduates at the end of 2003. A further contract for 50 more graduates was approved. In 2005, the programme had its first PhD graduate with a second expected in 2006.

We are supporting 109 students in 2006, including 45 postgraduates. Most are mature, part-time students, studying from a distance and working in the area of Māori mental health. The programme promotes a learning environment conducive to Māori values, which contributes and strengthens the academic success of bursars. This success could not have been achieved without the collaboration and dedication of staff from the Schools of Psychology, Māori, Health Science, and Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work and networks on all three campuses.

We are now trialing a fast-tracking programme that aims to provide an opportunity for some students to transfer from part-time to full-time, and extramural to internal, at Palmerston North, Albany or Wellington.

Monica Koia
Te Rau Puawai Co-ordinator

Social work study in the South Pacific

A key achievement for 2006 is the delivery of a Bachelor in Social Work by academic staff at the University of the South Pacific in Suva.

Over the past three years our school has offered six two-week courses to staff in the Department of Social Welfare at the University of the South Pacific in Fiji.

That contract was completed and we then signed a Memorandum of Understanding to assist in developing the degree in social work. It has now been confirmed that the degree will be delivered from Fiji this year, reaching all of the Pacific Islands currently served by the University of the South Pacific.

We will also launch our Postgraduate Diploma in Social Sector Evaluation and Research in semester two. This diploma is the only one of its type in New Zealand. There is a range of programmes on evaluation, but not specifically related to the social sector.

The programme will be offered extramurally, including contact courses, from the new Executive Seminar Suite at the Wellington campus. There is already strong interest. We expect to attract people already engaged in evaluation within the public service or in non-government organisations and social community groups.

Professor Robyn Munford
School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work

The Library transforms

Following the success of the Information Commons of 92 public PCs (for word-processing, spreadsheets, and email, as well as access to Library databases and the catalogue) in the Turitea Library, we are working on a joint project for a mini Information Commons in the Albany Library. We would like this to be operational by the middle of 2006.

Planning for the new Library building in Wellington (with the business case expected to go to the University Council in the first half of 2006) includes an Information Commons on the ground floor.

There is also preliminary planning for a temporary extension to the Albany Library to relieve pressure on study spaces, and for off-site storage of a selective part of the collection.

New self-check machines (so library users can issue their own books) were installed over the summer in the Turitea, Albany and Wellington libraries.

Personal service, at the Lending Desk will continue, with the same levels of staffing and service but the new machines will be especially useful at busy times.

The favourable exchange rate towards the end of last year meant we were able to purchase a number of significant research-level electronic backfiles. Staff should inquire at the Library about these new acquisitions.

In September 2005, we participated in the independent Rodski client satisfaction survey, along with Australian university libraries and four New Zealand university libraries.

The overall result was pleasing. Massey University Library was placed in the first quartile (top 25 per cent) for client satisfaction. And we were in the top five for three of the five survey areas (service quality, service delivery, and library staff).

We still need to do more work in the areas of communication, and facilities and equipment.

In 2006, the Library will trial the ProQuest Digital Commons software, with pilot projects for both digital theses and research papers.

This is a precursor to the eventual establishment of an institutional repository, the much larger RUBRIC project for which Massey is the international partner with a number of Australian universities.

John Redmayne
University Librarian

Mapping the future of the campuses

This year we will continue with the important process of preparing positioning strategies for all three campuses, to be updated annually.

They will identify the broad strategic directions for the research and teaching portfolio delivered from each campus, and the infrastructure, services and resources required to support that portfolio.

The development and regular review of these strategies provides the opportunity for strategic alignment between Colleges on each campus, between Colleges and the regions, and between campuses.

They will also provide direction for external communication, marketing and student recruitment planning, and for strategic asset management at each campus.

We are already seeing the benefits of the positioning strategy for the Wellington Campus which is reflected in the Campus Academic Development Plan. The Vice-Chancellor has now initiated positioning strategies for the Auckland and Palmerston North campuses: the Palmerston North strategy will also place particular emphasis on the extramural academic portfolio. The process of developing these new positioning strategies will continue through the first half of 2006.

Stuart Morriss
Acting University Registrar

Snapshot from Wellington

The Wellington Campus is undergoing further redevelopment and upgrading, particularly as a result of the Campus Academic Development Plan that has both re-enforced and added to the Campus Development Planning document.

Areas under revamp in 2006 include the painting of the main buildings on campus which was started in late 2005, redevelopment of the ITE and IIS&E areas into the newly formed School of Engineering and Technology with its newly released Bachelor of Engineering, and the finalising of the new Information Services Centre that expected to be under construction by the end of 2006.

Two projects that were completed in 2005 should show further benefits for the campus. The refurbishment of the food services area on campus, and the in-house management of the catering proving to provide a higher quality and better range of options for students and staff across the campus and the opening of the Executive Seminar Suite allowing the Graduate School of Business to move their operation on to campus plus providing a high quality venue for post graduate courses being undertaken on campus.

Bookings in this facility are very high including a range of Professional Short Courses being run by the Centre for Professional Development at Massey.

In 2005 the St George Hall of Residence was sold with the loss of 190 student beds.

This has been replaced with the 300 bed Cube complex on the corner of Taranaki and Webb Streets. This high rise complex provides outstanding views and facilities for our students and adds to the attractions of this campus with the oldest of our five student residences being only in its sixth year since construction. The Cube is due for occupation this month.

Considerable effort was put into a Transportation Survey on campus with over 600 respondents in late 2005, the results of which should become evident in 2006, with one initiative already underway being the establishment of a Green Bike Trust service on campus this year. Further development of post graduate spaces are expected as are areas required for new research groups on this campus.

Liam Halpin
Registrar Business Services
Wellington

Snapshot from Palmerston North

Extensive development is underway at the Palmerston North campus revitalising campus life in Student City. Two new halls of residence, Miro and Tawa, were opened last week, completing the Turitea Community situated close to the heart of the campus with award-winning new halls handy to the Library, Recreation Centre and the free bus service terminal.

Stage one of the Student Centre is complete which includes a new 'Foodcourt' with a wide selection of food and coffee, and brand new dining facilities and student lounge. The Registry redevelopment consolidates our Student Life Services in the heart of campus (where you need them, when you need them) and now houses the medical centre, and an inviting new reception that opens up to an enhanced concourse.

All this will soon be joined by new Student Association Offices, a bookshop and other student-focused outlets located in the heart of the campus.

2006 is going to be a great time to be a student at Massey Palmerston North, Student City, with modern new facilities and free bus services for students and staff city-wide.

The annual Let's Get Going programme commences on 20 February, with an orientation for international students to be held on 19 February. The University looks forward to welcoming new and returning students to the Palmerston North campus for the 2006 academic year.

Dr Sandy Shillington
Regional Registrar
Palmerston North

Snapshot from Auckland

At the Auckland campus, 2006 starts with the opening of the new lecture theatre. This building will provide a 300, a 200, and a 100 seat auditorium. Bennetts Bookshop will also be located in the new building.

The foyer area will accommodate conferences and other exciting events such as the graduation dinner.

New students on campus this year will be the first to experience the new student orientation programme that has been adopted after a 12 month project.

Uni Guides have been appointed to assist new students to orientate to their new learning environment. Uni

Guides are returning students who have been trained to provide support to new students.

Research shows that similar programmes used at other universities have been highly successful in the retention of new students.

There is also a commencement dinner planned where all new students and their parents and other supporters are invited to attend to mix and mingle with staff.

Staff at Albany continue to work hard to develop and provide the necessary student services on campus.

Two projects are currently underway: the first is a proposal for a state of the art student bar where students can relax, socialise, and unwind after a hard day of study. The second is the development of a business case for the construction of a student amenities building.

This building will be the permanent home of the Albany Students' Association, most of the student services such as the health and counseling centre, and Massey Contact.

Life at Albany continues to move along at a great pace. There is always much excitement as new buildings continue to appear and other new projects are established to ensure that this campus keeps its vibrancy and remains a great place to learn and study.

Andrea Davies
Regional Registrar
Auckland

Created: 7 February, 2006

Date: 24/02/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any

Innovators and exporters beware

Businesses developing new products or selling internationally are less likely to survive, according to a leading international researcher of small and medium enterprises. It may sound like heresy and it certainly drew a few gasps at the annual symposium held by the Centre for SME Research last month but keynote speaker Professor David Storey has the pedigree to back his claims.

Professor Storey heads one of Britain's key centres for the research, teaching and training of SMEs, regularly gives his government policy advice in the field.

In New Zealand he is working with the Economic Development Ministry on SME policy evaluation, as part of developing a handbook for the OECD.

The results of his research drew a few polite gasps from the generally well-informed audience of SME operators, policy makers and researchers.

His topic, What happens to gazelles? The importance of dynamic management strategy, had as its focus the value of forward-looking and flexible strategic management.

The research, he says, points to the hazards of observing excellent performance, observing practice in that business, and assuming that a continuation of these practices will lead to continued excellence in performance.

Static management strategies, he observes, will not increase a firm's long run growth rate.

Professor Storey's study looked at 'middle market', British-owned companies which, when the study began 10 years ago, had sales of between £5 million and £100 million. Among these, the study identified 'Ten Percenters' firms that were in the fastest growing 10 per cent and whose average annual sales growth was 36 per cent. Their financial performance, ownership and survival were tracked until 2002.

Of those companies, 44 percent continued to be middle market, 8 per cent survived and grew beyond £100 million, eight per cent survived but declined below £5 million, 13 per cent were liquidated and 27 per cent were acquired.

On the more detailed results of the determinants of firm status by 2002, Professor Storey acknowledges that the apparently negative effect of the pickup of new technology and products, and entry to international markets, was a disconcerting result.

The research indicates that companies that continue to sell primarily to existing and usually domestic clients, and whose products or services are still in demand, do better in the longer haul. Professor Storey's presentation was given added relevance and interest by the preceding opening address by Economic Development Minister Trevor Mallard.

The minister spoke in some detail about the importance of the Government's emphasis on what it terms economic transformation and the need to lift the level of ambition in the sector. Mr Mallard signalled the release later this year of a discussion paper on the topic.

Professor Storey's presentation will shortly be available on the Centre for SME Research web site, along with other research presented at the symposium.

Created: 3 March, 2006

Date: 24/02/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business; Conference/Seminar

The impact of war on world stock markets

International crises - including wars - reduce world market stock returns by approximately four percent annually. But this impact is largely ignored by economists.

Research by professors Henk Berkman and Ben Jacobsen reveals a strong and significant negative relationship between the monthly number of international crises and stock returns.

The senior academics used a database of 440 major crises from 1918 to 2002 and data on stock market returns to establish the nature of the link between the two. Crises cause large and negative initial market reactions in their first month, lower than average returns during the remaining months, and partial recovery when they end.

They say crisis or war risk is priced in stock markets. This 'crisis risk premium' exists in different sub-periods and seems independent of the crisis region. We also find that the crisis risk premium is significantly higher when a crisis involves more severe value threats or when a major power is involved on both sides of a conflict.

Professors Berkman and Jacobsen say the economic impact of international crises is large. Measured in world market capitalisation at the beginning of this century, an average crisis results in a value loss of approximately 250 billion US dollars.

However, in the introduction to their paper, they say economists have largely remained silent on the topic of international crises and their impact on the economy.

Their paper documenting the impact of war on world stock markets has won a national award for Professor Berkman and Professor Jacobsen who are both based at Massey University's Auckland campus.

The paper, titled 'The World Price of War and Peace, won an inaugural award from the Institute of Finance Professionals New Zealand Inc. The inaugural award was made to enable the finance and capital markets industry to engage in a meaningful way with finance academia, says the Executive Director of INFINZ, Paul Hocking.

For the full paper The World Price of War and Peace see <http://ssrn.com/abstract=828645>

Created: 2 February, 2006

Date: 24/02/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Who makes the News?: Global Media Monitoring Project 2005

Media Advisory: Key Results from New Zealand

On 16 February 2005, 76 countries around the world took part in the third Global Media Monitoring Project. Researchers examined their local news media's representations of men and women, and sent this information to London.

The New Zealand research was conducted at Massey University by a group led by Dr Susan Fountaine.

The New Zealand results will be released in Palmerston North on Wednesday 8 March

-New Zealand contributed 137 stories to the global analysis.

- The New Zealand contribution drew from the following media outlets: TV1 (6pm news), TV3 (6pm news), Prime (5.30pm news), Newstalk ZB (8.30am news), National Radio (5pm news) and More FM (8am news) The New Zealand Herald, Dominion Post, Manawatu Standard, Otago Daily Times, Waikato Times.

The New Zealand results will be released at a panel discussion about women and the media at the Palmerston North City Library on International Women's Day, Wednesday 8 March from 1200 to 1300.

Equal Employment Commissioner and former Massey professor Dr Judy McGregor and Manawatu Standard Editor Jo Myers will discuss the results and their experiences as female journalists and editors.

The event has been organised by Massey University's Centre for Women and Leadership and the Department of Communication & Journalism and is open to the public.

Created: 28 February, 2006

Date: 28/02/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Performance reviews just as good in the pub

A new study has found that smaller companies have informal human resource practices but these are not necessarily inferior.

Smaller companies also confirm a continuing shortage of skilled labour and say retaining staff is more of a priority than developing them.

The findings appear in a report by researchers with the New Zealand Centre for Small and Medium Enterprise Research, based at Massey University's Wellington campus.

Titled It's the people that you know, the report gives initial findings from interviews with 50 firms employing fewer than 50 staff, to identify their human resource practices. The report covers three areas: hiring staff developing staff, and staff leaving.

A large number of small firms said a lack of available labour was inhibiting growth. CVs were typically called for but seldom used: Instead, decisions were based on 'gut feeling'.

Keeping staff was described as more of a priority than providing development, and pay was seen as the primary way of achieving this.

Performance management was characteristically informal and regular, but typically undocumented or unreported to the employee. Performance reviews were frequently part of a daily chat and often took place over a cup of coffee or a beer on Friday night.

The researchers concluded that the human resources practices of a majority of the small firms surveyed were informal. But they say this informality belies focus and attention. They know what works and, more importantly, why it works.

The researchers ask whether small firms need large firm practices and note that there is such a thing as the small firm way of doing things and this is not always necessarily bad or inferior.

Created: 3 March, 2006

Date: 28/02/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

No advantage in widespread workplace drug-tests

A visiting British researcher is warning against further workplace drug testing, saying it should be used only in the most safety critical occupations.

Dr Edward Wray-Bliss, from the Nottingham University Business School, is Visiting Research Scholar in the Department of Management at Massey University until 19 March.

Dr Wray-Bliss says in certain circumstances tests may show traces of drug use for up to 30 days after consumption. That means that an employee may test positive long after any potential effect on fitness for work or workplace performance could be evidenced.

The consequences of a positive test can be extremely serious for an employee, potentially culminating in dismissal and/or criminal prosecution and the consequences that follow from this.

Dr Wray-Bliss notes the powerful rhetorical appeal of 'drug free' workplaces, but strongly cautions against the widespread implementation of further testing for any but the most safety critical occupations.

He says a review of research in the United States and Britain revealed a range of significant problems. Some of the numerous economic and ethical reasons why employers should be very wary about embarking on a programme of workforce drug testing were: poor evidence of the effectiveness of tests in deterring drug use or detecting on-the-job impairment, lack of clearly articulated and evidenced performance or safety rationales for testing, and significant concerns over the extension of managerial prerogative to include employees' off-the-job behaviour choices.

Created: 3 March, 2006

Date: 28/02/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business



Bird flu expert to advise British government

Epidemiologist Professor Roger Morris left New Zealand today to join a team contracted by the British government to prepare for a possible outbreak of the H5N1 bird-flu virus.

Professor Morris has been at the forefront of international efforts to investigate and combat the deadly virus, and has been working with the governments of Hong Kong and Vietnam since the first outbreak in Asia in 2003.

He will apply software technology developed through the University's EpiCentre to map the likely spread of the virus should it reach Britain. This information is crucial when planning for the management of an outbreak - Professor Morris' report to health officials in Hong Kong in 2004 has since been implemented.

His recommendations to reduce the risk of a bird flu outbreak include:

- * replacing all live imported chickens with chilled products;
- * enhancing biosecurity within and outside Hong Kong poultry-production systems, in retail markets and during the transportation process;
- * modifying live-bird marketing by reducing the number of retail chicken stalls and separating wholesale markets for local and mainland chickens;
- * reducing human exposure to wild-bird viruses;
- * using vaccines to maximum effect;

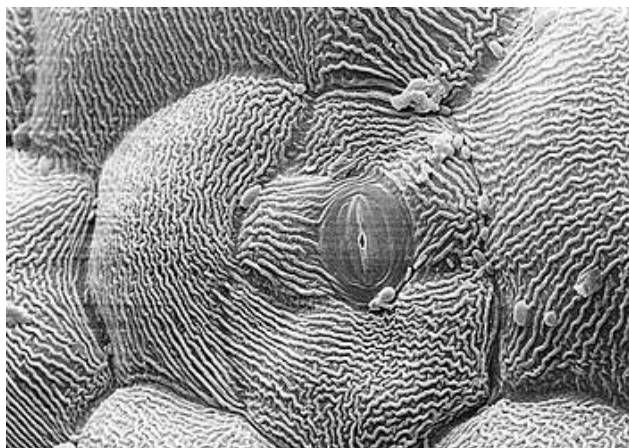
The EpiCentre is the only organisation outside of Britain to be involved in the government's task force.

Created: 21 February, 2006

Date: 28/02/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - HEALTH



\$1.5 million for top-notch Microscopy lab

The establishment of a world-class microscopy research centre in the Manawatu will commence with funding of \$1.5 million from the Tertiary Education Commission's Innovation and Development Fund, announced today.

The successful bid by the Massey University for the establishment of the was supported in its application by more than 60 research groups at Massey and the wider Manawatu.

Project leader, Professor Barry Scott, says the Centre will provide researchers across the University and from within the local science community with a state-of-the-art laboratory. It will house two new microscopes a confocal microscope and a scanning electron microscope - essential to education and research in the physical and biological sciences.

The confocal microscope is a valuable and exciting tool for visualizing and analyzing cellular structures in 3D. The images created in the process are essential to the understanding of how cells function, how molecules interact, and opens the door to exploring dynamic processes.

A scanning electron microscope enables the study of the sub-cellular component of cells at the highest resolution. It is a tool that Professor Scott says is vital for veterinary pathologists, food scientists, microbiologists and many other researchers across the sciences.

Professor Scott says more than 360 Massey postgraduate students are studying in fields reliant on advanced microscopy.

Examples of the role the microscopy equipment plays in research training include:

- Identification of toxic micro-algae
- Understanding the molecular processes involved in the self-organisation of bionanoparticles
- Analysing crystallization conditions to help unravel the link between protein structure and both enzyme substrate specificity and catalytic mechanism.
- Plant virus identification
- Investigation of surface properties of milk powders
- Understanding plant cellular processes determining organ shape and size

As well as being critical to tertiary education, the Manawatu Microscopy and Imaging Centre, to be located at the University's Palmerston North campus, will also be a vital resource for one of the most important biological science hubs in New Zealand. The hub includes the Hopkirk Research Institute for animal health research (under construction), four Crown Research Institutes (HortResearch, Crop & Food, AgResearch, Landcare Research,) Fonterra Innovation and Leather and Shoe Research. Other significant users will include a major hospital and various incubator companies associated with the BioCommerce Centre.

As a regional facility, the Centre will be a magnet for high-calibre researchers from a range of science and commercial organisations. This will strengthen a range of research training collaborations already underway between these organisations and the University.

Created: 3 March, 2006

Date: 28/02/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Funding; Palmerston North; Research

Predicting the Ruapehu lahar path

An aerial survey of the path of the predicted lahar from Mt. Ruapehu's Crater Lake has been conducted by scientists from GNS Science and Massey University.

GNS Science has commissioned the survey as part of a broader research plan designed to capture maximum scientific value from this event.

Mt. Ruapehu hosts one of the most active volcanic crater lakes in the world and the Whangaehu River, which drains the lake, has carried more than 45 lahars (flash floods involving volcanic debris) since the 1953 Tangiwai tragedy.

Volcanologist Dr Shane Cronin and his team from Massey will use the survey results to make a 3D topographic numerical model of the lahar channel.

This is a unique opportunity to capture the secrets of a life-sized lahar , Dr Cronin says.

The more we can learn about this event, the better prepared we will be in the future.

Fugro Spatial Solutions has provided the LiDAR (light detection and ranging) mapping system, worth US\$1 million. The equipment uses digital laser technology to take up to 83,000 measurements of the land surface per second with sub-metre accuracy. Combined with high resolution digital photography the method produces a highly accurate 3D snapshot of the land surface.

The steep and unstable terrain in close proximity to an active volcano makes this a very challenging project from both a technical and operational perspective said Fugro project manager John Lazarus. The experience we recently gained working in the jungle-clad highlands of Papua New Guinea will be very useful.

GNS Science lead scientist for the project, Dr Vern Manville, said LiDAR offered the most cost-effective method of producing a highly accurate 3D map of the upper Whangaehu River. Comparison of the results of this survey with a duplicate mission flown immediately after the lahar happens will allow us to work out what changes it made to the river bed.

GNS Science and Massey are also planning to install an array of monitoring instruments at key locations along the lahar path to measure its properties as it flows past.

Created: 21 February, 2006

Date: 28/02/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences



From left to right: Angela McGaughran, Carla Eaton, Carlene Starck, Keren Dittmer

Top scholarships for doctoral students

Four PhD students who competed for the Government's Top Achiever Doctoral Scholarships have been awarded the prestigious doctoral scholarships.

Tertiary Education Minister Dr Michael Cullen announced the scholarships today. Administered by the Tertiary Education Commission, the Top Achiever Scholarships help PhD students to undertake first-class research in all disciplines in New Zealand or overseas.

The successful Massey doctoral science students at the University's Palmerston North campus are:

Angela McGaughran, a PhD student in the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution. Awarded \$93,000 for the duration of her thesis.

Ms McGaughran's project aims to determine the unique evolutionary patterns for terrestrial invertebrates in Antarctic environments with a particular focus on the evolutionary history of populations of springtails and mites. To adequately interpret evolutionary history, the evolutionary rates of the organisms must be understood, particularly in the cold where there are greater abiotic (not supporting life) constraints. Accordingly, investigating theoretical aspects of evolutionary rates in the cold and their relationship to temperature will be an important component of this research. Carla Eaton, a PhD student in the Institute of Molecular BioSciences. Awarded \$88,797.

Ms Eaton will investigate the signalling pathway(s) involved in maintaining the mutually beneficial association between *Epichloe festucae* (a fungal endophyte) and its host grass, *Lolium perenne*. Comparatively little is known about the genetic signalling that takes place between the fungus and its host to maintain this association. A recent breakthrough in the Institute of Molecular BioSciences has revealed that reactive oxygen species (ROS) signalling is involved in maintaining this association. How the fungus receives signals from the host plant to activate ROS production is unknown and the aim of this study is to characterise the mechanisms involved in ROS production and signalling.

Carlene Starck, a PhD student in the Institute of Molecular Biosciences. Awarded \$90,000.

Ms Starck will determine the X-ray crystal structure of the myostatin protein and its implications for the treatment of muscle wastage and metabolic diseases. Muscle development in the human body is intricately controlled and the secreted protein myostatin is a key player in the prevention of excess muscle growth, under normal conditions. Due to this preventative role, the inhibition of myostatin has implications for the treatment of diseases where muscle wastage is a predominant feature and a number of human and animal cases have been presented that show that the absence of myostatin results in increased muscle mass. Keren Dittmer, a PhD student in the Institute of Veterinary and Animal Biomedical Sciences. Awarded \$81,641.

Ms Dittmer's project aims to confirm the genetic nature of the hereditary disease - Vitamin D Resistant Rickets a skeletal disease recently been diagnosed in a flock of Corriedale sheep in Marlborough. There are strong indications that the disease is inherited and that it may be widespread in the Corriedale breed. The PhD will involve confirming the genetic nature of the disease, characterising the disease mechanism and pathology, and developing a diagnostic test for carrier animals. In addition, the disease will be evaluated as a potential model for studying inherited forms of rickets in human patients.

A full list of scholarship winners can be found at:
<http://www.tec.govt.nz/funding/scholarships/bright-future-recipients.htm>

Created: 21 February, 2006

Date: 28/02/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Any

Highlighting dairy industry developments

A recent symposium on milk proteins highlighted developments in science and technology that are feeding innovation in the dairy industry.

Jointly hosted by the University's Riddet Centre and Fonterra Co-operative Group Ltd, the Milk Proteins Symposium: From Expression to Food, brought together internationally-renowned experts in genomics, lactation, milk protein structures and functionality.

Riddet Centre post-doctoral researcher and symposium organiser Dr Abby Thompson says the symposium aimed to facilitate the exchange of milk protein research, and to identify emerging opportunities for the dairy industry.

Dr Mike Boland from Fonterra says the symposium is an ideal opportunity for industry representatives and researchers to meet and discuss progress made in areas of science in the dairy industry uses.

Topics covered over the three-day event at the Palmerston North campus included: expression and post-translational modification of milk proteins; structure and stability of milk proteins; milk proteins interactions; functionality of milk proteins in foods; emerging food trends and what they mean for the industry.

Dr Thompson was one of several Riddet Centre researchers to present at the symposium she shared results of her research into milk fat globule membranes. Centre co-directors Professor Harjinder Singh and Professor Paul Moughan presented research on milk protein interactions in food emulsions, and the development of functional foods and nutraceuticals in the food industry, respectively.

Also from the Riddet Centre, Dr Jason Hindmarsh presented research into spectrometer analysis of protein macro-structure formation, and Dr John Flannagan presented research into the manipulation of milk protein-polysaccharide interactions.

Centre visiting scientist Dr David Horne gave a presentation on the micelle structure of milk from the Australian tamar wallaby, a marsupial whose unique lactation is a research focus for the centre.

From the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, Dr Pat Edwards presented his study of bovine β -lactoglobulin conducted with the Institute's Nuclear Magnetic Resonance spectrometer.

Other presentations included those from researchers from: Ohio State University (USA); the University of Manchester (England); the Australian universities of Melbourne, Queensland and Wollongong, and Monash University; the University of Auckland; Victoria University of Wellington; AgResearch and Fonterra.

More information can be found at: <http://milkproteinsymposium.massey.ac.nz>

Created: 17 February, 2006

Date: 28/02/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Sciences; Conference/Seminar



Wellington graduation to be biggest yet

Graduation celebrations in the capital were the campuses biggest yet. More than 650 new graduates celebrated on 26 May at two ceremonies held at the Michael Fowler Centre.



In keeping with tradition, graduates processed with supporters and staff, through the streets of Wellington to Civic Square, where Deputy Mayor Alick Shaw welcomed them.

Students, he said, were gold to the city, and not just in monetary terms but for their contribution to the city's culture.

Students keep ideas under debate. Wellington relies on ideas and students ensure issues are debated, and focused on in a way others are unable to do.

Mr Shaw told the gathering that he looked forward to when Illot Green, bordering the Square, was the home to a purpose-built conservatorium for the New Zealand School of Music.

Graduation dinner

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Andrea McIlroy hosted 90 guests at a special Graduation dinner in the Tea Gardens. Guests included members of the diplomatic corps, and leaders from government, business, education, and the community.

She spoke of the University's recent achievements, such as winning external research funding, collaborating with research partners, and developing campus facilities.

She says the aim of the dinner was to celebrate the achievements of the University community, especially new graduates, and to highlight their contribution to Wellington and beyond.

Celebration for Māori graduates

The journey through university was like the flight of the godwits, Māori graduates were told at a special event at Te Kuratini Marae on campus.

Godwits fly non-stop for five days to reach New Zealand from Siberia, said recent PhD graduate Dr Bronwyn Campbell, and study sometimes seems a long haul.

She congratulated graduates on reaching an important destination, but reminded them that our lives are not a journey of just one destination, and encouraged them to continue to learn and grow.



New graduates at Te Kuratini Marae: Aroha Wahanui (Ngāi Tūhoe, Graduate Diploma in Journalism), Ken McShane (Te Ātihaunui-a-Pāpāurangi, Bachelor of Arts in Social Policy), Grant Burton (Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāti Paoa, Bachelor of Design in Visual Communication Design), Shonagh McKenzie (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Rakaipaka, Bachelor of Nursing), Carmin Sampson (Ngāi Te Rangi, Ngāti Ranginui, Bachelor of Arts in Education and Social Policy), Stacey Houkamau (Ngāti Porou, Te Aitanga-a-Mahaki, Diploma of Fashion Design And Technology), and Kahukura Flutey (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāi Tahu, Master of Educational Psychology).



A special event was held at Te Kuratini Marae to honour Māori graduates: Professor Andrea McIlroy, Professor Dick Corballis, Professor Sally Morgan, Kaiwhakahua Ross Hemera, Dr Bronwyn Campbell, and Professor Tai Black.

Date: 04/03/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: Graduation; Graduation (Wellington); Wellington

International offering enhanced

The recruitment and admission of International students will be better co-ordinated and enhanced following a review of both the International Students' Office and the Massey University English Language Centre last year.

The review of international operations, led by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Auckland) Professor John Raine, has resulted in a number of changes.

International Director Bruce Graham says two of the most obvious are name changes for the two groups.

The International Students' Office is now referred to as the International Office, reflecting the wider range of international activities it co-ordinates including student exchange programmes, the Study Abroad initiative and its growing relationship development role assisting with the establishment and maintenance of international linkages between the University and overseas institutions.

The Massey International brand will be established in the market place.

A separate review of the Massey University English Language Centre (MUELC) was also undertaken in late 2005. As a result MUELC is now known as the Centre for University Preparation and English Language Studies (CUPELS).

Mr Graham says a major focus for the International Office for 2006 is recruitment, especially postgraduate students and also preparatory students who will study with CUPELS.

To this end a National Manager International Student Recruitment and Admissions has been appointed. Moira Hagenson will co-ordinate the international marketing and recruitment efforts of the University.

This activity is often built on relationships with education agents/consultants in a diverse range of countries across the world.

Continuing our diversification strategy, we are moving our dependence from Asia, and profiling Massey in regions we've identified as having potential.

More attention is being given to such areas as Europe, Scandinavia, the United States and Mexico, the Middle East, the UK and even Russia, aiming to attract both undergraduate and postgraduate students.

He says a significant component in our campaign for 2006 is the new government approved domestic tuition fees arrangements for all PhD international students.

These arrangements will be a major attraction for students from around the world who haven't in the past been able to afford the higher international student tuition fees. For Massey this means we can attract high quality students for a longer period of time, significantly enhancing the University's research capability which will also enhance our research degree completion component of PBRF.

Mr Graham says as well as the marketing, recruitment and admission functions, the office will continue to enhance the international student experience by ensuring that across all campuses a high level of support and quality facilities is available for our students. We need to keep our existing students well supported our graduates are our best advertisement.

Mr Graham says the realignment of the functions of the Centre for University Preparation and English Language Studies with the International Office means that there will be a more co-ordinated approach to international marketing and admission activities for students at all levels from pre-degree programmes through to PhD.

All recruitment and admissions for CUPELS is now being handled by the International Office. A clear direction for 2006 is in place and marketing missions to both the USA and China have already been undertaken by the International Office this year.

Created: 17 February, 2006

Date: 13/03/2006

Type: University News



Massey artist-in-residence Penni Bousfield directs year 13 students from Freyberg High School.

Schools get taste of Summer Shakespeare

Students from four secondary schools have been in drama workshops under the direction of artist-in-residence Penni Bousfield in the lead-up to this year's Summer Shakespeare production of *Love's Labour's Lost*.

An initiative of Dr Sarah Ross in the School of English and Media Studies, the school visits gave year 12 and 13 students a taste of what it is like to work with an experienced director.

Dr Ross, who teaches Shakespeare, joined the students alongside cast members currently rehearsing intensively for the upcoming productions. She says the performances, beginning 10 March, are an excellent opportunity for the students, who, as part of National Certificate of Educational Achievement requirements, write a critical review of a Shakespeare production.

Love's Labour's Lost is a comedy that follows the fortunes of four young men who decide to give up drinking, partying, and women in order to concentrate on their studies. All goes well until four beautiful women arrive on the scene.

Ms Bousfield's production, her seventh, will be set during a university orientation week in 1966.

Summer Shakespeare will be staged in the Esplanade 10-12 March and 17-19 March. Previous years' productions have drawn large crowds and favourable reviews.

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Music and campus life; Palmerston North



Senior lecturer Nikolaos Kazantzis (left) and Keith Dobson (right) with clinical psychologist Jackie Feather from North Shore Hospital.

Psychology centre hosts first workshops

The new Centre for Psychology has just held its first training workshops for mental health workers, with a focus on treating depression.

The centre was recently opened in Albany village. The first workshops were booked to capacity and attended by a range of practitioners including counsellors, nurses, social workers and about 40 experienced clinical psychologists and psychiatrists.

The workshops looked at cognitive behaviour therapy, a treatment for depression. The University psychologists are working in consultation with Dr Keith Dobson from Canada's Calgary University, a specialist in the therapy.

The centre plans to begin a study, working with 70 referred patients.

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Conference/Seminar

Wharerata welcomes new manager

The new manager of Wharerata, the University's historic dining and social function facility, has arrived with a wealth of experience in the hospitality industry and plans to turn what used to be the staff social club into one of Manawatu's top venues.

For the past three years Denis Jenkins (pictured) was general manager of the award-winning Gibbston Valley Winery near Queenstown, a tourist facility boasting a 150-seat restaurant with capacity for another 100 outdoors.

In summer the winery regularly serves 250 to 300 a-la-carte lunches a day as well as hosting 90 evening functions a year, mostly corporate dinners, weddings and parties.

Mr Jenkins spent 20 years in Queenstown, where he previously owned a restaurant. Before that he had three restaurants in Auckland and was a tutor in hospitality at Otago Polytechnic, where he was also campus manager.

Born in Stirling, Scotland, he qualified as a chef and has a degree in hotel management from Napier University, Edinburgh.

He says when he left Queenstown he was ready for a change and a new challenge. His fiancé lives and works in Palmerston North but he doubted there would be a hospitality job of the calibre he was looking for until the Wharerata position came up.

In fact, the position is more than that. It also makes him manager of the University's Rugby Institute, which regularly hosts top international sports administrators and players as well as business clients.

Mr Jenkins is responsible for 15 full-time and 30 part-time staff at the two venues, among them three chefs and four other cooks.

It's not just a dining room, he says, That's the tip of the iceberg. In two days consecutively 570 meals have come out of here, many of them delivered throughout the campus, all from the same team in the same kitchen.

The Wharerata building itself is undergoing change. Already the Russell Room has been completely redecorated and refurnished as a superb venue for dinners and weddings. The next plan is to combine the Members' Bar and the main dining room to create a more open space.

One of Wharerata's greatest assets is its gardens, offering outdoor dining and room for a marquee on the lawn, which provides an alternative venue for up to 180.

Mr Jenkins aims to extend Wharerata's hours to 8.30am to 3.30pm and by the end of the year he would like to generate more activity after work and into the evening on Friday nights, not just as a drinks venue but also opening the restaurant to the public.

Lunches, however, will always be a core activity and he sees his role as adjusting the product rather than make sweeping changes. It's a historic building, it's unique, therefore the style of food and service must reflect that. We are going to do some classic food, maybe with a modern twist, as well as providing a more personalised service.

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Palmerston North





Contemporary Māori art in demand

University lecturer Ross Hemera is one of a group of Ngāi Tahu artists who have a new exhibition in Melbourne.

With the international spotlight on contemporary Māori art, Mr Hemera has found his work in demand.

Last month he presented two works at Melbourne's Burrinja Centre of Aboriginal and Oceanic Art. He and several other Ngāi Tahu artists have their own exhibition at the same venue.

Ngā taonga tuku iho e ngā tīpuna: Learning from the knee features contemporary works that create links with the past, using a range of media including photography, digital projection, ceramics, pounamu and wood carving, paint, text, installation, jewellery and sculpture.

Mr Hemera is a senior lecturer in the School of Visual and Material Culture, and Kaiwhakaahua at the College of Creative Arts. His two pieces in the exhibition, Hokiwai and Tiki-Manu, are made from kauri, aluminium and ink.

The exhibition is an outcome of the exchange begun in 2002 with the tour of the Burrinja Aboriginal Art Collection through seven galleries in the South Island, Mr Hemera says.

Artists from one iwi exhibiting together is a significant event. We are engaging in an exchange with other indigenous peoples. This exhibition, hosted by the Wurundjeri people, nurtures and extends that contact.

It's the things we are shown when we are young that make such a lasting impression on the mind. When I was a child, my father took my brother and me down the Ahuriri River. There he showed us caves and rock overhangs with ancient drawings in them.

On subsequent visits we took drawing paper and pencils and copied the amazing images and markings. I realise now that these caves are my wananga they contain messages from my tīpuna. The impact that these drawings had on my childhood mind has made a significant impression, and they have become the major topic of my creative work. Those caves are this country's foremost art galleries containing this country's original art works. More than 500 years old, these ancient drawings are our most valuable taonga.

Mr Hemera's work, Te Wairua o Hokioi, also featured in Vancouver's Spirit Wrestler gallery exhibition, Manawa Pacific Heartbeat last month. Born in Kurow, Mr Hemera earned a Diploma of Fine and Applied Arts from Otago Polytechnic in 1972 and had his first exhibition in 1975.

Known primarily for his mixed-media sculptures, he has undertaken several significant public commissions, including the Te Ao Mārama carving at Te Papa, and glass windows for both Ngāi Tahu Development Corporation's Te Waipounamu House in Christchurch and the Albany campus of the University. His work has been exhibited in contemporary Māori art exhibitions, including the American tour of Te Waka Toi: Contemporary Māori Art, Māori at the British Museum in London (1988), Te Puāwai o Ngai Tahu at the Christchurch Art Gallery, Kiwa-Pacific Connections (2003) in Vancouver, and Whenua-Born of the Land (2004) in Wellington.

A DVD created by Rachael Rakena, co-ordinator of the Bachelor of Māori Visual Arts programme at the Palmerston North campus, is also on show at the Burrinja gallery.

Created: 1 April, 2008

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: Features

Categories: College of Creative Arts; Exhibition/Show; Maori

Innovators urged to try harder for success

A call to try harder with product innovation is the key message to manufacturers from University product development researcher and lecturer Dr Aruna Shekar.

Dr Shekar was addressing a capacity crowd of business representatives at the first of a series of technology briefings at the Albany-based Centre for Product Innovation.

She is urging manufacturers to work harder on product innovation after completing a study of the product innovation practices of 89 companies.

About 20 per cent stood out as the best and their practices markedly separated them from the rest of the companies surveyed, says Dr Shekar.

They understood their customers and they used the tools and techniques available, including market research. The rest did not have proper product innovation strategies in place to start with.

Her study showed that the best performers in new product development generate 40 per cent of sales and 42 per cent in profits from new products compared with just 25 per cent and 23 per cent respectively for the lower-performing group.

She found the best performers have integrated leading tools, techniques and processes into their product development efforts and have greater output of new products.

Dr Shekar's comprehensive survey is the first of its kind and she plans to make it an exercise to regularly monitor the innovation practices within the product development industry. She says the study offers companies a way of assessing their strengths and weaknesses in product innovation so that they may be better prepared to take on the challenge of competing in a world market.

She says the low success rate of new products, the global and competitive marketplace, more demanding consumers and shorter lifecycles highlight the need for research in this area.

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences



From left: Angela McGaughran, Carla Eaton, Carlene Starck and Keren Dittmer.

Prestige scholarships a \$350k head start

The scientific research proposals of four women PhD students have been selected as some of the best in New Zealand.

The four from the College of Sciences have won Top Achiever doctoral scholarships, the Government's most prestigious and worth more than \$350,000 in total.

Angela McGaughran, a PhD student in the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution in the Institute of Molecular BioSciences has been awarded \$93,000 for the duration of her thesis.

Ms McGaughran's project will determine the unique evolutionary patterns for terrestrial invertebrates in Antarctic environments with a particular focus on the evolutionary history of populations of springtails and mites. The evolutionary rates of the organisms are crucial to the interpretation of evolutionary history, particularly in the Antarctic where there are more constraints that do not support life. Accordingly, investigating theoretical aspects of evolutionary rates in the cold and their relationship to temperature will be an important component of this research.

Carla Eaton, a PhD student in the Institute of Molecular BioSciences was awarded \$88,797.

Ms Eaton will investigate the signalling pathways of communication involved in maintaining the mutually beneficial association between *Epichloe festucae* (a fungal endophyte) and its host grass, *Lolium perenne*. Comparatively little is known about the genetic signalling that takes place between the fungus and its host to maintain this association. A recent breakthrough in the Institute of Molecular BioSciences has revealed that reactive oxygen species (ROS) signalling is involved in maintaining this association. The research aims to characterise the mechanisms involved in ROS production and signalling.

Carlene Starck, a PhD student in the Institute of Molecular Biosciences was awarded \$90,000.

Ms Starck will determine the X-ray crystal structure of the myostatin protein, and its implications for the treatment of muscle wastage and metabolic diseases. Muscle development in the human body is intricately controlled and the myostatin protein plays a key role in the prevention of excess muscle growth. It therefore has implications for the treatment of diseases where muscle wastage is a predominant feature, and a number of human and animal cases have been presented that show that the absence of myostatin results in increased muscle mass.

Keren Dittmer, a PhD student in the Institute of Veterinary and Animal Biomedical Sciences has been awarded \$81,641.

Ms Dittmer's project aims to confirm the genetic nature of the hereditary disease Vitamin D Resistant Rickets, a skeletal disease recently diagnosed in a flock of Corriedale sheep in Marlborough. There are strong indications that the disease is inherited and that it may be widespread in the Corriedale breed. This research will confirm the genetic nature of the disease, characterise the disease mechanism and pathology, and develop a diagnostic test for carrier animals. In addition, the disease will be evaluated as a potential model for studying inherited forms of rickets in human patients.

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences



Te Mata o Te Tau new fellows, from left: Dr Sharon Henare, Dr Heather Gifford, Dr Amohia Boulton, Dr Huia Jahnke, Dr Denise Wilson, Dr Nicole Coup, Dr Tanira Kingi. Absent: Dr Paul Hirini, Dr Manuhua Barchum and Dr Kara Mihaere.

Growing pool of Māori PhD graduates

Ten Māori doctoral graduates were honoured in a special ceremony at the University's Academy for Māori Research and Scholarship, Te Mata o Te Tau recently. They were admitted as Pūkenga (fellows) of the academy.

The academy was established to foster Māori academic advancement and create new knowledge. Eight of the 10 graduates obtained their degrees from the University and two from the Australian National University. All but one are employed at Massey.

Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Māori) Professor Mason Durie is optimistic the pool of Māori doctoral graduates will continue to grow.

All of these new fellows have contributed to the pool of research in Māori or indigenous knowledge. Their work will be of benefit to the University, Māori communities and the wider academic community, says Professor Durie.

This year the academy will run a weekly series of seminars on a range of topics of interest to Māori and those studying Māori, including Treaty issues, land ownership, sport, business and te reo.

These will be held on Thursdays between noon and 1pm, with some of them broadcast to all campuses.

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business; College of Creative Arts; College of Education; College of Humanities & Social Sciences; College of Sciences; Maori



Brenda Soutar and Milton Rauhihi with their son Kaimoni, who turned down a place at Auckland University's School of Engineering to study Mathematics and Māori studies at Massey.

Top Māori achiever pursues double degree

Kaimoni Soutar spent all of his childhood in total immersion Māori language education. Now he has opted for a double degree in Science and the Arts at Massey after turning down a sought-after position at Auckland University's School of Engineering.

Kaimoni (Rangitāne, Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Awa) grew up in Palmerston North and attended Mana Tamariki Kōhanga Reo and Kura Kaupapa Māori before spending his last year at Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Waiū o Ngāti Porou in Ruatoria.

He and another Ruatoria Kura Kaupapa graduate were the first from the school to gain places at the engineering school.

Mr Soutar gained an overall average of merit in National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) level 3 mathematics, te reo rangatira, classical studies, computing and physics. Most of his math classes were via video conferencing.

He also achieved a perfect 100 per cent scholarship mark in the 2005 Te Reo Māori scholarship examination.

Despite the career options available to engineering students, he decided his real passion was to become a Kura Kaupapa Māori mathematics teacher for Wharekura (secondary) students and is majoring in both mathematics and Māori studies.

I know there is a shortage of Māori-speaking mathematics teachers at Kura Kaupapa Māori and I wanted to give something back to a kaupapa that has enabled to me to achieve academically, socially and culturally.

Kaimoni is the recipient of a Highbury Community Scholarship, which supports him financially and academically for the duration of the degree providing he maintains at least a B average.

His mother, Brenda Soutar, a teacher at Mana Tamariki, says the kōhanga whānau are extremely proud of Kaimoni's achievements.

It's a great accomplishment for Kura Kaupapa Māori students. I am aware that some critics may say that returning to Kura Kaupapa Māori to teach is restricting Kaimoni's opportunities, but I believe that the kaupapa has opened the doors for all of our children.

Our kaupapa of Māori language revitalisation and intergenerational transmission of the language is recognised overseas.

Our children are culturally confident and linguistically and academically capable. Kura Kaupapa Māori has also developed a strong work ethic among our students. They know how to study and achieve, she says.

Created: 1 April, 2008

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; College of Sciences; Maori

Design students to exhibit furniture in Milan

▶ VIDEO Watch the ONE NEWS item: [Dialup 56k](#) or [Broadband 128k](#)

Student designers from the School of Design are the first in the country to be invited to exhibit at next month's Milan Furniture Fair.

The annual fair is regarded as the world's greatest furniture showcase and the Albany-based group of students and teachers is racing to prepare and to secure sponsorship.

The seven-member team is lead by designer and tutor Nick Dearden, who says the invitation to Milan offers an unprecedented opportunity for the young Massey designers. The one-week fair attracted nearly 200,000 visitors last year, including international manufacturers and design industry news media.

Charlie Moran, Kate Martin, Ben Thomsen, Phil D'Anvers, Bec Bartells and Phil Cuttance are on Mr Dearden's team.

Each will take examples of their furniture designs including office and domestic pieces.

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Creative Arts





Feline researcher raising cheetahs abroad

A qualification in veterinary nursing and a degree in ecology gave Katherine Bell an edge in the keen competition for voluntary work with the big cats of India and Africa.

Having finished a job with turtles in Greece, Katherine Bell was heading to another voluntary placement with monkeys in South Africa when she was offered work with captive cheetahs instead.



The one-month placement stretched to two years with the Cheetah Outreach programme. Now Ms Bell is back at Massey to complete a PhD in feline nutrition before returning to southern Africa and the world's largest population of cheetahs.

Her research will contribute to the breeding and care of cheetahs in captivity. It focuses on the interaction between diet and reproduction, and will add to her expertise in captive cheetah husbandry.

Ms Bell recently returned from Japan, where she oversaw the settling-in of 10 new cheetahs at a wildlife park in the Himeji region. The park aims to breed the cheetahs and Ms Bell advised staff on methods to improve breeding enclosures and handling procedures.

Japanese television reporters attended a lecture she gave to a group of park staff, vets, academics, and members of the Japan Zoological Association.

Even without the presence of the photogenic cheetah cubs, the interest was strong, says Ms Bell.

She applauds the efforts of parks to ensure the greater likelihood of successful breeding of cheetahs, which are particularly sensitive when it comes to reproduction.

Only 16 per cent of facilities housing captive cheetah around the world have reported continued breeding success. Inexperienced mothers are prone to abandoning their cubs in captivity and may turn on their young and kill them.

In cases of abandoned cubs, zoo and park staff hand-raise young cheetahs, an activity Ms Bell has much experience in from her work with De Wildt Cheetah and Wildlife Trust and the Cheetah Outreach programme.

The outreach education programme works with cheetahs that have been hand-raised, and its feline residents play a key role in conservation education.

Since 2004 Ms Bell has raised 18 cheetah cubs from three weeks to four months of age, two of which are now in Wellington Zoo and visited the University's Palmerston North campus last year.

In April, Auckland Zoo will be getting two cubs from South Africa, which Ms Bell raised last year and she will assist staff to settle the cubs.

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; School of Veterinary Science

Premier research medal for mathematician

Industrial mathematics professor Graeme Wake, has been awarded a premier research medal for academics a first for New Zealand-based mathematicians.

The medal is awarded annually by the Australia and New Zealand Industrial and Applied Mathematics conference.

The conference citation notes Professor Wake has demonstrated many applications of maths well beyond the classroom walls in a broad-ranging research career in which he has published more than 175 papers, most in refereed international journals.

His work in any one alone of the research areas to which he has contributed would constitute a solid achievement; taken together, it is particularly impressive, the citation says.

He is a strong and competent academic leader, carrying the flag for applied mathematics with great vigour in New Zealand and internationally.

He was awarded the medal just days after the conclusion of the successful Mathematics in Industry conference, which he has run for the past three years. The conference pulls together the country's top mathematicians to solve various industry and environmental problems.

At the Palmerston North campus he was Professor of Applied Mathematics for a decade until 1995 and head of the department for six years. He spent three years at Canterbury University before returning to Massey in 2003, where he is based at Albany.

He is director of the Australian and New Zealand Maths in Industry study groups, which aim to raise awareness of applied mathematics.

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences



Māori Development attracts First Nations

A delegation of Canadian First Nation peoples visited campus recently to hear presentations from Professor Mason Durie, on Māori Development, and Māori Studies Lecturer Esther Tinirau, who based her Masters thesis on the Whanganui River Māori Land Corporations.

The visit was organised by Dr Tanira Kingi from the Institute of Natural Resources. The visitors, led by Chief Lyle Whitefish (Cree Nation), have been on a nation-wide visit to also look at indigenous horticulture and agricultural projects and how Māori have developed their land, forests and fisheries.

The group includes staff and students from the University of Saskatchewan studying environmental and agricultural studies, and representatives from tribal agricultural groups. The visitors are affiliated to the Blackfoot, Cree, Deni and Algonquin tribes.

Chief Whitefish says while First Nations peoples have begun settling land claims with their government, the lands they were allocated are actually undeveloped and require investment.

We have settled around \$5 billion worth of land claims in the past 10 years but the land is often poor quality. We also do not have the economic and farming base needed to operate the lands, which was supposed to be part of the settlement process, he says.

Chief Whitefish says Māori and First Nations peoples share similar experiences dealing with governments over land settlements and the networking opportunities have been excellent.

The group is a participant in the Inaugural International Programme in Aboriginal Agri-Entrepreneurship at the University of Saskatchewan in Canada.

The Land Management Training Program offers training in the administration and management of reserve land and aims to increase the number of First Nations' land managers.

The group also visited Wakatū Incorporation, Te Rūnanga o Raukawa, Te Wānanga o Raukawa, Paranihi ki Waitotara Incorporation, Te Arawa FoMA and Ngāti Whakaue Incorporated before returning to Canada.

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Maori

New study addresses nursing crisis

A new international study addressing nursing workforce and health issues will be launched on 6 March at the University by Health Minister Pete Hodgson and Labour Minister Ruth Dyson.

New Zealand Project Leader Dr Annette Huntington says that for the first time health workforce planners will have access to accurate and up-to-date information about New Zealand nurses' health, wellbeing and workforce participation.

The health workforce is in crisis with a chronic global shortage of health workers, according to the World Health Organisation. In New Zealand, hospitals are said to be seriously understaffed, requiring nearly a quarter of nurses to be recruited from overseas. This can cause understaffing in developing countries, which supply many of these nurses.

5 April marks the beginning of the World Health Organisation year of the health workforce.

Dr Huntington, from the School of Health Sciences, says anecdotal estimates of 2000 nursing vacancies have never been confirmed. Although recruiting and retaining a skilled New Zealand nursing workforce is a major concern, planners and policy makers have no way of knowing exactly how many nurses we need, she says.

The Nurses' E-Cohort Study is a collaborative venture between the school and The University of Queensland. It will use on-line questionnaires and secure databases to collect and store information provided by New Zealand nurses.

The delay between collection of data and analysis, a problem with traditional surveys, will be drastically reduced, Dr Huntington says. Once nurses sign up to participate in this electronic study their patterns of workforce participation, health and wellbeing will be tracked, regardless of where they live and work.

This will provide valuable information to guide policy and planning and to assist recruitment and retention, regarded as critical to ensuring a robust workforce at a time of ageing population and increasing demand for and complexity of health care.

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences



From left, Dr Fiona Alpass, Dr Christine Stephens, Jack Noone and Retirement Commissioner Diana Crossan.

Gender psychology in retirement planning

Psychology PhD student Jack Noone has been awarded a \$45,000 scholarship to study the psychosocial factors of retirement planning and attitude differences between the sexes.

The Retirement Commission scholarship is for three years of study.

Retirement Commissioner Diana Crossan expects findings from Mr Noone's thesis to generate discussion among policy makers and analysts about the influence the current retirement income policy has on New Zealanders.

Under the supervision of Drs Fiona Alpass and Christine Stephens, Mr Noone will look at the impact of health, social status, family relationships and expectations, on how men prepare for retirement compared with women.

Ms Crossan says the thesis takes an unconventional approach to retirement research and will provide new data of interest to all those involved in retirement income policy.

Very few studies have focused on the differences in men and women's attitudes and behaviour towards retirement planning and the expectations of life they have after 65. Jack's thesis will give us specifics on the different gender approaches and outlooks on retirement income.

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Minding Ps and Qs online



Polite computing may be the key to doing better business online, says a University lecturer who has developed guidelines to distinguish polite and impolite software.

Remember Mr Clippy? The animated paper clip that popped up on computer screens uninvited and offering to help? His famous line it looks like you're writing a letter led millions to react with the same exasperation a real, live human pest can provoke.

Eventually Mr Clippy's failure to charm users was so notable, that his removal in itself, became a sales pitch. The irksome, dancing paper clip is just one of the unsolicited interactions our computer screens seem bent on, forcing us into in a daily battle with the software that is supposed to help us.

Dr Brian Whitworth thinks it is time software developers thought about polite computing and has done a study of how human issues affect computing technology design, evaluation and operation.

In it he examines the frustrations of interactions initiated by things popping on to screens.

Traditionally, concepts of rudeness and politeness are associated with human behaviour, but Dr Whitworth says software, with its ability to make choices, seems to have crossed the threshold from inert to active.

It has achieved agent status and we react to agents on a social level.

While the computer is a machine, people create its programs. An installation program acts as directed entirely by a third party, their actions represent that party.

They are an agent for them. If the third party is a social entity, then the interaction is social.

The core issue is whether the person who owns a PC should control it.

Dr Whitworth contends that images popping uninvited onto computer screens hijack the focus of the users and interrupt their train of thought.

It's not illegal, but it is impolite. So too, he says, are all the other programs that act without asking.

The time has come for social values like politeness to extend to online interaction, he says.

Politeness is what makes a society a nice place to be and online society is no exception. Without politeness, cyberspace can be a painful place of pop-up ads, spam and information overload, as advertisers take every opportunity to hawk their product.

Politeness may be a benefit, rather than a corporate cost. He points to Amazon, Google and E-Bay as examples of successful operators who have given customers what they want in a polite way.

Messages do not flash on screen, information is not forced upon computer users (they are given the choice to view) and customer feedback is welcomed.

Companies that give customers choice win business, Dr Whitworth says. Politeness presumes a willing customer who wants to purchase. In this synergistic business model, the customer is not the enemy, but a partner in mutual gain. It is an excellent way to manage the customer relationship.

He has developed guidelines to distinguish polite and impolite software.

Polite software allocates user resources with permission, discloses itself and its source, enables easy and simple choice and can remember past interactions. Conversely, impolite software acts preemptively, hides itself, confuses users and forgets past choices.

Dr Whitworth is a senior lecturer with degrees in mathematics and psychology. He has joined the University from the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Leading research into learning disabilities

College of Education Pro Vice-Chancellor, Professor James Chapman has been elected as President of the International Academy for Research in Learning Disabilities (IARLD), an international professional organisation dedicated to conducting and sharing research about individuals who have learning disabilities.

It is the first time a member from outside the United States has held the position, and one that is both an honour and an irony, according to Professor Chapman.

In New Zealand, learning disabilities are not recognised as a discreet area of specialist education, so although ironic, the appointment is significant in providing opportunities to make some real progress in this area.

The IARLD is an elected group of premier scientists, educators and clinicians in the field of learning disabilities throughout the world.

The Academy was formed in 1976 by Dr William Cruickshank (United States of America) and Dr Jacob Valk (The Netherlands), meeting in Canada with the intention of providing a forum for the exchange of information and the advancement of knowledge regarding learning disabilities.

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Education

New qualification for ICT professionals

A new postgraduate certificate developed by a consortium of industry representatives and associations, professional bodies and tertiary education institutions has received funding from the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC).

Offered in collaboration by Massey and the University of Canterbury, the Postgraduate Certificate in Professional Development (Electronics and ICT) has been developed for professionals in the information and communications technology (ICT) sector and who want to enhance their knowledge and skills in technical and business management areas.

Director of the School of Engineering and Technology, Professor Bob Hodgson says the qualification aims to give professionals both a technical update in their particular field and a broader update across the ICT field in general.

Professor Hodgson, who also chairs the New Zealand Council of Engineering Deans, says the collaboration of both universities is essential to ensure the provision of expertise within a qualification for such a diverse sector.

The jointly offered certificate builds on existing relationships and collaborative research between the two universities.

Development of the certificate started in 2004 when the consortium decided to conduct research in the engineering and ICT sector to identify the specific needs for further education and training. The research was funded by the TEC through its Growth and Innovation Pilot Initiatives fund.

The consortium is made up of the Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand (IPENZ), the New Zealand Council of Engineering Deans (NZCED), Information Technology Association of New Zealand, New Zealand Software Association, New Zealand Computer Society, Telecom, EDS New Zealand, Endeavour Capital Ltd, the HiGrowth Project, and Electrotechnology Industry Training Organisation (ETITO).

More information is available at the IPENZ website at <http://www.ipenz.org.nz/pgcert>

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Sciences

Phylogenetics by the seaside

A five-day phylogenetics workshop held this year in Kaikoura attracted a maximum capacity of international researchers.

Hosted by the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution, the workshop has grown since the first of its type initiated by centre co-directors Professors Mike Hendy and David Penny more than a decade ago.

Professor Hendy says the annual workshop similar in structure to a conference but a little less formal quickly and consistently draws its capacity of 50 participants. In particular, it has gained a strong international following with researchers from Australia, the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Belgium, Germany and Israel.

The annual workshop cycles through four venues Kaikoura, Palmerston North, Whakapapa Village and Whitianga and the organisers make the most of each location's natural resources when planning after-hours activities. This year activities included a hike up Mt. Fyffe, an alpine 'surprise' adventure, a coastal walk to a fossil site, and whale and dolphin watching.

Professor Hendy says the discipline of phylogenetics, the construction of evolutionary trees, is at the interface between mathematics and biology. It is highly mathematical, biological and computational, requiring skills in DNA sequencing and the use of complex computers such as the Double Helix supercomputer at the Albany campus.

The Allan Wilson Centre is a government-funded Centre of Research Excellence bringing together researchers from Massey, Auckland, Victoria, Canterbury and Otago universities. Centre researchers to present at the workshop included Professor Penny, Professor Hendy, Associate Professor Peter Lockhart and Dr Barbara Holland.

Dr Holland a presenter at the phylogenetics workshop is also the recent recipient of the Royal Society's Hamilton Memorial Prize for beginners in science or technological research.

Her mathematically-based research in evolutionary biology and phylogenetics was described by the society's academy as pioneering work . Dr Holland says scientists need to know how much confidence they can hold in phylogenetic trees (which map genetic evolution).

Her research estimates and displays the level of uncertainty visually in a way that makes it easy to see where the sets of trees agree and disagree. Throughout this study, Dr Holland and her team realised that this technique could also apply to collections of gene trees and hence contribute to the understanding of genome evolution.

Worth \$1000, the Royal Society prize is awarded annually for research work published within five years of a conferred PhD.

A full programme and abstracts can be read at: www.math.canterbury.ac.nz/bio/kaikoura06

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Conference/Seminar

University extends deepest sympathy after flight tragedy

The tragic deaths in an air crash of two young student pilots from the School of Aviation on February 9 had an impact throughout the University.

Senior management have offered sincere condolences to the families, friends and colleagues of Brandon James Gedge, 20, and Dae Jin Hwang, 27, and have also paid tribute to the many staff closely involved in dealing with the aftermath.

The crash occurred just before 10am in airspace south of Palmerston North designated for training, where it appears that two Piper Cherokee aircraft collided. A Civil Aviation Authority inquiry is underway.

Both Mr Gedge and Mr Hwang were licensed pilots, highly-regarded, excellent and committed students. They had significant portions of their Bachelor of Aviation (Air Transport Pilot) degrees.

In a message sent to all staff soon afterwards, the Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear, expressed her sympathy to those close to the victims and said the University would be offering counselling services to all who required them.

That offer was extended beyond the University, with School of Aviation general manager Captain Ashok Poduval personally making contact with the victims' families, from Tauranga and Henderson, Auckland, the day of the crash.

As soon as news of the crash broke, Aviation School staff and students gathered at the school's flight centre at Milson Airport, and were joined by University counsellors accompanied by a chaplain.

In the days following, the parents and other family members of Mr Gedge and Mr Hwang travelled to Palmerston North, met Captain Poduval and other staff and students, and visited the crash site.

Arrangements were made by the University for staff and students to attend the funerals of both young men, held in their home towns on Wednesday and Thursday last week.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Warrington, whose responsibilities include the Palmerston North campuses, paid tribute to the efforts made by everyone involved in supporting the students, friends and colleagues affected.

I'm very proud of the support services that are in place in the University and the immediate and extremely professional responses those staff provided to those in need, Professor Warrington said.

The Regional Registrar responsible for student services Dr Sandi Shillington also thanked her staff who so quickly mobilised to offer their care and assistance, then maintained that support in the days after as the grieving process continued. With the consent of the families, it is intended to hold a memorial service in Palmerston North at an appropriate time.

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Explore - Aviation

Stick insects

The enigmatic stick insect, of which New Zealand has 21 formal species, is the star of an educational book written by Drs Steven Trewick and Mary Morgan-Richards.

Stick Insects is the latest book in New Zealand Wild series published by Reed Publishing Ltd. At 32 pages, with a glossary of scientific terms and featuring photographs taken by the authors, it is suitable for both young readers and adults keen to learn about the species.

Sections and boxed highlight include those on: stick insects in Maoridom; New Zealand stick insects overseas; how to keep insects as pets; methods of basic scientific observation of the species, and the conservation of stick insects.

Researchers in the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution. Drs Trewick and Morgan-Richards recently published papers investigating the hybrid origins of the *Acanthoxyla* stick insect species.

The pair collected insects from all over New Zealand with a focus on the *Acanthoxyla*, which Dr Morgan-Richardson says is significant in that it exhibits a degree of morphological diversity not evident in any other parthenogenetic genera. In the laboratory, they applied the techniques of cytogenetics and the sequencing of nuclear and mitochondrial DNA to identify the origin of the species' morphological diversity. They suggest for the first time that this group has a hybrid origin; two sexual species mated to produce a new lineage. This new lineage, *Acanthoxyla* has eight species but no males, reproducing solely via parthenogenesis.

Visit <http://www.reed.co.nz> for details for distribution and price of the book.

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: Book; College of Sciences

New Head for school

Associate Professor Peter Lineham is the new head of the School of Social and Cultural Studies. The school is based on the Auckland campus within the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

The school has 27 academic staff (including three professors and five associate professors) and the highest PBRF count in the University, says Dr Lineham.

Peter Lineham came to the University in Palmerston North in 1979 where he started out as an assistant lecturer in history. He transferred to Albany in 1998 and he is Associate Professor of History. His major area of research is Religious History and he has become a high profile commentator on religious issues.

The school was formerly headed by Associate Professor Mike O'Brien who has stepped back into his previous role of teaching Social Work and Social Policy.

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Australasian urban history under conference

Issues of heritage and conservation, case studies of urban planning for cities and suburbs, and a focus on marine aquaculture and maritime planning are some of the subjects of a conference in Wellington this week.

Hosted by the School of People, Environment and Planning, the 8th Australasian Urban History/Planning History Conference commences on 9 February.

Conference organiser and senior lecturer Dr Caroline Miller will present recent research alongside other researchers in the School.

She says the conference has attracted a diversity of delegates and broad range of subjects from New Zealand and Australia.

From Monash University in Melbourne, Distinguished Professor Graeme Davison will give the opening keynote address titled *The Suburbs of Europe? Towards a Vision of the Australian City*.

From there, the first day of the conference moves to research presentations focused on the history of planning and urban beautification, and theories behind heritage and planning.

Dr Miller will give a presentation titled *Did the city beautiful movement exist in New Zealand? A preliminary conclusion*.

In the afternoon session, Head of the School Professor Michael Roche will present an historical case study of the Milson railway settlement in Palmerston North.

Dr Astrid Baker from the Department of Management will give a presentation on influential industrial builder Sir James Fletcher's contribution to the first Labour government's efforts to build employment and industry in the 1930s and '40s.

On 10 February, Dr Miller and Dr Jo Rosier will present a paper on the history of maritime planning in New Zealand from 1977-1985, in a session also featuring presentations from researchers at the universities of Auckland and Waikato.

In the afternoon Dr Malcolm McKinnon from the Historic Publications Branch of the Ministry of Culture and Heritage will present an overview of Wellington planning and design over 165 years.

The third and final day of the conference features sessions building on heritage issues and planning history, and others on urban governance, the situation of suburbs and transport and public utilities.

PhD student John Annabell will present a case study of reclamation and development in Napier south, and Dr James Watson, Head of the School of History, Philosophy and Politics, will present the research on the role of recreation to public transport in Christchurch from 1878 to 1930.

Created: 7 February, 2006

Date: 20/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Conference/Seminar



Auckland: University staff participate in an Orientation kava ceremony.

Students welcomed across all campuses

Across the campuses, the University and the students' associations welcomed new and returning students with a variety of events and activities. The Let's Get Going Programme in Palmerston North provided first-year students with practical workshops and orientation tours. The week-long programme wrapped up with a commencement dinner ceremony attended by senior University staff, students and their families.

Throughout the first week students had the opportunity to join clubs hosted by the students' associations, from a range including sports, performance and cultural groups. Bands and performances lined up throughout the orientation week attracted good turnouts of students keen to see some of the best acts in New Zealand, such as Kora and Concord Dawn.



Pirates invaded Wellington campus for Arriorientation to welcome students aboard the good ship Massey.



Palmerston North: Clubs Day hit full swing in the Oval.

Date: 21/03/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Auckland; Orientation; Palmerston North; Wellington



Kate Lewis hands the ball to young entrepreneur Mario Wynands, Managing Director of Wellington-based game company Sidhe Interactive.

Our economic future in the hands of generation ?

Young entrepreneurs will be more essential to New Zealand's economic success than the baby boomers but by comparison relatively little is known or written about them.

Kate Lewis, a research associate with the University's Centre for Small and Medium Enterprise Research is helping to fill that gap.

She presented some of her findings at the centre's annual symposium in Wellington last week, noting there is much more work to be done, including completing her own PhD thesis on youth entrepreneurship.

Ms Lewis's research to date includes interviews and the shaping of profiles on a selected group of young entrepreneurs, with the aim of better understanding the experiences and factors that have shaped their decisions and successes.

She says there is growing interest in the group, that it has increased visibility and, arguably, that there is easier entry. However, she says there are vast gaps in the knowledge.

Some of the results of her interviews clearly surprised members of the audience at the symposium, held in the Museum Building on the Wellington campus on 21 February.

Among the findings:

- Most young entrepreneurs put autonomy ahead of profit as the big motivator and as providing the most satisfaction. The flipside, however, was a lack of money and a lack of 'life'.
- Money was discussed only in peripheral terms or as a by-product of achieving another objective.
- All had goals with an international focus.
- All of the firms studied were self-funded for start-up. None of them had a business loan. Sources of the self-funding included savings, parents, mortgage extensions and credit cards.
- After finance, the biggest barrier to success (according to nearly half the group) was the impact of negative perceptions about their age.

In many cases there were deliberate attempts to look older (on paper and in person) and many avoided 'in-person' situations.

- The biggest assets were described as personal networks, especially those comprising other, young self-employed people.
- Six started up alone. The same number started a firm with friends; in all cases, these friendships deteriorated as the firms grew older. Reasons cited included theft, different work ethics, and living and working together.
- Business mentors were used informally and there was a relatively high awareness of publicly funded assistance.

The interviews were conducted with young entrepreneurs running 17 firms, in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Hamilton and Rotorua. They employed from one to 32 people and represented a variety of industries although half were IT oriented.

In her conclusions Ms Lewis says exploratory work such as hers suggests there are sufficient differences

between young and older entrepreneurs to merit further study. There is merit in focusing on the young as a separate group, she says.

Her paper also proposes a set of new ways of conceptualising the entrepreneurial experience.

Created: 1 April, 2008

Date: 21/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Volcano troubleshooting in Vanuatu

When eruptions began on the Vanuatu island of Ambae in November Dr Károly Németh from the Institute of Natural Resources was on his way to the centre of the action. He records his experiences for Massey News.

In March last year I started a science and technology post-doctoral fellowship with institute director Dr Shane Cronin.

It has the seemingly-obscure aim to study explosive volcanism in South-west Pacific, especially the example of the Vanuatu volcanic arc.

Mafic refers to a primitive type of magma, which usually comes directly from a very deep source and is generally rich in iron and magnesium.

From the first moment arriving at the islands of Vanuatu I was immediately captivated by the Pacific rhythm of life. I was also unprepared for a series of surprises in my field of volcanic explosive processes.

I never imagined that Vanuatu would treat me so well, in that almost every trip since March has brought new discoveries that take me closer to my 10-year quest to understand ocean-island volcanism.

Field studies on the islands of Ambrym and Tongoa highlighted that many well-published theories of the volcanic history in this area were in dire need of revision.

These hypotheses, which had been accepted as fact, have dominated the assessment and planning for volcanic hazards in the south-west Pacific for more than 15 years, but it now appears most were incorrect interpretations.

Hence my project has taken on a new impetus to establish a full and rigorous collation of volcanic history from the area, to de-mystify the events described in colourful and deeply-rooted legends in the area.

One of these includes the story of Kuwae, an island destroyed during a huge volcanic cataclysm which legend says was brought on by the vengeance of a powerful young man.

These may be local stories, but past geological work has given them global importance, since the eruptions are inferred to have generated world-wide impacts on climate, and are used in global volcanic output assessments as well as type-examples of giant explosive processes.

Our work casts serious doubt over the size of the Kuwae eruption, previously recorded as one of the 10 largest events in the past millennium, and its impact on the Earth's climate.

I am no stranger to active volcanism, having worked on eruptions in Italy, Mexico, Chile and Argentina, but each time I return to Vanuatu the volcanoes have shown how alive they really are.

In April, I arrived in the middle of a large ongoing gas eruption of Ambrym, where extensive acid rains were destroying the local gardens.

In July, only one day after arrival I was bundled into a small plane with my Massey colleagues to observe in unbelievable detail an explosion and ash cloud from the same volcano. The weather was so good at this time that we could deviate to Ambae volcano, where we saw ominous stirrings in the up-welling of sulphur and gas in its surrealistically grey/blue coloured acid lake.

The last major event from Ambae was in 1870 when explosions through the lake caused volcanic floods and mudflows, destroying villages in the valleys. It's widely regarded as the most dangerous volcano in Vanuatu because of this crater lake. Hence Massey research led by Dr Cronin has helped local emergency management authorities and geologists establish volcanic warning systems, hazard maps and emergency management plans at community and province level.

During the annual Geological Society conference at Kaikoura in November we received an urgent call from the Vanuatu Government: Ambae was going up.

A day later I was on Ambae, equipped with a satellite phone, a variety of sampling devices and a seismometer, and spent five hours trekking through mud and dense rainforest to the 1440m summit.

Before me was a scene akin to Dante's inferno. Spectacular black jets of wet tephra rapidly burst and expanded from below the surface of the lake. The black rocks become enshrouded in white steam as they fell back into the water.

Large blocks of rock and lake sediment were being thrown up to 300m above the vent, and a small island of debris was forming around it. A giant steam and ash cloud rose several thousand metres into the sky.

Back down to the densely inhabited lower slopes of the island, around 4000 people had been relocated to parts of the island protected from the likely impact of lahars.

Some had also travelled to the nearby islands of Pentecost or Maewo. Vanuatu Mobile Force boats brought food and water while the Red Cross and other humanitarian organisations were making huge efforts to support people who had been moved from their homes to temporary accommodation.

The process went smoothly, mostly because of the calmness of the Vanuatu people, and perhaps due to the well-structured local society.

I spent the next few days observing activity, collecting samples and monitoring seismic stations along with scientists from the Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences. Since the Massey team are the only non-Vanuatu volcanologists working up there that have made the effort to learn the language 'Bislama', I was also heavily involved in giving advice and reassurance to the local residents in many community meetings.

Using the satellite phone, I was able to call Dr Cronin at Massey several times a day. He collated all eruption reports and provided regular email and phone updates and advice to authorities in Port Vila.

During this first week of the eruption, this was the only way in which information was getting out of the island. Most local phone lines were not operating. Flying back from Ambae a week later, I was treated to further amazing views of the growing island and eruptions in the lake.

The eruptions on Ambae ceased gradually in the first week of January. The new island in the lake of Ambae has reached a cone size of about 500m across and 70m high. Later this month we plan a new expedition to land on the new island, make observations and collect samples.

These past weeks have definitely been one of the highlights of my career in volcanology.

Date: 24/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Tribute to a former leader, and life-long friend

A new publication in tribute to former Massey Principal, and Vice-Chancellor, Sir Alan Stewart was launched at the Palmerston North campus late last month.

Edited by University Archivist Lucy Marsden, the collection of tributes and reminiscences from Sir Alan's friends and colleagues, was commissioned by current Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear.

In a ceremony held at Wharerata, Professor Kinnear recalled the contribution Sir Alan made to life at the University and presented the publication to friends, colleagues and family.

Lady Stewart then spoke, and in a tribute from her late husband, and a gesture cementing a life-long association with Massey, gifted Sir Alan's medals to the University, including his military awards, his CBE Badge and Ribbon, and his knighthood KBE Star.

Sir Alan (knighted 1981) was Principal of the Agricultural College 1959-1963, and Vice-Chancellor of the University from 1964 - 1983.

As Vice-Chancellor, he led the University through a period of enormous development and growth, both in the range of subjects taught and the physical development of the campus.

He was also a student at Massey Agricultural college, gaining an MAgSc and Rhodes scholarship. Sir Alan died in September 2004.

From left: Lady Stewart, Professor Judith Kinnear, and Lucy Marsden view a tribute to the late Sir Alan Stewart, whose medals were gifted to the University.



Date: 26/03/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Book

Delivering sweet advice on nutrition

Fruit's health benefits far out-weigh any risks associated with sugar content, says Suzi Penny, a nutritional biochemist at the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health.

Consumers have been receiving confusing messages about sugar recently, she says. On one hand, we are told to eat more fruit and less sugar. Then we are told that some fruit, especially fruit juices, can contain high levels of sugar.

The problem occurs when we eat more sugar than our body requires because sugar provides energy, or kilojoules, she says. Our bodies turn excess sugar into fat, increasing the risk of weight-related problems such as heart disease and type-2 diabetes.

When considering sugar in your diet you must look at what nutrients come with it, the amount consumed, and how active the person is.

For example, 250ml of orange juice contains 25g of sugar, which is around five teaspoons. This is about the same sugar content as a popular soft drink. But orange juice comes with nutrients our bodies need such as vitamin C and cancer-protecting bioflavonoids, so it is a better choice.

She says B vitamins are needed to release the energy from sugar in a form our bodies can use. Good sources are wholegrain cereals, legumes as well as animal-derived foods.

Suzi Penny is dubious of health claims relating to foods which come with high levels of sugar. Some breakfast cereals designed to appeal to children claim to be healthy because they contain low amounts of fat, but they have high levels of sugar either added or from the dried fruit. That's why they provide lots of energy. Nutritionally, they are really a form of confectionary.

Ms Penny says it is easy to consume too much sugar in processed foods. It would be hard to eat three or four apples in one meal, but easy to consume the same amount of sugar if you are drinking fruit juice or eating a sugary breakfast cereal.

A 'no added sugar' statement on a label does not necessarily mean no sugar, because the product may still contain a lot of sugar naturally present.

Sugar by itself provides energy, but nothing else the body needs. This is why it is sometimes termed 'empty calories'.

Recent research has also highlighted the importance of glycemic index (GI) and glycemic load, which is a measure of how much blood sugar levels are raised after consumption. Generally a rapid and high rise in blood glucose is undesirable. Conversely, fruits and vegetables have a low GI, and raise blood glucose levels slowly.

Under draft Food Standards Australia New Zealand rules, anything with a sugar level above 16 grams per serving, which includes apples, pears and most stonefruit, cannot be marketed as healthy.

Submissions on the draft are open until March 31, and the standard will be finalised by the end of the year. (picture: Suzi Penny in lab coat holding fruit and fruit juice at supermarket)

Sugar, fat and dietary fibre content of selected foods as a percentage of weight

	percent sugar	percent fat	percent dietary fibre
wheat biscuits	2.8	1.3	11
corn flakes	7.9	0.2	2.6
rice bubbles	9	0.3	1.1
cocoa pops	36.5	0.3	1.2
muesli	51	0.5	11.3
honey snaps	57	1.7	5.3

orange juice	11	0	1.8
apple	13	0	2.3
banana	17	0	2.7

Created: 26 March, 2008

Date: 26/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Focusing on needs is future for education

Speaking at the recent Association of University Staff annual conference, along with University of Canterbury Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Sharp, on the future of education in New Zealand, Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear said the current volume-driven funding fails to deliver value or to address national and regional economic goals.

She said in the future courses too would reflect national requirements. Universities would still be involved in programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate level and would continue to engage with industry and the professions to meet short-term needs.

A trend towards mature enrolment would continue as universities met the need for life-long learning with a significant proportion of mature-age students studying on a part-time basis.

A further advent would be institutions avoiding unnecessary duplication of facilities. Although universities should not be restricted to any particular role, institutions could overcome the desire to invest in expensive infrastructure to keep up with competitors.

The future would also see enhanced co-operation across institutions as in the CoRE model a model that encourages research without challenging institutional autonomy.

And on modes of delivery, Professor Kinnear said while on-campus learning would continue to be important, distance and flexible learning alternatives would become increasingly important for mature learners.

It is vital not to lose sight of the goal of a high level of tertiary education access in the context of the current emphasis on quality and relevance, she said.

Date: 27/03/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any



Marine designers to set sail for Italy

A team of Massey designers will take its place with the best when the International Symposium on Marine Design opens in Italy in April.

Presenting papers at the conference in La Spezia in April is a significant step for the Massey representatives who have driven the fledgling marine transport design course at Albany to success.

Contemporary marine design, be it for a modern yacht, a cruise ship or a passenger ferry, now recognises the contribution of both engineering skill and the style and form contributed by design expertise.

The international symposium is the initiative of the London-based Royal Institution of Naval Architects (RINA) and it brings together top names from across the contributing disciplines.

One of the Massey group presenting a paper will be one of the youngest ever to present to a RINA event. He is 21-year-old Dima Ivanov, who is in his final year of a Bachelor of Design (Transport) at the Auckland campus.

His paper gives a student's perspective on education and training for marine designers and was the only paper selected out of 16 student papers put forward from around the world.

Massey design lecturers Duncan Joiner and Bruce Woods are also presenting papers to the conference. The international event in Italy is an important opportunity for the University group, says Mr Woods who is the course leader at Albany.

Mr Woods was a key figure in establishing the course within the design school at Albany and has attracted industry support and recognition for the course and its students. Two years ago the marine transport design course was the first in the world to get formal accreditation from RINA.

The course has just produced the first four graduates who have majored in marine transport design and some of their projects are now going into commercial production.

Date: 27/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Creative Arts

Massey stands by timely student offers

Acting Registrar Stuart Morris says comments from the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) that Massey had released students NCEA results prematurely were inaccurate.

Prior to notifying students that they had successfully gained entrance to Massey University, we had received advice from NZQA that universities could use the results data provided to them by NZQA to 'allocate courses to students and advise them of these decisions', which we duly did by letter.

We understood that we could not discuss students' specific results as per the confirmation from NZQA, and we did not do that. We did, however, congratulate students on gaining entrance to the University. We acted within the guidelines agreed by the authority.

Mr Morris says NZQA also suggested that Massey was the only university that interpreted the authority's communications this way. He says this is incorrect.

Victoria, Auckland and Canterbury universities interpreted the correspondence from NZQA in the same way we did. They also sent formal offer letters to potential students before 28 February the official release date but we were first off the mark.

Our enrolment processing has been extremely efficient this year, which is a credit to the hard work done by the enrolment processing team to streamline the system to ensure enrolments are processed as quickly as possible, which improves our service to our students.

Mr Morris says it is in potential students' best interest to receive information about whether they can attend Massey in as timely a manner as possible to help them make informed decisions about their futures.

Enrolment processing and inquiries into the National and Regional Contact Centres will peak over the next two weeks as students complete their applications to study for 2006.

National Contact Centre Manager Tina Hilliam says the three weeks before Semester One begins are the busiest of the year as students enrol, ask about the progress of their application or seek course advice. She says there have been fewer contacts so far in this enrolment period about difficulties in enrolling, suggesting students are happier with the service the University is providing.

Contacting students with phone calls, text messages, web chat and emails is an important part of the service Massey now provides. Contact Centre staff now routinely communicate with potential new and returning students to ask whether they have all the information they need, whether they are intending to enrol and in many cases, enrolling them over the phone at the time.

Ms Hilliam says this outreach is well-received by students who appreciate the opportunity to ask questions or to confirm enrolment information.

Date: 27/03/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any





Battling disease through mathematics

Mick Roberts, Professor in Mathematical Biology, is in the thick of the world's weaponry in the battle against the new breed of diseases including SARS, HIV and Bird Flu.

An expert on modelling the epidemiology of infectious diseases, he used mathematics to work out how they might spread and to develop strategies for control.

His latest project, in collaboration with Oxford University researchers, is to advance understanding of the evolution of HIV within each host and as it is passed on.

He is now working to develop a mathematical model on the interaction between evolution and transmission of HIV.

Professor Roberts has recently returned from a fellowship at Oxford University where he was working alongside the Director of the University's Institute for Emergent Infection of Humans, Professor Angela McLean.

The modelling approach to the evolution of HIV is new and has been presented this month by Professor Roberts to applied mathematicians at their recent Australasian conference.

Professor Roberts is a member of the team informing the Ministry of Health for strategy if Bird Flu reaches New Zealand.

Date: 27/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Campus development a priority

The development of campus facilities is a high priority for Wellington campus' new Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Andrea McIlroy.

We are aligning our facilities with the campus academic development plan, she says. Over the last six years our campus has been building a reputation for offering excellent niche programmes in teaching and research. Our facilities development is an important component of this.

Professor McIlroy, who took up the role on 30 January, was formerly Head of Department of Management and Enterprise Development in the College of Business at Wellington.

Her research interests include equity issues in the IT sector, management development, and the governance and management of community projects. She has extensive experience in university management and administration.

Professor McIlroy started her career as a speech therapist, studying at the Palmerston North and Christchurch Colleges of Education, and at Victoria University, before completing her MBA and PhD at Massey University.

She was Manager, Regional Services at the Centre for University Extramural Studies, delivering outreach services to extramural students, before moving to an academic position in the College of Business. In 2000 she transferred to the Wellington campus.

She says she's excited about new programmes being offered in Wellington this year. The School of Engineering and Technology launches the Bachelor of Engineering degree with majors in: Mechatronics, Multimedia Systems Engineering, and Software Engineering while the College of Business has new BBS majors in International Business and Finance.

Short courses aimed at professionals are also being introduced this year. These include one-day courses in E-Business, Sports Management and Coaching, Small Business Management, and Health and Safety Compliance. Two-day courses are being offered in Entrepreneurship and Small Business, Accounting for Managers, Applied Project Management, and Applied Risk Management.

Our new Executive Seminar Suite in Block 5 provides state-of-the-art teaching facilities for these short courses as well as for block courses and postgraduate seminars, says Professor McIlroy.

Other plans include working to improve public transport links, and cataloguing and displaying the campus art collection.

She says she will miss her role as an active researcher in the College of Business. With Drs Barbara Crump and Keri Logan, and Mary Day she carried out a series of studies on the Smart Newtown Project, which provides free community Internet access and computing classes.

My new job is a challenge I welcome. Wellington campus has a lot going for it its staff, students, programmes and location. Our vision is to be a centre of creativity in teaching and research, and a source of well educated and creative graduates in all disciplines.

Created: 27 March, 2008

Date: 27/03/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Wellington





Academic year kicks off in style

A significant investment in student facilities and services in Palmerston North and Auckland is ready for the year's intake of new and returning students.

With only a week to go until Semester One begins, staff across the campuses are preparing for lectures and facilities are being finished in time for 27 February.

The Massey Community group in Palmerston North is preparing to welcome hundreds of new students to the just completed halls.

It's always busy at this time of year, but this is a particularly exciting time for the group, with the opening of brand new facilities which we're very proud of, says Palmerston North Community Manager Rowan Hegglun.

The University is committed to providing the best campus experience for all students, and feedback to the new halls has been very positive.

The central halls in the Turitea Community are located right in the heart of the campus, near lecture theatres and the bus stop. They cater largely for the school leaver age group and are equipped with 208 beds and all new modern amenities.

We've designed the halls to be as energy efficient as possible, says Physical Resources Manager, Barry Allport. The Turitea Community has been designed to best capture the sun, is efficient on heating, and equipped with sound insulation.

Landscaping provides shading for larger common areas, and each room is serviced with internet capabilities. Student common rooms are also equipped with plasma screen televisions and Sky TV.

Deputy Vice Chancellor, Professor Ian Warrington believes that students who are treated well will reciprocate by treating the facilities that they're provided with well.

These lovely new facilities have been constructed with those ideals in mind. Today's students moving into Tawa, Miro, Totorā and Matai are living in a very different world than their predecessors and the design and indeed sophistication of these new Halls reflects that changed world.

At Albany, students will arrive to a new \$9million state of the art teaching block with three state-of-the-art lecture theatres. They are adjacent and are 300, 200 and 100 seaters. Walls can be removed to combine the capacity into one very large theatre.

There is also an increase in orientation activity this year. Notably Albany's first ever Commencement Dinner on 20 February to be attended by many staff and all new students are invited to attend.

The Graduate School of Business at the Auckland campus is also launching a suite of 50 short courses this year. They are designed to appeal to a wide range of professionals, people in small to medium business and to individuals of all ages in management. These courses are a new initiative for the Auckland campus and they will break new ground in the North Shore/Rodney region in this style of targeted, sophisticated education.

At Wellington, students will return to freshly painted buildings on the Wallace Street side of campus, a new facility for the Bachelor of Engineering, launched on the campus this year, and Tussock completed last year and already a well used meeting place for staff and students.

Regional Registrar Client Services Prue Ashford says improved communication with students is a focus for this year. We've installed 12 computer kiosks across campus so students can access their email and the web from where ever they are. We're also trialling plasma information screens in key areas as a way of conveying information to students. They'll be tested during orientation and induction when they will show what's happening and when.

Mrs Ashford says the usual range of orientation and induction activities will be taking place over the next couple of weeks, including college and campus tours and a special welcome for international students, Study Abroad and student exchange students. The inaugural students studying the New Zealand School of Music will also be welcomed to campus.

A new Executive Seminar Suite in Block 5 will provide state-of-the-art teaching facilities for short courses at the Wellington campus as well as for block courses and postgraduate seminars.

With the completion of its Turitea Halls of Residence, and stage one of the new student centre, there is a noticeable change to the Palmerston North campus. New paved areas create a bright open space in the heart of the campus, and a new food-court is already up and running, serving a wide variety of meals throughout the day.

The redevelopment of levels one and two of the Registry building brings Student Life Services together for the first time and later in the year, a new-look student centre will house student radio, brand new student association offices, and a variety of shops at the centre of the campus.

Dr Sandi Shillington, Regional Registrar Student Life is delighted to welcome two new companies to the Palmerston North campus, who will manage both the accommodation and meal services at Massey.

The University is pleased to announce a new relationship with Campus Living and Spotless Catering, complimenting a significant investment by the University, towards meeting and exceeding the expectations of new and returning students to Palmerston North.

Campus Living will operate student accommodation at Massey's Palmerston North campus, and Residential Services Director Janet Thompson is thrilled with the new partnership.

I believe that Massey University is a great university, and I am passionate about the Palmerston North campus. Ms Thompson said.

Spotless Catering Food Services Director, John Ripplingham is equally as passionate about the Palmerston North campus and is enjoying its new facilities.

Delivering service excellence is a part of what makes Massey University special and as the new food service provider at Palmerston North, Spotless Catering is committed to enhancing campus life.

Date: 27/03/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any



Strengthening partnerships

The University hosted a delegation from Chinese Agricultural University recently, further strengthening Massey's relationship with this well-respected institution. Two Memorandums of Understanding were signed during the visit - further details of these will be included in the next issue of Massey News.



Date: 27/03/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any



Full house at the Wildlife Ward

Two North Island brown kiwi and two little blue penguins are under treatment at the University's specialist Wildlife Ward for gin-trap and dog-bite injuries respectively.

An endeavour to protect the welfare of ill and injured wildlife, and to promote the conservation of native animals, habitually sees a full house at the Wildlife Ward, based in the Institute of Veterinary and Animal Biomedical Sciences, and sponsored by Shell NZ.



All four native birds were bought in by members of the public, and, once fully recovered, will be released in the region where they were found.

Above left: Wildlife Ward veterinarian Dr Brett Gartrell treats one of the two kiwi injured by gin traps. Dr Gartrell says several kiwi are brought in each year with fractures and infections caused by the traps, set for possum, stoats and ferrets. He says the slow-breeding, flightless foraging birds are rapidly declining in numbers. It is crucial to keep traps off the ground, and to seek advice from the Department of Conservation (DOC) as to which trap is best used in a particular region.

The other kiwi has been in the Ward for six months, and, after eight operations, is mending slowly. Dr Gartrell advises against simply releasing a bird from a gin trap as they invariably suffer broken bones and fatal infection. Rather, people should contact a local vet or DOC officer, who, in turn, will contact the Ward.

Top left: Penguin close up: This penguin suffered deep puncture wounds and subsequent infection from a dog attack at Himitungi Beach in the Manawatu. Dr Gartrell says its chances of survival were at first slim, and if it hadn't been brought in it would have died.

Top right: Wildlife Ward veterinarian Dr Brett Gartrell treats one of the two kiwi with injuries caused by gin traps. Dr Gartrell says several kiwi are brought in each year with fractures and infections caused by the traps, set for possum, stoats and ferrets. He says the slow-breeding, flightless foraging birds are rapidly declining in numbers. It is crucial to keep traps off the ground, and to seek advice from the Department of Conservation (DOC) as to which trap is best used in a particular region.

Right: Swimming penguin: A salt-water pool has been set up especially for the two little blue penguin in the Ward, brought in after being attacked by dogs. Dr Gartrell says the pool is essential for the recovery of the common species found on New Zealand's coastline. The daily dips are essential for the patients' health and happiness and keep the birds' waterproof coat of tightly-packed shiny blue feathers in good condition.

Date: 27/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; School of Veterinary Science



Successful Summer School ends

Lectures and fieldwork in the Summer School programme wrapped up this week at the end of a successful third semester as staff prepare for the first semester of the 2006 academic year.

More than 5700 students enrolled in Summer School courses, with more than 230 papers - from writing for children to statistics available.

Demand has driven the diversity and number of papers on offer in the past three years, and although the bulk of papers are extramural-based, those on offer internally at the Auckland and Wellington campuses have increased.

Acting Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Nigel Long says there is no typical Summer School Massey student, with courses catering for a diverse group of people.

For some it allows them to start study early and get a head start, for others it's an opportunity to finish their programme of study faster.

It allows others to pursue a new interest. It also can fit in very nicely with people's work schedules while they have some time off during January and February and want to use it productively.

The programme allows internal students to continue their study into the third semester and many students at other universities use Summer School to pick up papers they can credit back to their own programmes.

There are also a growing number of new students for whom Summer School is their first time back at university or their first taste with the recent initiative by Massey to create a provisional entry status to allow Year 13 secondary students to start prior to receiving their final year marks.

Most of these students take foundation papers in subjects such as chemistry, maths or physics core papers for many science degrees.

Date: 27/03/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any



State of the art lectures on North Shore

A new teaching block at Albany adds a suite of the most impressive lecture theatres in the country to the University's northern campus.

The new nine million dollar building has three adjacent lecture theatres with seating for 300, 200 and 100 respectively. It is possible to use all three together which gives the capacity to deliver a lecture to over 500 people simultaneously. The teaching block has a very spacious foyer which significantly adds to the capacity of the campus for events and conferences.

Pictured: Chris Lambert (Regional Registrar, facilities) and Andrea Davies (Regional Registrar) overseeing last minute details in the completion of the building.

Date: 27/03/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Auckland

New therapy aims to alleviate suffering

Psychologists had a new opportunity for professional development with the launch of a Summer Institute in January.

The four-day Institute was aimed at psychology professionals mainly clinical psychologists working for district health boards, mental health services and in private practice.

It was a great success, says Professor Ian Evans, Head of the School of Psychology. Participants and presenters liked the new facilities of the Executive Seminar Suite, the on-campus catering and the accessibility of Wellington city.



Each year this programme brings to Wellington leading international presenters and local academic scholars, to offer an advanced educational programme, he says.

The first course focused on Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT). This is a new therapy that is changing the landscape of empirical clinical psychology, says Professor Evans. It is based on the view that most psychological suffering is caused by fusion with literal thinking and a resulting attempt to avoid private experiences.

The goal of ACT is to alleviate human suffering by accepting psychological pain and focusing on valued living, says Professor Evans. It is useful for people suffering from experiential avoidance disorders such as anxiety disorders, depression, and anger.

Presenting to the Institute were Dr Georg Eifert, from Chapman University in Orange County USA, and John Forsyth, PhD, University at Albany, New York.

The School of Psychology intends to run a Summer Institute at the Wellington campus as an annual event, with the focus of each year being a different specialisation from within the discipline of psychology.

Created: 27 March, 2008

Date: 27/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Masterclass with the wizard

Guitar wizard Slava Grigoryan will teach a masterclass at the New Zealand School of Music on 3 March at 6pm.

Director of Massey's Centre for Guitar Studies, Associate Professor Matthew Marshall says it is an honour to host Slava's masterclass. He is one of the world's most outstanding guitarists and a fine teacher who has the ability to create an instant rapport with his students. We are delighted that he is able to visit us as part of his New Zealand tour.

Mr Grigoryan was born in Kazakhstan, migrated with his family to Australia in 1981 and has since become known as the wizard of the classical guitar.



His mother was a viola player, his father a violinist and professional drummer. His father would play classical concerts in the evening, and once the concert was finished, he would go to play drums in jazz clubs until the wee hours. Slava describes the atmosphere in the house as extremely busy, full of musicians rehearsing. It was musical madness in our house.

My parents always had a hunger for listening and hearing new things and sounds ... I couldn't imagine not being influenced by that.

His debut classical album *Sonatas and Fantasies* was awarded Best Classical Album at the 2002 ARIA Awards. In 2003 his recordings with brother Leonard Grigoryan and the Australian Guitar Quartet won the 2003 Best Classical Album ARIA.

Mr Grigoryan last visited New Zealand in 2001, performing as a soloist with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra.

Massey and Victoria universities have combined the strengths of Massey's Conservatorium of Music and Victoria's School of Music to establish the New Zealand School of Music. The school houses New Zealand's leading musicians, composers and musicologists.

The masterclass at the Conservatorium Concert Hall is Slava's only appearance in Wellington. It is open to the public; \$10 at the door for adults and students free. The Conservatorium Concert Hall is located at Massey University's campus on Wallace St, via entrance C.

Mr Grigoryan tours New Zealand in association with Chamber Music New Zealand, www.chambermusic.co.nz
Recordings by Slava Grigoryan can be heard at www.slavagrigoryan.com

Created: 28 March, 2008

Date: 28/03/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Creative Arts; Exhibition/Show

Looking after man's best friend

The welfare of dogs of which there are an estimated 500 million worldwide is the subject of a book written by Professor Kevin Stafford.

The Welfare of Dogs is the fourth in an academic series published by Springer, and provides a comprehensive examination of the provision for the welfare of the species.

A senior researcher in the Institute of Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Sciences, Professor Stafford is an internationally recognised expert in canine behaviour. Horses, cats, and laboratory animals are the subjects of the first three books in this series, which consider welfare in relation to the animal's needs, concentrating on nutrition, behaviour, reproduction and the physical and social environment.

In his preface Professor Stafford introduces the canine species and its global distribution. Only a small percentage of them live as pets, while the majority live free-ranging lives in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

He says that while the physical requirements of the pet dog are comparatively easy to meet, the social and activity requirements are more difficult to define. There is also a paucity of research into the psychological status of companion dogs, and a surge of interest in their behavioural problems suggests an increase of these types of problems.

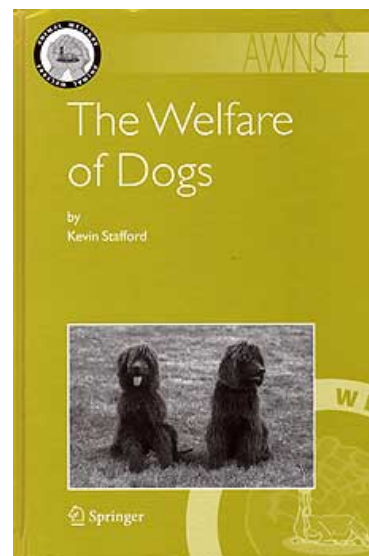
Professor Stafford says that understanding the welfare of dogs is always going to be a challenge, but physically, dogs have never had it so good in many parts of the world and their psychological needs are being addressed more now than ever before.

Details of distribution and price can be found at: www.springer.com

Date: 28/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; School of Veterinary Science





Tuatara tourism and tangata whenua

Wildlife ecologist Associate Professor Doug Armstrong has backed a proposal by a Māori tourism company to fly people to Stephens Island to see and touch tuatara.

Dr Armstrong says it is a good opportunity for tangata whenua to gain value from land in reservation.

Dr Armstrong, a wildlife ecologist at the University, says he doesn't see anything wrong with the proposal, given that the Department of Conservation is involved and the appropriate rules put in place.

It is good to see the value of our native species being recognised, as this should increase our ability to invest in their conservation, Dr Armstrong says.

A public hearing was held in Nelson yesterday (March 30) to provide a forum for debate over how close people should be allowed to get to native wildlife. A decision will be made by a Government appointee in the next two months.

Stephens Islands is northwest of Cook Strait, and home to 50,000 tuatara - 90 per cent of New Zealand's total population. Potential risks to the population, as debated by DOC, Forest and Bird Society and university academics, include the increased risk of fire, the introduction of pests and disease.

Date: 30/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Maori; School of Veterinary Science



Bond between Massey and Thailand strengthened by visit

A \$10,000 Faculty Development Fellowship for Thai university staff announced during the visit of HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand to the Palmerston North campus last week further strengthens the relationship between the University and Thailand.

One fellowship a year will be offered to faculty members of Khon Kaen, Mahasarakham, Prince of Songkla or Kasetsart Universities in Thailand, enabling them to spend six months at Massey.

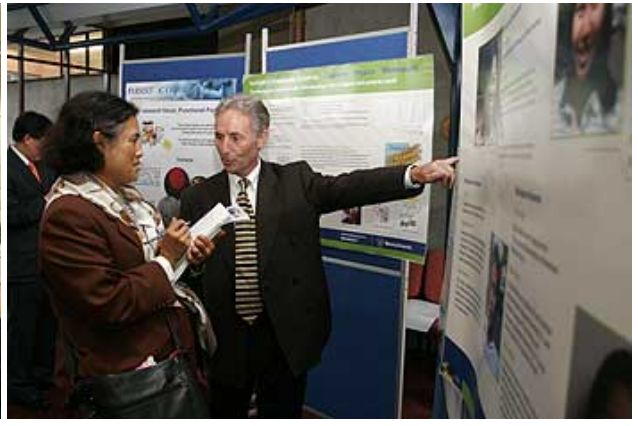
Announcing the fellowship during a luncheon for Princess Sirindhorn, Professor Robert Anderson said the fellowship was a declaration of Massey's on-going commitment to co-operation with universities in Thailand.

Princess Sirindhorn made a special request to visit Massey during her short tour of New Zealand. The University has a 40-year history of extensive interaction and productive collaboration with various universities in Thailand, primarily in the fields of Food Technology and Agricultural Science. It has numerous formal relationships with Thai universities and 65 Thai students are currently enrolled at the University. In 2002, Massey conferred an honorary doctorate of science on the Princess's father, King Bhumibol Adulyadei in recognition of his commitment to improving agricultural production in Thailand.

Princess Sirindhorn, who champions many development projects in Thailand, particularly in the agricultural sector, toured the campus' science facilities and veterinary teaching hospital. She spoke at length with University staff about their organic dairying, cut flower production, functional foods and bird flu research.

The University's Thai community took advantage of this special opportunity to see the Princess with one postgraduate student declaring being able to tell Her Royal Highness about the research she is doing in New Zealand was the highlight of her time in New Zealand.





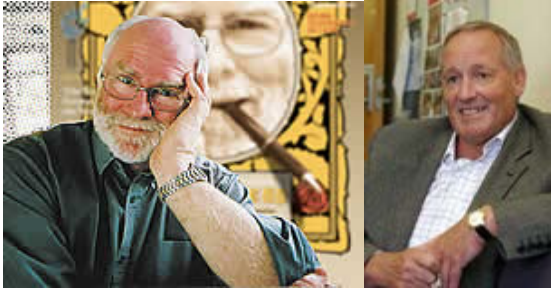


Created: 4 March, 2008

Date: 30/03/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any



Cartoonist Tom Scott & former police commissioner Rob Robinson

Alumni honoured

While both started their academic careers at Massey as vet students in the 1970s. Mr Robinson told the Dominion Post he decided not to become a vet after he had problems with physics during his intermediate year. He switched and did a BSc in animal physiology.

Mr Scott said he had his decision made for him. He was asked to leave the vet programme, finally graduating with a BSc. He had no regrets about the lost career opportunity looking after sick sheep, cows and dogs.

Mr Scott said he felt "chuffed" to be honoured by Governor-General Dame Silvia Cartwright.

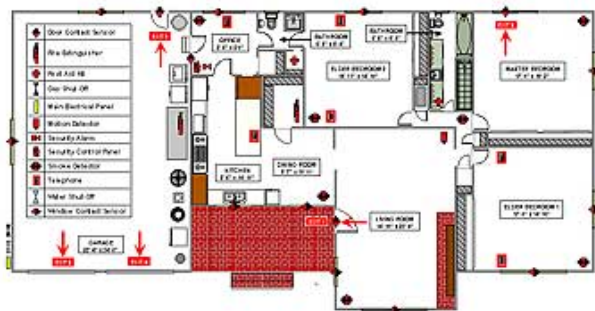
Mr Robinson said his award was a recognition for police as much as for him individually. "It's also for my family. Families make a lot of sacrifices and you can't do it without them."

Mr Robinson will feature in the next issue of *MASSEY*, due out at the end of April. Mr Scott, and *Masskerade*, the student magazine he edited, featured in *MASSEY* in 2002.

Date: 30/03/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Alumni; Graduation



An example of an eldercare facility with multiple sensors - Click on the image for a large version.

'Smart' houses for home security and elder-care

Increased life expectancy in developed countries is driving the demand for technology enabling home environments in which the elderly can live independently.

Researchers from the University's Institute of Information Sciences and Technology are collaborating with the Institute for Infocomm Research in Singapore to design and build smart-rooms .

The new technology is designed to monitor the movements of people in a house, without the use of invasive video cameras, and has applications for home-security systems and the care of the elderly.

Massey's Dr says one of the main requirements for elder-care is the provision of an independent home-life, but with on-call health provision. Essentially, this requires automated monitoring that is sophisticated enough to accurately assess distress or acute change in the client, while remaining entirely non-invasive and unobtrusive.

He says the design of human-tracking systems without cameras is a step forward for smart-room systems monitoring the elderly in their homes as part of their care. The current system they are fine-tuning allows the remote tracking of a person's movements in a house via multiple low-power sensors with the use of a photodiode acting as the 'eye' for the circuit.

The system's audio sensors detect noises such as shouts, coughs and the sound of someone falling down. Infrared sensors or carbon dioxide sensors can be used to detect motion and magnetic sensors can be used to detect the opening and closing of doors. Illumination sensors detect changes in illumination occurring when light reflects off a person as they pass a lighted surface.

Currently under trial in a laboratory environment in the Singaporean institute, the prototype system integrates the multi-modal information from the various sensors to detect events such as falling, walking, standing and shouting. The researchers plan to extend the detectors to be both audio and light sensitive, enabling the system to trigger an alarm in a central monitoring station in cases of unusual behaviour.

Date: 30/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Calculating the cost of blindness

 Watch the ONE NEWS item: [Dial-up 56k](#) or [Broadband 128k](#)

The "financial and time-cost of blindness" to approximately 11,500 visually-impaired New Zealanders has been calculated at \$60.9 million per annum, and is the tip of the iceberg says statistical researcher Dr Jonathan Godfrey.

The Cost of Blindness research, commissioned by Royal New Zealand Foundation for the Blind, calculated extra, non-optional costs incurred by the blind or vision-impaired.

Dr Godfrey, a statistical researcher at Massey, conducted an additional financial analysis of the cost of blindness of the Foundation.

"We've gone deeper into the [Cost of Blindness] research by Gravitas and Market Economics which was an enormous job of data collection. We are convinced that the costs highlighted in this research, while large, must be considered conservative and that they don't tell the whole story," Dr Godfrey says.

He says the \$60.9 million highlighted in the Cost of Blindness research as financial and time costs should be considered something like a Gross Domestic Product number the value to the economy of these people and what they spend.

It's not a measure of the "true costs of blindness," says Dr Godfrey, who is one of the few blind people in New Zealand with a PhD.

He stresses that the true costs of blindness must include:

- actual costs incurred (like those captured in the Gravitas/Market Economics research).
- costs "not incurred because you can't" (the visually-impaired are often isolated because going out is simply too hard, and may involve asking for help from others).
- costs you don't incur because you must organise your life differently (like not having the choice of owning a car, playing most sports, frequently going shopping or to the pub with mates).
- opportunity costs (having lower educational opportunities and earning potential means countless opportunities easily available to sighted people are not available, certainly not 'easily' available, to blind and vision-impaired people).
- life choices (feeling pressured to live in a major city and near public transport, or staying home and not spending money because going out is just too hard).

"If you are forced to live on, say, \$10,000 a year due to your blindness, that's not a decision you have taken. Your income level, and the things you cannot buy or do or experience, are absolutely part of the 'true' costs of blindness. The 'true' costs of blindness are not solely what you spend because you are blind. It's also what you cannot spend because you lack the financial resources or the ability to engage in society," Dr Godfrey says.

"We estimate that 66 per cent of Foundation members want to use taxis, but that only 55 per cent of members currently do incur a personal cost for them. That's just using the information from people that do recognise their taxi use is limited. How do we really find out who isn't using taxis to meet all their needs?"

More information about the study can be found at:

<http://www.rnzfb.org.nz/newsandevents/mediareleases/costofblindness>

Created: 24 March, 2006

Date: 30/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business; Explore - HEALTH; Video Multimedia



Sporty academics, from left: David Hughes, Stephanie Hamblyn, Liam Napier, Louis Booth, Mollie Fitzgibbon, Blair Landers, Max Pearson, Natalie Thomson, Richard Munn, Ben Sutton-Davis.

Sports academy launched for future stars

The Massey Academy of Sport was launched today with nine first-year students presented with sport bursaries and one awarded the Prime Minister's Scholarship.

The 10 students are all proven athletes, including age- grade national champions and competitors at international level.

To help them balance the requirements to achieve academically as well in their chosen sport, the academy will provide free access to personal trainers, recreations centre facilities, high-performance laboratory testing, nutritional advice, academic advisors and physiotherapy.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Warrington said the challenge of finding a balance between academic and sporting achievement was the reason for the programme.

I personally hold the status of sportspeople on this campus very, very highly, Professor Warrington told the bursary and scholarship recipients at the launch. You're amazing people. We value your presence at Massey and are seeking to support you to achieve in both your sporting and academic endeavours. Please let those in the Academy know where they can help you and use those other services in the University to assist you to achieve.

Former Black Fern women's rugby captain and Massey lecturer Dr Farah Palmer told the students the strategies they applied to success in sport could equally be applied to succeed in their studies.

University provided a much more flexible timetable than regular workplaces for training and competition. It also taught leadership, communication and management skills that could be applied to all sports.

Treat your lecturers like you would your coaches, Dr Palmer advised, They're there to give you the skills you need to succeed.

The bursary recipients are: Louis Booth (rugby) who is studying for a Bachelor of Technology (product development), Mollie Fitzgibbon (hockey, Bachelor Food Technology), David Hughes (rugby, Bachelor of

Sport and Exercise), Blair Landers (squash, Bachelor of Veterinary Science), Richard Munn (hockey, BVSc), Liam Napier (rugby, Bachelor of Communication), Max Pearson (rugby, BSpEx), Benjamin Sutton-Davis (athletics, Bachelor of Business Studies), and Natalie Thomson (equestrian, BVSc).

The scholarship recipient is Stephanie Hamblyn (barefoot water-skiing, BSpEx).

Created: 15 march 2006

Date: 30/03/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments



Massey social scientist Dr Neil Lunt, with his daughter Trinity.

New Zealand families truly global

New Zealanders and their families are scattered far across the world. A new study reports that around one in five people living in New Zealand were not born here and around 20 percent of people born here are believed to be living overseas.

When family ties cross national boundaries, it creates many social and economic issues for today's growing group of transnational families. Massey University researcher Dr Neil Lunt says the many issues faced by transnational families will not disappear and need to be addressed by social policy.

The study, *Families et Whānau sans Frontières New Zealand and Trans-national Family Obligation*, was carried out by a team of Massey researchers, lead by Dr Lunt at the University's Albany based School of Social and Cultural Studies. It was commissioned by the Families Commission Blue Skies Fund which provides grants for innovative research on family issues.

The study shows how the ethnicity of New Zealand's population has changed over the years, with a growing number of migrants from Asia, the Middle East, sub Saharan Africa and more New Zealand born people with a Pacific heritage. In a little over 15 years it is estimated there will be a million people living in New Zealand who are of Pacific or Asian ethnicity.

It is more difficult to gather data on the members of New Zealand families who live in other countries but have family ties back home, says Dr Lunt. He says it could be argued that given its location and history, New Zealand provides abundant examples of transnational families.

The study explores the financial and emotional flows across these family ties, the acceptance of obligations, ways of caring, binding and maintaining family relationships.

Many transnational families are grappling with issues that arise because they are so widely scattered, causing ongoing stresses throughout the lifetime of family members. The stresses they are all likely to be facing at some time include isolation and lack of family support, parenting alone, difficulties related to eldercare and to eligibility for social welfare support and services.

The cost of international travel to visit or in the case of family emergency, is an ongoing pressure on the budgets of many members of transnational families. Most of us have friends and colleagues who have close family members parents, siblings, children living far away, says Dr Lunt.

Social policy has traditionally approached problems and developed responses within the confines of the nation state, says Dr Lunt.

Significant economic, social and political changes occurring at the global level are challenging this national focus. These developments transcend national boundaries and emphasize movement and mobility of peoples, products, capital and ideas, he says.

The study, says Dr Lunt, is expected to contribute to the development of future social policy.

Families Commission Chief Commissioner Rajen Prasad, says the study provides valuable insights and makes it clear that the needs of a growing proportion of the population should be reflected in government policies and services.

This paper highlights some important policy issues involving immigration, pensions, social security eligibility and social supports. But we also need much more information on which to base long term planning and policy, he said.

The Massey team has made a submission to Statistics New Zealand's General Social Survey Preliminary Consultation stressing the importance of including questions about trans-national family within the social survey planned for 2007.

Englishman Dr Neil Lunt is part of a transnational family. He came to New Zealand with his New Zealand born partner, Sarah, and their daughter Trinity was born here. All three have both New Zealand and British citizenship. and their daughter Trinity was born here. All three have both New Zealand and British citizenship.

Date: 30/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Jericho prison siege part of Israeli election lead-up

The siege of Jericho prison by Israel Defence Forces is a political move in the lead-up to the current Israeli election says Middle Eastern political expert Dr Nigel Parsons.

He says the siege of the Palestinian Authority (PA) prison and the abduction of Palestinian political prisoners achieves two ends for Ehud Olmert - acting Prime Minister and Ariel Sharon's political heir-designate.

First, it sends a clear message to the new Hamas administration about to take charge of the PA that Israel retains the arbitrary power to act as it pleases in the occupied territories. Second, it allows Olmert to appear tough on security and boost his poll ratings as election day approaches.

Dr Parsons says high-profile Palestinian prisoners were guarded by United States and British personnel in an arrangement to expedite their imprisonment whilst precluding a trial in Israel.

The decision by US and British prison guards to abandon their posts and their charges is a breach of commitments signed with the PA. It sends a clear message of bad faith to the Palestinian people, and will have lasting negative consequences for the operations of both countries in the West Bank and Gaza.

A lecturer in the School of History, Philosophy and Politics, Dr Parsons recently published *The Politics of the Palestinian Authority: From Oslo to al-Aqsa*. He conducted more than a decade's extensive research whilst based at Bir Zeit University in Ramallah, Palestine, and at the American University in Cairo, Egypt.

Dr Parsons conducted over 60 interviews with leading figures in the PLO and the PA, delegates to the negotiations with Israel, and the Palestinian political opposition.

Date: 30/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences



Massey athletes at Commonwealth Games

At least 15 of the University's students and alumni are representing New Zealand in the Commonwealth Games starting in Melbourne today.

Cyclists Richard Bowker, Tim Gudsell, Melissa Holt, Catherine Sell and Sarah Ulmer; hockey players Bevan Hari, Kate Mahon, Emily Naylor, Kayla Sharland and Michelle Hollands, and swimmers Moss Burmester, Alison Fitch, Dean Kent, Helen Norfolk and Scott Talbot-Cameron will be flying the national flag in the New Zealand games team.

All are either graduates or current students. Many have been acknowledged as Blues sportsmen and women of the year on the Albany and Palmerston North campuses.

The University, which runs advanced sporting programmes and today launched its Academy of Sport at the Institute of Rugby in Palmerston North, congratulates all the athletes on their selection and wishes them success and enjoyment in participation.

Created: 15 March, 2006

Date: 30/03/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Auckland; Palmerston North; Sport and recreation; Wellington

New Zealand's oldest School of Journalism turns 40 this year.

To celebrate, the School of Journalism is planning a dinner and celebrity debate at the Wellington campus on Sunday June 4, Queen's Birthday weekend.

Lecturer Alan Samson says the event is shaping up as the largest ever get-together of New Zealand journalists - and one of the year's key media events.

Over the past 40 years, the school has built up an impressive network of alumni and former staff members. We already have several hundred enrolments, just on word of mouth.

The School's alumni list includes many of the country's most respected working journalists and media managers as well as up-and-coming stars, he says.

Former students included broadcasters Judy Bailey, Kevin Milne and Kerre Woodham, senior journalism executives Don Churchill and Rick Neville, radio reporter Sean Plunket, television reporter Melanie Reid, investigative reporter Ian Wishart and comedienne Michelle A'Court.

They also include New York Times copy editor Alison McCulloch, part of a Denver Post team awarded a Pulitzer prize for its coverage of the Columbine massacre.

An impressive array of lecturers over the years includes Noel Harrison, effectively the School's founder, journalist and publisher Christine Cole-Catley, historian the late Michael King, and a younger brigade who have returned to the school from the industry, from Alistair Campbell to David Venables.

The School of Journalism opened in 1966 as part of the former Wellington Polytechnic. It became part of Massey University, following the merger of the two institutions in 1999.

Mr Samson says the reunion will be an unparalleled opportunity for alumni from both institutions to renew contact with former fellow students and colleagues,

It's also a wonderful opportunity to debate important issues affecting the media in 2006 such as privacy and freedom of speech. He says these and other key topics will be aired in the debate featuring media experts and others with a keen interest in these areas.

Alumni and former staff members can visit the reunion web page at <http://j40.massey.ac.nz>, which will include links to a gallery of memories, and a forum for debate.

Created: 15 March, 2006

Date: 30/03/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Business

Second thoughts the losers in the TradeMe sale

The private sale of TradeMe to Australian newspaper conglomerate Fairfax is an opportunity lost for New Zealand, according to Massey management lecturer Craig Prichard.

He says signs of that loss are already showing.

Dr Prichard says the sale that put \$700m into the hands of a tiny number of owners is out of line with the character of 'new economy' business. He says more creative thought should have gone into how to distribute this value before a private sale was agreed.

The opportunity's been lost for New Zealand to show how we can not only do creative things but also creatively distribute the value such work realises .

Dr Prichard says most Kiwis, himself included, would agree that Sam Morgan and fellow investors deserve a healthy return for their hard work and interest.

But the private sale figure of \$700 million now being transferred to just eleven recipients is not only unreasonable but, more importantly, problematic for New Zealand. It shows the need for New Zealanders to consider new structures for distributing the value these businesses create. This massive privatisation of value creates problems that could have been addressed more creatively.

Dr Prichard says that problems are already appearing: 'Sam Morgan noted in his comments to the Dominion Post published last Saturday that at the Trade Me office the 'atmosphere is a little uncomfortable'.

The private sale apparently leases empty-handed the 40 or so non-investor staff members who no doubt ploughed, in true Kiwi-fashion, unpaid hours and personal resources into TradeMe to cope with its tremendous growth .

He says there are two other groups who are likely to be uncomfortable. One is the TradeMe trader community and the other New Zealand, itself. Trademe is a product of community building underpinned by the huge investment by New Zealanders in internet-capable home computers and the learning to work them. We've all shouldered the cost of TradeMe to an extent that allowed them to operate with low overheads and be extremely asset-light.

'm suggesting that in future we think more about whether this kind of distribution of value really is 'a fair go' for all of those involved in creating the value that the sale realises.

Dr Prichard says the third group New Zealanders as a whole - may also feel a little uncomfortable with the way things have turned out.

New Zealand is extraordinary because of the extraordinary number and density of simple economic activities whose economic value is sucked offshore. A TradeMe transaction can now be added to that list.

Dr Prichard says there are a number of creative options for dealing with the distribution of value from new economy firms. One might have been some kind of preferential nominally priced block shareholdings for staff and traders as part of a public offering. This would recognize the contribution and on-going support of these groups and allow Morgan and his colleagues the out they were looking for.

He also cites the example of Fonterra which adopted a cooperative ownership structure. This helped the users of the business to collectively share the risk and returns of doing what they all needed to do get their produce from farm gate to customers.

In a sense Trade Me is a modern day equivalent. It is an indispensable cooperative device that users require to make a casual sale/purchase or to realise an income. Before Trade Me these small businesses were like the lonely farmers on the backblocks of New Zealand. Trade Me helps enormously to put their goods of small businesses in front of a lot of potential customers.

Dr Prichard says the Trade Me sale is now history. But perhaps the next new economy business might recognise creatively the contribution of the community that created the value upon which it trades, and find a way to return some of it those involved in producing it - not simply to the small number claiming the formal role of owner.'

Date: 30/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business



Governor-General impressed with campus heart and soul

The upgrade of the Registry building's first and second levels is part of series of improvements of the campus, making it more vibrant and student-friendly.

Dame Silvia, accompanied by her husband Peter Cartwright, cut a ribbon from the doors and unveiled a plaque inside to applause from large group of invited guests and staff.

The former High Court judge recalled her own student days at Otago University, and said the experience, particularly for first-years could be daunting as well as exciting.

That made it important that students were supported and she praised Massey for recognising that and putting great emphasis on providing a total education experience and its exceptional student services.

This project is important because it is so much more than bricks and mortar. In a very real sense, this building will be a friend to many students for years to come. She said Massey had always struck her as a university with a heart and a soul.

It is able to attract students from right around New Zealand , and it grows steadily, despite having a relatively small immediate catchment area.

Massey University has fostered a certain character, a persona that students are drawn to. Projects such as the Student Services building show that this University is passionate about people.

And that's a worthy passion. Because, ultimately, education is all about people.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear told guests of the history of the Registry building, first identified as a requirement more than 40 years ago when it was anticipated the University would need to cope with total enrolments of 2669.

By the time it was built, in 1975 enrolments were closer to 5000 and today the University has about 18,500 students from more than 80 countries across its three campuses as well as 19,000 extramural students.

The heart of this campus is the Concourse and in the past two years, work has been completed or is underway on the four boundaries of the Concourse,' Professor Kinnear said.

The Library renovations and the creation of an Information Commons opened in February 2005, the new dining facilities and lounges recently completed in the Student Centre Building, and the ongoing work in that building that will bring to the Concourse a range of commercial services for the campus community.

Other improvements included landscaping and seating in front of the Science Towers.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Warrington paid tribute to the architects, project advisers, quantity surveyers, contractors, subcontractors and all the staff involved in the project.

The Student Life Services Centre includes a medical centre, information centre, financial services, careers office, accommodation adviser, disability supports services, international student support office and student counselling services.

Date: 30/03/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Palmerston North; Services

Re-thinking the free radical

They have a reputation as damaging chemicals to be fought with anti-oxidants, but free radicals are naturally-produced by microbes, plants, and animals for good reasons.

Dr Aiko Tanaka, a molecular geneticist under the supervision of Professor Barry Scott in the Institute of Molecular BioSciences, has found that free radicals play a key role in maintaining symbiotic relationships between microbes and plants.

An inevitable by-product of aerobic respiration, free radicals help to protect host organisms from pathogens. In animals the deliberate production of oxygen radicals by the immune system allows the host to destroy invading bacterial pathogens. This is an important natural mechanism for controlling disease in humans.

Professor Scott says plants also produce free radicals to kill invading bacterial and fungal pathogens. This role in defence mechanisms is well understood but Professor Scott's latest research reveals a surprising new function.

The researchers studied a mutually beneficial relationship between a fungal endophyte and perennial ryegrass. Dr Tanaka and Professor Scott 'switched off' a gene in the endophyte responsible for the production of free radicals and found that the fungus then grew unregulated, eventually taking over and killing the ryegrass.

Professor Scott says further research revealed that the production of free radicals by the fungus is triggered by communication, known as molecular signalling, from the ryegrass host. The primary purpose of the signalling is to control the growth of the fungus and maintain a symbiotic relationship.

The results of this research will be published in the leading plant science journal *The Plant Cell* and can be read online at: www.plantcell.org. Professor Scott will present these research findings later this year at a Gordon conference in New Hampshire, USA.

Date: 30/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences



Women in the news how New Zealand measures up

Women make up nearly half the news reporters in New Zealand and 70 per cent of the television news presenters - but most of what they write and read out is about men.

Results of the New Zealand leg of a five-yearly Global Media Monitoring Project, which examines the news media's representations of men and women in 76 countries, are in line with what has been found in other countries.

In New Zealand, men's sport, men's achievements, men's opinions, crimes and business ventures are what dominate the headlines and the news bulletins. Women do have one edge though: they are more likely than men to appear in a newspaper photograph.

Seventy-six countries took part in the project. On a given day (16 February 2005) researchers, including a team at Massey University, examined local news media representations of men and women, and sent their data to London. The results of this analysis (of 12,893 news stories) have been released by the World Association for Christian Communication which promotes communication for social change.

The results show that in New Zealand women are:

- 26 percent of news subjects (people who are interviewed or who the story is about), compared to 21 percent globally.
- 42 percent of news reporters (compared to 37 percent globally) and 70 percent of news presenters (53 percent globally).
- Reporters of 56 percent of newspaper stories compared to 29 percent globally.
- Less likely than average to be television news subjects, but more likely to appear in radio and newspaper stories.
- Less likely to appear in stories classified 'economy and business' (16 percent compared to 20 percent globally), but more likely than average to appear in 'politics and government' stories (24 percent compared to 14 percent).
- More likely to appear in a newspaper photograph. 23 percent of female news subjects appear in a photo, compared to 14 percent of male subjects.
- Less likely than average to be portrayed as victims (14 percent compared to a global average of 19 percent).
- More likely to appear as news subjects in stories written by female reporters. 29 percent of subjects in stories written by women are female, compared to 21 percent in stories written by men. This is a slightly stronger pattern than appears in the world average.

Dr Susan Fountaine from Massey University says the monitoring also shows that New Zealand sports news is very male dominated. For example, across the three television networks there were 29 sports news subjects just one was female. Over all media, 5 percent of news subjects in the 'celebrity, arts and sport' category of news were women, compared to 28% globally.

Just 1 percent of New Zealand stories were deemed to reinforce gender stereotypes (6 percent globally) but none were classified as challenging gender stereotypes, compared to 3 percent globally. New Zealand media are also less likely than average to highlight issues of gender equality and inequality (1 percent of stories compared to 4 percent).

"The New Zealand media have been preoccupied with the idea of political 'girlpower' in recent years, but these results confirm there is a shortage of serious gender analysis in our newspapers, on radio and on television," says Dr Fountaine

New Zealand contributed 137 stories to the global analysis, drawing from the following media outlets: TV1 (6pm news), TV3 (6pm news), Prime (5.30pm news), Newstalk ZB (8.30am news), National Radio (5pm news) and More FM (8am news), New Zealand Herald, Dominion Post, Manawatu Standard, Otago Daily Times, Waikato Times.

The media stories were coded by Susan Fountaine, Doug Ashwell, Margie Comrie and Mary Day from Massey University, Human Rights Commissioner Judy McGregor, Chris Rudd from Otago University, and volunteers Jenny Newby-Fraser and Jenny Cherian.

The New Zealand results will be released at a panel discussion on women and the media at the Palmerston North City Library on International Women's Day, Wednesday 8 March, from 12 midday to 1 p.m.

The full Global Media Monitoring Project report is available at whomakesthenews.org

Date: 30/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business; Video Multimedia

Willow browsing reduces parasites in lambs

Lambs grazed in willow-tree browse blocks carry less internal parasites, and are less affected by pasture-related conditions such as ryegrass staggers and facial eczema.

The findings are the results from a trial among weaned undrenched lambs at the University's Riverside Farm near Masterson.

The parasite burdens in lambs grazed on browse blocks with densely-planted willow were lower than those of lambs grazed on developed pasture says Professor Tom Barry.

A senior researcher in the Institute of Veterinary and Animal Biomedical Sciences, Professor Barry says parasite egg counts were monitored over the trial period from December 2004 until March 2005. The counts indicated that there were reduced rates of re-infection in the lambs given full access to the willow browse blocks.

"Furthermore, the browse blocks offer livestock a temporary haven from other pasture-related livestock disorders, such as ryegrass staggers, facial eczema and zearalenone, as in these areas they have less exposure to ryegrass and dead matter that harbour the toxins responsible for these threats during summer and early autumn," Professor Barry says.

"As farmers are suffering parasite resistance from drenching, growing willow browse blocks on unimproved areas seems to offer one useful option for resolving this problem - and others caused by dry summer pastures."

The trial, undertaken with funding from MAF's Sustainable Farming Fund (SFF), Meat & Wool New Zealand and the University, is one aspect of a larger project looking at the management of willows and poplars on farms. The project aims to develop best practice guidelines for managing well-established trees.

Three lamb groups, each of 60 weaned lambs, either grazed established willow browse blocks all the time, stayed a week in browse blocks followed by three weeks on control pasture, or grazed a pasture blend of ryegrass and white clover.

The liveweight gains and final dag scores were similar for the drenched lambs on pasture only and for undrenched lambs given full-access to the browse blocks.

Created: 8 March, 2006

Date: 30/03/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture

Winning formula for e-centre

Success in nurturing new businesses at Massey University's e-centre was recognised last night with two of its companies named as finalists in the national Telecom New Zealand Incubator Awards.

Zeald.com, headed by David Kelly, a finalist for Entrepreneur of the Year, has pioneered a new approach to generating business growth from website development, growing in just one year from six to 17 staff. It now has ten franchisees and the number of its clients has grown from 100 to 300.

Starting out in the e-centre meant we could get our offering right, Mr Kelly said. We have had to face every challenge as a new challenge, and it's been hugely important to have been able to draw on University expertise in developing our technology. It has also been terrific to be somewhere where you are surrounded by a constant flow of ideas, support and expert business back-up.

The e-centre has supported Zeald.com with business development and marketing expertise, and helped facilitate \$100,000 angel investment.

The company is now planning to export to Australia and South Africa.

CleanFlow Systems Ltd, finalists in the Hall of Fame Award, are leaders in marketing precision pipeline measuring equipment using novel closed circuit television technology. Their system allows for the inspection of underground pipelines by remote control. It is a significant advance in the maintenance of drainages systems that has been widely acclaimed by engineers the world over.

Michelle Lindsay, Project Manager with CleanFlow, said they used the resources of the e-centre not only to draw on University computational expertise but also to position their business for global sales.

CleanFlow are now selling to 17 countries worldwide, and have distribution agreements with over half of the global CCTV camera market.

Steve Corbett, e-centre's CEO, said both businesses were stand-out performers.

They have put in huge effort and deserve success.

They also show how combining new ideas with the business, marketing and research support of the University and the team at the e-centre can bring real benefits in taking new businesses to market.

The e-centre graduated three companies last year, and expects to graduate another three in 2006.

Created: 17 March, 2006

Date: 30/03/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business



Among the believers

Associate Professor Peter Lineham writes

In the space of less than a year religion has gone from being at the bottom of the social agenda to the top! It has been an astonishing rise. And all because of Brian Tamaki and the 'Enough is Enough' march, it seems.

We can give too much credit to Tamaki for this. The media loves to hate Tamaki, just because he is so black and white. It makes a colourful story! But ever since the Twin Towers, religion has been the centre of a great deal of controversy, and the recent United States election has confirmed this.

Mind you, the Destiny story is an interesting one, and I'm surprised that it took the media so long to discover it.

The most obvious aspect of the Destiny phenomenon is its place in the colourful and highly politicised world of fundamentalist Pentecostalism. Pentecostals are not a new group in New Zealand. Pentecostalism has been here since the 1920s, although from early on it was divided into three sectarian denominations. Only in the 1960s did a modern 'Charismatic' form emerge. As the mainstream Protestant churches declined, it became a form of Christianity with a powerful appeal to contemporary people, who wanted a faith which fitted modern lives. It is highly individualised and commodified, yet it is sufficiently counter-cultural to appeal to those who want to be Christians in a very secular society. It has more recently become slicker and more internationalised, using a formula of handsome pastor and glamorous pastor's wife controlling an enterprise, often based in a warehouse, and attracting younger people through loud music and simple exhortation. The Destiny churches are a split from the old Apostolic denomination, which emerged after a power vacuum in their old denomination. Splits and new movements are very common in the Protestant world.

But Destiny is in some ways very different from other Pentecostal churches. The latest Destiny stories have focused on its growing links with Ratana, its presence at Waitangi, its Legacy march down Queen Street and the title of bishop which its founder and leader, Brian Tamaki has taken. The explanation for the title of Bishop is relatively clear. Brian Tamaki has in recent years been deeply influenced by the African American religious tradition. He has spoken at the churches of the Baptist mega church leader, Eddie Long, and Eddie Long calls himself a bishop. Of course Tamaki has made himself ridiculous in the eyes of respectable middle class people who know that there is a little history behind such titles, but I don't suppose this will worry him or his followers.

The development of Destiny over the past few months has focused on political issues, with growing links with the Ratana Church cemented at Waitangi. We must recall that it is Ma-ori at heart, although not tribal Ma-ori. It trains people in Kapa haka (and performed them all too vehemently at Waitangi); it captures the hearts of many Ma-ori women, perhaps appealing particularly to detribalised Ma-ori. And it has a political agenda which places treaty issues high on the agenda.

It reminds me of the beginnings of Ratana in the 1920s. In those early days Ratana was a faith healing movement, and was roundly criticised for this by Pakeha medical practitioners. Its doctrinal views so upset the Church of England that all Ratana followers were excommunicated in 1926. Ratana revered their leader, and their appeal was principally to detribalised Ma-ori (the Morehu as they were called).

Why is the Destiny movement venturing into politics? One factor is its Fundamentalism. Pentecostals are in one sense very anti-traditional, but part of their appeal is a widespread fear of trends in modern life that undercut the family and traditional moral values. Since the early 1980s, when Pentecostals protested the adoption of the

United Nations Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Pentecostals have expressed their noisy brash conviction that God has appointed them to save New Zealand, and they need to identify and attack their enemies. For Destiny the additional element is the way in which politics and religion have always walked hand in hand in Maoridom. New religious movements are common in the Ma-ori world, and they have always gone into politics, because their aim is to rescue the people as a whole.

So what does the future hold for this kind of religion? The Pentecostal strand is becoming more common in religion throughout western society. In some ways it is the form of Christianity which is most truly at home in post-modern society. The phenomenon is very apparent in Australia, where the Hillsong Church achieved some political influence. In some respects Australia is more conservative and less secular than New Zealand. The overall religious and social scene is generally more conservative than New Zealand, and politicians there are more inclined to use conservative rhetoric. John Howard has strongly opposed gay marriage and members of his cabinet have been very vocal on the Christian base for Australian society. But we should not assume that the future is secular. Conservatism is perfectly consistent with a very modern society. Within the United States there are strong conservative electoral and social forces evident in the Bush administration. Everywhere New Age spiritual movements are flourishing.

And I don't think Fundamentalism will go away in the new age. Maybe in very secular societies the alliance of fundamentalism and politics (whether Hindu, Islamic or Christian) is a response to its alienation. There clearly is some appeal in this religious style, with its blend of conservative morals, Black Power intimidation tactics and Pentecostal fervour.

The history of religion in New Zealand has been fairly anaemic in general, but there have been crises in times of national difficulty like World War I and the Depression Era. At such times extremist religions have gained ground over the normal New Zealand style of religion. For example the largest religious group in New Zealand, the Anglican Church seems effete, weak, nice but lacking influence at such times. Anglicanism with its establishment aura is not a particularly transformative or counter-cultural force.

And now we have a growing liberal political tradition which is intensely secular and liberal. The noisy sectarian minority is bound to grow louder.

Religion is in fact a perfect symbol of all the complex social and cultural issues of our society. Let me take you for a drive down Chapel Road in Flatbush in the South Eastern suburbs of Auckland. Here you will find a dramatic illustration of the profound changes in New Zealand religion, and how they reflect the changes in New Zealand society. Flatbush is a very new suburb, although Chapel Road has been there since the early days, and is named after the little Methodist Chapel half way down the road, which was erected in the 1880s as part of a circuit which also included four other churches in Papakura, Woodside and Mangere. They were farming valleys and preachers would retire to this circuit for a quiet end to their preaching days.

How different it is today! Flatbush has suddenly sprung up in the last five years as an overflow from the huge growth of new housing in the Howick area, primarily accommodating Asian people. The little chapel still stands, now a joint Anglican-Methodist church half way down the road that takes its name from it, but at the other end is the exotic Botany Downs shopping centre, a Truman-Show like phenomenon, looking like it has dropped as a unit from the sky, a whole plastic town centre modelled on traditional towns. The central focus of Chapel Road is the enormous, almost completed Buddhist Temple. On the other side of the road is a new co-educational Catholic School, reflecting a huge boom in Catholic education and in baptisms into the Catholic Church by Asians concerned at the violent tone of New Zealand. Other sites down the road have been purchased by Baptist churches, and doubtless the fine facilities of the new secular high school are rented out to a Pentecostal Church group on Sundays. It is boom time in Flat Bush and religion is booming there as well, but not in the little chapel. There is a plan for Anglicans and Methodists to build a big new church, but they are struggling to find the money. Meanwhile the Presbyterians have made a separate move. Their old Pakuranga congregation, famous for its evangelical and conservative tradition, has rebuilt just around the corner from Chapel Street and have attracted a large congregation including many Asian people with a formula that has something of the Pentecostal flavour mixed in.

Let there be no doubt, there are some deep tensions running through New Zealand society, troubles underneath the optimism, and fundamentally they are cultural differences. Culture and religion walk hand in hand. The issues facing us today involve a deep debate over values. We should never be confident that we know which side will win.

Date: 05/04/2006

Type: Features

Massey Reviews

Reviewers: Di Billing, Rowan Clark, Dr Martin Sullivan, Alan Millar, Patrick Morgan, Malcolm Wood.

Biography

Kippenberger: An Inspired New Zealand Commander

Christine Cheyne, Mike O'Brien, Michael Belgrave

(HarperCollinsPublishers Press, \$34.99)

In his introduction Glyn Harper sets out the questions this biography will attempt to answer: Was Kippenberger a successful military commander? If so, what were the elements of his success? What was Kippenberger's command style?

Over the next 270 meticulously researched pages he succeeds in arriving at conclusions that fairly answer all three. In the process he tells the fascinating life story of a remarkable New Zealander, a man who despite affecting the destiny of his country and the lives of tens of thousands of his countrymen at a critical juncture is largely unknown to New Zealanders under the age of 40.

Kippenberger's early life was in many respects typical of his times. Born in 1897, a third generation New Zealander, Kippenberger disliked the monotony of farming life and lied about his age to volunteer for World War I, becoming cannon fodder in the British Empire's war against the German Kaiser. He fought bravely in France as an ordinary soldier. He then spent the interwar period living an ordinary, small town, middle class, professional family life. While doing so he endlessly studied military history to a remarkable depth for his time and location and took a very active part in the Territorial Army. He was convinced there would be another war with Germany and that he should be ready to play a part in it as a professionally competent officer. The rest, as they say, is history and this history in particular.

In following the personal history of Kippenberger and his role in World War II, Harper gives a lucid and concise account of the New Zealand army's participation in the Greek, Crete, African and Italian campaigns. He shows Kippenberger interacting with his leader, the highly personable General Freyberg, and he gives 'warts and all' pen portraits of some of the other significant personalities. He skilfully conveys the role of the New Zealand Division within the wider military politics of the day.

Every significant action involving the New Zealanders is covered and in a manner that allows a lay readership to understand the events and appreciate their tactical and strategic significance.

Harper's viewpoint is that of professional historian and professional soldier. He is also unashamedly a New Zealander. His account has no vestige of 'colonial cringe' or timid deference to the professional officer corps of the British army, though equally he never hesitates to admit and to illustrate any shortcomings among his countrymen. Unlike World War I, where New Zealanders fought in regiments as part of the British army under British generals, in World War II they fought under a leader appointed by the New Zealand Government who was instructed not to place his troops under any other command but to maintain them as a separate operational unit at all times. In World War II New Zealand participated as an independent nation conscious of its own political needs. New Zealanders fought for clear democratic objectives, not as obedient followers of King and Empire. Kippenberger neither glorified nor condemned war. He saw it as a reality, and thought that it should be fought and won competently, professionally and pragmatically, at the least possible cost in life and limb.

The generally accepted view is that New Zealand found its national identity in the blood and slaughter on the beaches and hills of Gallipoli. After reading this biography I have come to believe otherwise. I think Harper whether he intended to do so or not makes a sound case for New Zealand's national identity being founded not in Turkey but in the barren deserts of North Africa. We should remember these battles and celebrate these victories, fought as they were by this country's independently created, trained and led citizen army. I hope Harper's biography of Kippenberger, once one of the most deservedly respected of New Zealanders, will do something the redress the balance.

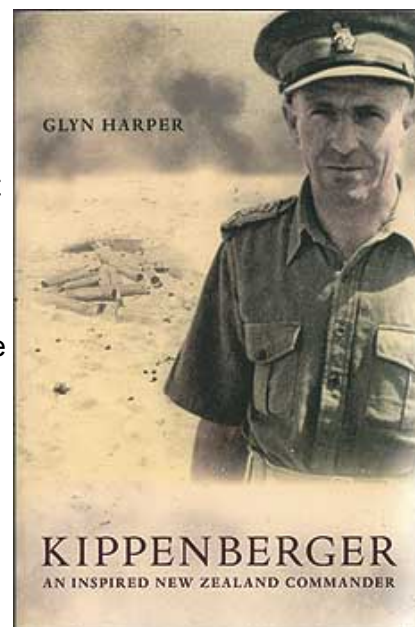
I recommend it to every student of twentieth century New Zealand history.

Guidebooks

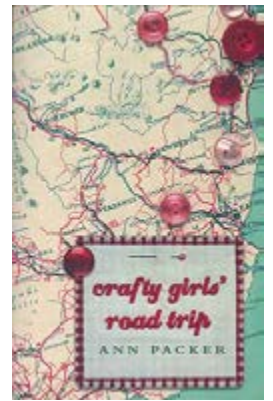
crafty girls' road trip

Ann Packer

(Random House New Zealand, \$24.95)



If you are a connoisseur of textile treats you will certainly want to own this book. And even if crochet makes you crotchety, if you find dolls dull, and bears unbearable yes, Virginia, there are such sad sacks you may still want to keep a copy of *Crafty Girls' Road Trip* handy. In this guidebook to craft outlets and other like enterprises from Kaukapakapa to Invercargill, Author Ann Packer proves a most amiable and informative companion, not just pointing out the best of local craft shops, but also steering you in the direction of the local hot pools, of the odd interesting walk, and, without fail, towards somewhere for a good coffee. It is an idiosyncratic selection of attractions, but it's all highly civilised and told with understated charm. Warning to the partners of crafty girls: if you want to get to your destination without diversion or delay, hide this book.



Ann is a Massey alumna (BA, 1968) and her daughter, Genevieve Packer, graduated with a BDes Hons in 2001.

Children's illustrated books

Mitch and Monty: Their true story

Stalking the roadside ditches, resplendent with their indigo plumage, scarlet beak and red legs, and with an air at once dignified and absurd, pukeko are one of our iconic bird species. Now two of them, Mitch and Monty, are the stars of a children's book by Kathy and Alex Scott. Kathy, a Massey alumna, wrote the text, and Alex painted the illustrations, drawing on the true story of Mick Kelly, who raised Mitch and Monty from eggs. It is an engaging tale, and Kathy has a good ear for what will appeal to children when read aloud.



Kathy Scott completed papers in Japanese in the 1960s before heading to Japan where she lived for three years. In the early 1990s she returned to Massey to 'brush up on her Japanese', emerging, at the age of 56 with a degree. Today she works alongside Alex in the couple's pharmacy and volunteers for Diabetes Manawatu Inc. *Mitch and Monty* is self-published. It is Alex's eighth book.

Autobiography

Dick Scott: A Radical Writer's Life

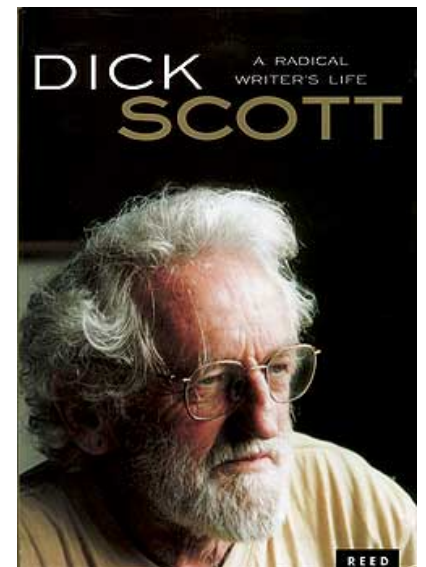
Dick Scott

(Reed Books, \$39.99)

Not quite a household name, Dick Scott will nonetheless be familiar to many older New Zealanders reared in working class households. His first book, *151 Days*, took pride of place on many an otherwise sparsely populated bookcase.

151 Days was an insider's story of the 1951 waterfront dispute, published cheaply, widely read and trusted, a year after the dispute ended. For decades it remained the only publication on the dispute.

Scott also broke new ground with a second pamphlet issued a year later. *The Parihaka Story* documented the Ma-ori campaign of passive resistance to land confiscation at Parihaka Village in Taranaki in 1881. Largely unremarked and unheralded on publication, its reputation grew during the following decades as a seminal work on Ma-ori resistance to government land purchase tactics. He was, it has been said, at least 20 years ahead of his time in spotting the significance of the village's invasion by colonial troops. The pamphlet was updated and upgraded to a book in 1975 when it was published as *Ask That Mountain*.



Dick Scott's most recent work is an autobiography, *A Radical Writer's Life*. On the softer side of radical, he was, however, versatile and frequently in the right place at the right time, for a committed writer. Looking back at my last Wellington years, he writes, if there was toil and trouble I was often there.

In his various incarnations, Scott has been or is: a left wing journalist, union organiser, Communist pamphleteer, wine buff and critic, journalist, editor and historian. The biography is his seventh publication. So it is with slight surprise that we learn, early in *A Radical Writer's Life*, that he graduated from the then Massey College with a Diploma in Agriculture in 1943, driven by a farming father and despite differences with some of the botany lecturers and the College Principal Professor Geoffry Peren.

In two years as a student I heard him speak only once to hear him tell me that expulsion would surely follow if the

Buick's spinning wheels (it was a mating display at an end-of-term dance) ever again showered his prize lawns with gravel.

Scott settles a few others scores (he did not admire Colin McCahon's Parihaka paintings) as he documents a lifetime of pioneering work and partisan engagement in journalism and history. His contributions include the first books on New Zealand's blossoming wine industry, beginning with a biography of Assid Abraham Corban and including the ground-breaking *Winemakers of New Zealand*. Later he turned to Pacific history with *Years of the Pooh-Bah* and *Would A Good Man Die?*

Scott is now 83: He ends his biography with a suggestion that the book may be a round-up but not necessarily a round-off. And so a historical sequence, more down to earth than most, goes on being recorded.

How-to texts

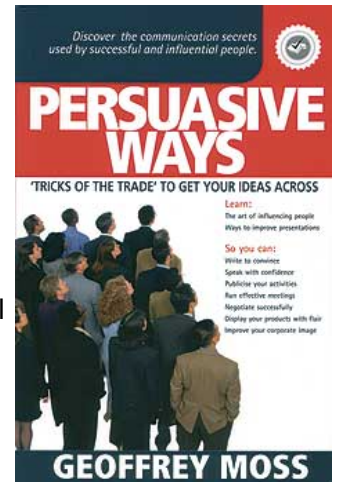
Persuasive Ways

'Tricks of the trade' to get your ideas across

Geoffrey Moss

(Moss Associates Limited, \$29.95)

In 184 pages Geoffrey Moss has set out to cover a great deal of ground. Whether you are setting out to deliver a presentation, write a report, set up a display, handle an interview or hold a meeting to mention just a few of the topics covered you may well find *Persuasive Ways* helpful. Will it be all you need to know? Probably not. To cover all of these topics to any depth would require not a single book but a bookshelf's-worth, and I'd recommend you assemble a reading list if you are at all serious about learning the craft of writing, say, or making the best use of the Web (something hardly touched on) or e-mail. Nonetheless, Moss's combination of succinct common-sense advice and the extensive use of check lists should keep you from most the most embarrassing of gaffes those ones you remember for ever after or glaring of omissions.



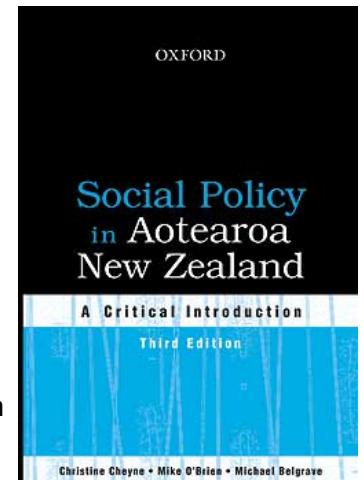
Moss ought to know what he is writing about. The director of Moss Associates, he has trained managers for over a decade and he estimates over 2,300 people have attended his workshops. Moss is both a Massey alumnus he graduated with a BAgSc in 1957 and is a former staff member.

Academic

**Social Policy in Aotearoa New Zealand:
A Critical Introduction**

Christine Cheyne, Mike O'Brien, Michael Belgrave
(Oxford University Press, \$55)

Three Massey social policy academics, Dr Christine Cheyne in the School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work at Palmerston North, and Associate Professors Mike O'Brien and Michael Belgrave in the School of Social and Cultural Studies at the Albany campus, have recently authored a third edition of their successful text *Social Policy in Aotearoa New Zealand: A Critical Introduction*. The text sets out to provide a context for understanding and assessing the changing nature of social policy, and the direction of future policy development. The first edition gave particular attention to the changes of the late 1980s and early 1990s. The second edition (January 2000) examined the impact of the move to coalition government and anticipated the change of policy direction following the election of a Labour-led government at the end of 1999. It addressed new developments, such as increasing interest in 'third-way' politics, social cohesion, social inclusion and social exclusion, and the importance of gender analysis and Treaty analysis in the New Zealand context.



The third edition (2005) examines and critiques the social policy framework of the last five years with new material on the changing response to the Treaty of Waitangi, the growing political interest in sustainable development and the emphasis on 'managing for outcomes'. The book's three editions retain the same basic structure of chapters (the history of social policy, theoretical perspectives and conceptual bases of social policy, along with chapters on key areas of social policy). *Social Policy in Aotearoa New Zealand: A Critical Introduction* has proved to be an essential and accessible resource for students of social policy and in related disciplines, and is invaluable for those seeking informed debate about the direction of social policy in New Zealand.

Academic

Globalization and Culture at Work: Exploring Their Combined Glocality
(Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2004)

They are called portmanteau words. Smog, a blend of smoke and fog, is one. Motel, a blend of motor and hotel is another. These two have lasted. Will 'glocality'? Perhaps not, but the phenomena it describes the often-competing influences of localisation and globalisation certainly will.

A review of Dr Carr's book in the Harvard Business School's International Newsletter for Business Leaders puts it this way:

Concepts such as power, pay, and achievement all have a local perspective that can disrupt global influences. Consider the concept of equitable pay. Workers in a local company may aspire to higher pay, but are satisfied with their earnings. However in order to compete in the global community, the company decides to employ expatriates to work with the locals. Since strong incentives are required to attract the expatriate to the assignment, salaries disproportionately larger than those given to local workers may be awarded. As a result, this can contribute to feelings of resentment by locals towards expats and therefore reduce productivity.

There are, says Dr Carr, two schools of thought: that 'one size fits all' you can transplant a working model from one place to another and it will still work; or that 'one size only fits some'.

Both concepts have their place, he says. But you only have to travel to see how often things fall over when a model from one place won't work in another. The question is, how do we get smart about this?

An organisational psychologist, Dr Stuart Carr is based on the Albany campus.

Magazines and websites Lumière

Bachelor of Design graduate Tim Wong, 23, founded Lumière Industries in 2003 as an outlet for his passion for graphic design and film. Beginning as a magazine dedicated to film criticism and review, Lumière was extended in 2004 to a website, which Wong describes as an independently published open forum for the written and visual discussion of movies, local film events and initiatives, and the wider cinematic discourse.

Lumière is now a collective producing art, design, film and new media projects, Wong says. Based in Wellington, we specialise in the publication of graphic design, illustration, photography and new writing by emerging local talent. Our core design team and contributing artists are all graduates or students from Massey's College of Design, Fine Arts and Music.

Wong says, I started it for fun, as a side project on top of my Bachelor of Design studies. It combines my interests in graphic design and film.

I don't know how I found time for it. I'd always been craving to do something like this.

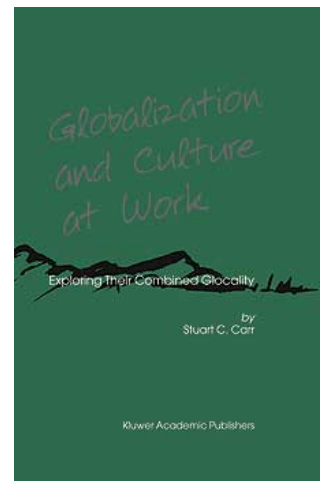
A fan of Asian Cinema, Wong says the New Zealand film industry is still fairly conservative. There are a lot of talented filmmakers out there who aren't getting their films made.

Since starting Lumière, I've learned heaps of business skills making business contacts, handling GST, getting out there and putting Lumière forward, and partnering with other ventures. It's easy to branch out if you're creative. Lumière is online at <http://www.lumiere.net.nz>

CDs jazztones

New Zealand jazz aficionados know jazz lecturer Johnny Lippiett as a master saxophonist who takes no musical prisoners. He has the ability to take any jazz standard and imbue it with a tidal wave of sound and emotion, leading his audience on a journey through jazz sax history.

His latest album, jazztones, reveals Johnny's strengths as a composer with eight very different Lippiett originals, both rocking grooves and straight-ahead jazz. With the opener, A Thousand Shivolars, Johnny explores harmonic and melodic ideas relating to Arabic music, with the grooves coming from South America. Intraflexion employs Johnny's soulful blowing with Vaughan Roberts adding counterpoint lines to great effect.



Johnny tops off a wonderful album by letting loose with Harry and Jim (a nod to his 2003 release, Backbeat Project), which features rapper MCSoul9 and some solid grooves from Lance Sua on guitar.

Date: 05/04/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Book; Library; Massey Magazine



Harawira Craig Pearless, Master of Management '02

My occupation: I am working as a consultant for the World Food Program, a United Nations agency based in Rome. My role is to perform constant threat assessments in the areas where WFP operations are running.

My last posting: I spent three months based out of Nyala, which is the capital of the South Darfur state in the Sudan. My administrative base was in Khartoum.

The politics: The Sudan is divided into the North and South Sudan. The North Sudan is controlled by the Sudanese Government and the South by the Sudanese Liberation Army. In the North Sudan region of Darfur the Sudanese Government have armed and are supporting the Janjaweed, a group of camel-mounted Arabic militiamen. The Sudanese government bombs specific villages and the Janjaweed ride through and plunder whatever is left. The Janjaweed militia are Arabic and Muslim; the villagers forced from their homes are black African Christians. The Darfur conflict is huge and has no end in sight. The humanitarian aid effort going in there is massive. The atrocities being carried out by the Sudanese Government with the help of the Janjaweed need to be exposed, as does the collusion between the two to ethnically cleanse the Darfur. Thousands of civilians have been killed, women and girls raped, and more than one million villagers forcibly displaced from their villages.

The picture: When states fail, children suffer. Here you see child soldiers. Children such as these are easily coerced; they ask very few questions and kill without question.

My educational philosophy path: Education can take you to whatever you want to do, wherever you want to do it. Professional qualifications and work experience are a minimum requirement for professional posts within most UN agencies. Extramural work can be undertaken anywhere, at anytime. All of my Massey lecturers have been very supportive, especially the staff at Te Pu-tahi-a--Toi and the Dispute Resolution Centre.

Where I am now: On another assignment with the WFP, this time travelling to Bhutan, Myanmar, and Laos.

Date: 05/04/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Extramural; Massey Magazine

18TH Century Notes

Dr Allan Badley, Director of the Centre for Eighteenth-Century Music, is one of the world's leading authorities on music of the late 18th-century. He has edited and published over 250 works by major contemporaries of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven, and the publishing house he co-founded in 1995 with Klaus Heymann of Naxos is widely regarded as the most important specialist publisher in the field. Recordings based on Dr Badley's editions have won a number of major international awards. He holds the Silver Medal of the Internationale Ignaz Joseph Pleyel Gesellschaft in recognition of his contribution to Pleyel scholarship.



Are you from a musical family?

My maternal grandmother was the most important early musical influence on my sister and me. She was a very fine pianist who had studied at the Sydney Conservatorium shortly after the First World War and on returning to New Zealand she taught privately for many years as well as often working as an accompanist. This is how she met my grandfather, a keen amateur singer in his younger days. My grandfather's second cousin, Peter Dawson, was one of the most popular singers and recording artists of the 1920s and 1930s. My sister is a very accomplished musician and is currently the head of the music department at St Matthews School in Masterton.

Did you set out to become a scholar or a musician?

Although I always enjoyed playing, I never felt drawn to the idea of playing professionally, probably because, as a pianist, I could see nothing ahead but a lifetime of private teaching. While still at school I discovered a mysterious discipline called musicology, which seemed to combine so many of my burgeoning interests: music, history, literature, archaeology and even detective work. By the time I arrived at university I was already an 18th-century buff; within five years I had progressed to the point of wild-eyed fanaticism.

What path did you follow to get to where you are now?

Having completed my MMus at the University of Auckland and, along the way, settled on a PhD topic, I set to work doing the preliminary source work for my thesis on the concertos of Leopold Hofmann (an important but obscure Viennese contemporary of Haydn). I headed off overseas in 1981, first to Canada where I had been awarded an Open Doctoral Fellowship at the University of Toronto, and then on to Vienna. At this stage I intended to spend six months or so in Vienna and then return to Toronto to take up my Fellowship. However, like many before me, once there I stayed. The opportunity to work with original source material proved irresistible. Almost every day I seemed to be making important new discoveries in church and cathedral archives, private palaces, monasteries and state libraries. I worked in Germany and around Austria; I even worked in archives in Budapest, Prague and Brno seeing myself as a kind of musicological Cold War warrior. It was pretty heady stuff and hardly surprising that I deferred my return to Toronto for another year. While in Vienna I also met some of my musicological heroes foremost among them HC Robbins Landon, the great Haydn scholar and they showed a flattering interest in my research. The experience of discussing knotty, technical problems with scholars like Landon, Otto Biba and Daniel Hertz soon convinced me that going back to Toronto would be a mistake. The material was all here, and my thesis could be written anywhere. I decided to stay in Vienna as long as I could I'd also met my future wife by this time return to Auckland, submit my thesis, and then return to Vienna to begin my real life's work. We returned to New Zealand in 1985 (Satomi had just graduated from the Musikhochschule in Vienna) and, after I duly finished my thesis and received my PhD, we flew back to Vienna, where I resumed my research work and started the long and frightening search for gainful employment. Over the next few years we moved around a good deal, including a short spell in Ireland, where I taught briefly at University College, Dublin. An offer of a Postdoctoral Fellowship at Otago brought us back to New Zealand in 1988, and we moved to Wellington the following year when Satomi joined the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. In the early 1990s I taught part-time at Victoria University (and, very briefly, at the Conservatorium of Music) and managed the New Zealand Chamber Orchestra. My research work on Hofmann continued, and I worked a good deal with a chamber orchestra in Vienna, who were performing and recording some fairly rare and exotic repertoire. I had always been interested in editing works for performance indeed, I conducted the first-ever modern performance of a Hofmann symphony while a student at Auckland and an all-Hofmann programme with the Dunedin Sinfonia in 1988 to mark the 250th Anniversary of the composer's birth so these activities dictated to a certain extent the thrust of my research work at the time. In 1995 I founded the publishing house Artaria Editions with Klaus Heymann of Naxos to begin a systematic and large-scale exploration of music of the late 18th century. The

project was and remains unique in the musical world not only for its sheer scale (we have now published over 400 works) but also in its integration of research, publishing, performing and recording. Our work has had an enormous impact on the wider perception of music of the late 18th century. An indication of this is the success our recordings have enjoyed on the world stage: we have won 'Best 18th-century Orchestral Recording' category at the prestigious Cannes Classical Awards on three occasions and, significantly, with composers many would consider to be hopelessly obscure. These successes and the performances which flow from them have vindicated our work in bringing the composers back from the brink of extinction and provided for the first time the means upon which to build a more detailed and accurate evaluation of the music of the period. The same principles are being applied to our work at the new Centre for Eighteenth-Century Music: rigorous research with practical outcomes in mind publications, performances and recordings of international significance.



How do you go about your work?

Much of my work time is spent alone at my desk or at the keyboard (either my trusty synthesiser or more-favoured piano), but in the lead-up to performances and recordings I work as closely as possible with the artists. When works are recorded in New Zealand it is a good deal easier for me to be directly involved in the process than at other times, but it is amazing how many ideas can be conveyed via e-mail or lengthy telephone calls. The phone calls are the most fun as they almost invariably end up with me listening to the orchestra via the conductor's cell phone and then sending critical comments back down the line concerning possible variant readings, nuances in interpretation and so forth. These calls might come from anywhere Sweden, Germany, Hungary, Canada, Portugal but the process is always the same: listen, approve/argue, propose an alternative (sing it!), listen again. Not as much fun as being there, of course, but supremely invigorating nonetheless! Working with other musicologists on editions is a good deal less frantic but no less stimulating as so many new and exciting ideas tend to emerge from the process. These can range from a re-evaluation of a tricky editorial problem to the discovery of otherwise unknown works. The scholars I work with on an almost daily basis are not only undisputed leaders in the field but are also a uniquely pleasant group of individuals.

How much is technology changing things?

Improvements in technology over the past decade and in particular, the development of sophisticated and flexible music notation software have made a big impact on the kind of work I do. Projects which even 20 years ago would have been completely unviable an edition of the complete Wanhäl symphonies, for example are now perfectly feasible. The interface between computer and synthesiser adds a new dimension to the process of editing and proofing. The ability to play through works in all voices through the synthesiser is enormously helpful in planning performances and recordings. It is possible to experiment with different tempi and even focus on problems relating to individual parts or sections of the orchestra. All this can be done using one's musical imagination, of course, but the use of such technology is extraordinarily useful. Streaming music via broadband also promises to have a major impact on our work since I believe that an increasing number of recordings of highly specialised repertoire will be made primarily with this market in mind. The reduced production costs will allow an even greater number of recording projects to be undertaken. Although technology is playing an important role in source research and the processes of publication, recording and dissemination of music, the most challenging problems in editing call for creative, musical solutions. The technology helps a synthesiser is like a captive (unmusical) orchestra but ultimately the solutions are arrived at by very traditional means and a thorough understanding of contemporary compositional and performance practices.

Where you can't establish the provenance of a piece through documentary evidence, how do you determine the composer?

Establishing authenticity is one of the biggest problems in 18th-century music given the paucity of autograph material and authentic copies. Scholars are generally agreed upon how best to proceed in terms of establishing a hierarchy of reliability of sources, and yet all too often we find that a work often an important work survives in a single copy of unknown provenance in spite of our best efforts to identify contemporary professional copyists and

paper types. Once one is reduced to deciding a work's authenticity on stylistic grounds (i.e. on internal evidence), the picture becomes even more confused. The American scholar James Webster once pointed out that to decide a work's authenticity on stylistic grounds means having to prove that no other composer could possibly have written it. This is a tough ask, particularly when dealing with secondary figures about whom we know comparatively little. To illustrate how problematic this can be, we need only consider the case of the Haydn D major Cello Concerto. For many years it was believed that this work may have been composed by Haydn's principal cellist, Anton Kraft. Examined from every stylistic point imaginable the work just didn't seem to be convincing as Haydn ... until one day Haydn's signed-and-dated autograph score was discovered in the cellars of the Austrian National Library! Very often, though, there is no alternative but to make a judgement call based on style, and one relies almost as much on gut instinct as on a detailed knowledge of the composer's style. Most scholars have made mistakes, and as we learn more I dare say more of these mistakes will come to light. It is very frustrating, though, to see works still being performed under the wrong composer's name after the question of authenticity has been settled. One of Leopold Hofmann's Flute Concertos is still frequently offered as a Haydn work over 70 years after the misattribution was first discovered.

Nonetheless, as the secondary figures begin to emerge from the shadows I think many of these problems will disappear, except, perhaps, where the original mistake is in itself hallowed: Brahms's 'Variations on a Theme by Haydn' will forever conceal Pleyel's authorship of the theme in question.

You must have cause to ruminate on the nature of fame and reputation. Just how arbitrarily do you think reputation is assigned? Why is a composer acclaimed during his or her day and then forgotten?

The selections made by history generally have been pretty much on the mark. However, the obscurity of many 18th- and early 19th-century composers is undeserved. A number of these figures were composers of enormous vitality and imagination and their later obscurity owes much to the fact that there was no conception of a classical canon until comparatively recently. It is only in the past few decades that any serious work has been done on the so-called secondary figures (Haydn's symphonies one of the cornerstones of the classical repertory were not published in their entirety until the 1960s). Only now and as a consequence of the kind of work I have been doing for so long are we beginning to realise the extraordinary riches to be found in this missing tradition, and with this comes a curious paradox: Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven emerge as less original than first thought and yet at the same time incomparably greater since the music of their most talented contemporaries was so good. Nothing we discover will upset the essential rightness of placing these composers at the top of the heap, but context will change everything. I'm also convinced that the day is not too far off when it will not be heretical to say that a good symphony by Wanhal is better than a weak symphony by Haydn and that Joseph Martin Kraus wrote far more interesting sonatas than Mozart. As a result, the classical canon and all of our musical lives will be enriched and the current ossification of classical music may be reversed.

What do you listen to outside of your musical specialisation?

Cricket!



Allan Badley is currently engaged on three major research projects for the Centre: an edition of the complete chamber music of Joseph Boulogne Chevalier de Saint-Georges; an edition of the complete

piano sonatas of Ferdinand Ries; and, together with the Austrian scholar Dr Heinz Anderle, an edition of Ignaz Pleyel's 1785 opera Ifigenia.

All three composers have interested Badley for years and he has played an important role in reviving international interest in their works. Pleyel and Ries were considered very important figures in their day.



Ferdinand Ries (1747 1838)

Ferdinand Ries was not only a pianist of formidable power and an unusually gifted composer, but he also remained (with odd intervening periods of hostility) one of Beethoven's most trusted friends right up until the older composer's death in 1827. Ries composed successfully in most genres and his piano concertos and sonatas are of particular interest given his connections with Beethoven. Allan Badley's edition of the complete works for piano and orchestra promises to be a major musical landmark. Two of the eight concertos are to be recorded in February by Christopher Hinterhuber, winner of the Beethoven Competition, with the NZSO conducted by Uwe Grodd. The edition of the complete sonatas begins with the Sonatas Op.1, which were completed in 1804 and dedicated by Ries to his teacher Beethoven. The works received a lengthy and generally favourable review in the Allgemeine Musikalische Zeitung and doubtless Beethoven pored over the works suspiciously before allowing the dedication to proceed. Perhaps as a mark of his approval Beethoven allowed Ries to make his début in Vienna as a soloist with a performance of one of his own major works, the Piano Concerto in c minor, Op. 37. Although Ries studied piano with Beethoven rather than composition (a nice touch, since Beethoven's most important keyboard teacher was Ries's father), there is little question of the influence he exerted on Ries's development as a composer. Strangely enough, Ries's keyboard writing quickly moved away from Beethoven's own style towards that of Hummel and the early Romantics. His keyboard sonatas like the concertos represent one of the most important series of works composed in Beethoven's lifetime. The modern premières of these works will all take place at Massey University under the auspices of the Centre for Eighteenth-Century Music.



Joseph Boulogne Chevalier de Saint-Georges (1745-1799)

Joseph Boulogne Chevalier de Saint-Georges was one of the most remarkable men of the 18th century. Born in Guadeloupe to an aristocratic French planter and a beautiful Senegalese slave, Saint-Georges was educated at a prestigious military school in Paris, where he excelled in every physical pursuit from swimming to dancing. By his early 20s he was regarded by connoisseurs of fencing as perhaps the finest swordsman in Europe. If that were not enough, Saint-Georges was also a violin virtuoso of the first rank and a composer of extraordinary ability. He combined the careers of athlete and artist with great success and continued to fight exhibition matches even when his musical career was at its zenith. Saint-Georges formed and led a Black Militia during the revolutionary period and suffered a period of imprisonment during the Terror. After a brief and disillusioning visit to Haiti in the late 1790s, Saint-Georges returned to Paris, where he died in 1799.

This remarkable man has attracted a great deal of interest over the years and a considerable number of his works have been published (the majority edited by Badley) and recorded. Saint-Georges's chamber music, however, remains largely unexplored and Badley's complete edition, being prepared under the auspices of the Centre for Eighteenth-Century Music, promises to shed important light on this aspect of the composer's work. The first volume, *Three Sonatas for Violin & Fortepiano, Op. (b)*, was published last year and the works recorded (along with the *Sonatas Op. Post, No.1*) in Germany by the Japanese violinist Takako Nishizaki.



Ignaz Joseph Pleyel (1757 1831)

More editions of Pleyel's music were printed in the late 18th and early 19th centuries than of any other composer including his teacher Joseph Haydn and for a time at least he was easily the most famous and popular composer in Europe. Such was his reputation that a society devoted to the performance and promotion of his music was founded in the whaling port of Nantucket in the early years of the 19th century. This remarkable man also established a

highly successful music publishing house, and a piano manufacturing business which is still thriving in Paris today. Pleyel wrote only two works for the stage the charming marionette opera *Die Fee Urgèle*, composed at the age of 19, and the opera seria *Iphigenie*, written for the Teatro San Carlo in Naples in 1785. *Iphigenie* is particularly interesting because it combines both local (Neapolitan) traditions, particularly in its treatment of the voice, with the fully fledged and complex symphonic style of the composer's mature symphonies. The edition being prepared by Badley and Heinz Anderle for the Centre for Eighteenth-Century Music will be used for the modern première of the work in Austria this year. The Centre will also publish *Die Fee Urgèle* in 2006.

Date: 05/04/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; College of Creative Arts; Massey Magazine

Wild Times

We meet natural history filmmaker Alison Ballance.

The first time I see Alison Ballance she is looking slightly furtive. I have arranged to meet her at Natural History New Zealand's premises. So it is that at 9.30 on a grey, cold Dunedin morning I see a woman ducking into the NHNZ entrance. The sculpted lion and unicorn in the royal coat of arms above the portal of what was once Dunedin's police barracks gaze down in imperial disapproval.

Although I don't know Ballance yet, I have heard her speak. On an earlier Saturday, on Kim Hill's programme on National Radio, Ballance gave an account of how she spent the last two months, filming first on the Galapagos Islands, off the coast of Ecuador, and then on the uninhabited Pacific coral atoll of Palmyra, for what will be an episode in a six-part documentary series Equator.



The Galapagos and Palmyra make for an instructive contrast, she tells Kim. Palmyra is an island oasis in desert ocean; the Galapagos, bathed by the cold, nutrient-rich waters of the Cromwell and Humboldt currents, is a desert archipelago in a fertile ocean.

They are also great camera fodder: places of pure spectacle, with engaging, photogenic and unwary wildlife, and magnificent landscapes.

Palmyra has coral reefs, abundant sealife, and seabird colonies. And, weighing in at up to 13 kilograms, it has the world's largest land invertebrate, the robber crab a creature for which Ballance developed some affection. I had a waterbottle from Honolulu with a picture of a voluptuous Hawaiian maiden on it, she tells me when we meet. And there was one robber crab in particular that was always be wrestling with the bottle, trying to steal it. I don't know if it wanted the water or the picture.



The Galapagos, a naturalist's mecca, have land tortoises of great age, a number of finch species (whose adaptations helped inform Darwin's thoughts on evolution), flightless shags (which Darwin missed seeing), and aquatic iguanas, which graze on seaweed and rid themselves of excess salt by sneezing, and look like they have terrible sunburn . It has seals, sealions, penguins and seabird colonies.

The Galapagos, it is true, are much filmed, but Ballance and her team had a point of difference. Along with two Panasonic high definition video cameras (worth around \$150,000 apiece, and purchased for the Equator series) they took a light-weight jib, or crane, and a tracking dolly, allowing them to 'fly' over their unfazed and largely immobile subjects. Our style for this show is slow and lyrical, says Ballance. Hi def video lets you see fabulous detail in the pictures, so we thought, let's take time looking at the pictures, and let's give the production a theatrical pace rather than a music-video pace.

Now for her pains, all those 12-hour days filming under the broiling sun on barren slopes of the Galapagos, Ballance has been sentenced to six weeks before a video screen. Seventy hours of video must be meticulously logged into her laptop. Every clip has to be described. They overshoot, Ballance owns up, but our librarian will be able to sell that footage forever.

Her only time out will be the underwater footage. Jeanie Ackley, the show's assistant producer, will do the underwater stuff; she's a marine biologist. I can say I like a particular shot, but she can tell me, That's an abudedefduf which really is a genus of fish or whatever.

Faced with 70 hours of sitting before a screen, is it any wonder that Ballance sometimes drifts in a bit later in the morning? It has become her custom to leap into her car in the mornings and breakfast at a local surf beach frequented by yellow-eyed penguins, sealions and sometimes the odd leopard seal calling by from Antarctica.

Now there's a reason to live in Dunedin: wild beaches on your doorstep. I am the only person there, and yet I can still drive to work in 20 minutes.

If in the mainstream world of film, New Zealand is internationally known for Miramar Studios, Peter Jackson and Wellington, then in the world of natural history filmmaking the equivalents must be Natural History New Zealand, Michael Stedman and Dunedin.

From its premises in that Victorian barracks now grafted internally onto the building alongside NHNZ has a number of film crews operating world wide at any one time. NHNZ now employs around 120 people: a mix of full-time and freelance. It is a profitable enterprise for its owners, and it has critical acclaim. Pass beneath the lion and unicorn and into the foyer of NHNZ and you will find yourself in a gloating room, with a wall of framed certificates and a glass cabinet of trophies, including the Emmy won by Ian McGee (another Massey alumnus) for an episode of Twisted Tales.

But you have to ask yourself as you fly in by noisy turboprop from Christchurch how did it come to be here? Cut it how you may, Dunedin remains a small, remote southern university city with a bracing climate.

Happenstance is the answer. Natural History New Zealand had its beginnings back in the days of that somewhat fusty state monopoly, the New Zealand Broadcasting Corporation. In Dunedin the NZBC maintained a production studio where programmes like Play School and Spot On were produced and a local television station. So when populations of kakapo were found in Fiordland in the 1970s it was Dunedin staff who were called on: news reporter Neil Harraway, news cameraman Robert Brown, and sound operator Adrian Kubala. (Harraway and Kubala remain NHNZ employees; Brown does freelance work for the company.)

Five minute news items about wildlife became 15-minute specials. Then Neil Harraway visited the BBC Natural History Unit and said, Hey we could do that here. Soon Dunedin was turning out full-blown documentaries under the aegis of natural history unit of its own.

Success bred success, and by the 1990s the point at which Ballance joined it the Natural History Unit was celebrated for making the documentary series Wild South, had won a clutch of awards . . . and was owned by a state broadcaster whose principal interest had become dismembering itself.

As a part of Television New Zealand the Natural History Unit had begun making shows for overseas sale, but at that point TVNZ wasn't interested in having an in-house production facility, explains Ballance. Our future needed to be somewhere else. Michael Stedman, our Managing Director, realised this before anyone else and spent a year looking for someone to buy us.

That someone was Fox Television Studios, which purchased 80 percent of what we now know as Natural History New Zealand in 1997 and the remaining 20 percent a little later. Michael Stedman remains NHNZ's Managing Director.

You should blame Jacques Cousteau, if anyone, for what Ballance has become. Ballance may never have had a childhood ambition to make documentaries, but she thinks Jacques Cousteau who left an entire generation of young women yearning to be marine biologists might be implicated in her decision to pursue natural history and to enrol, first off, at Auckland University, which runs a marine



In praise of foleys

Of all of the many studios in NHNZ, it is the foley room a quirky cupboard-like space lined with sound insulation and containing a desk, chair and microphone that Ballance reveals with the most glee. Do I know what a foley artist is? she asks. Henceforth I must be sure to watch for the foley references when film credits roll.

A foley, it turns out, is a sound you create to substitute for the sound you need. Often it is difficult to capture the sound in the field: the animal may be too far away, there is no sound operator, or, if you are capturing video which has

laboratory at Leigh on the east coast north of Auckland.

But Auckland University's zoology department felt large and impersonal, and when it came to her masterate Ballance picked Massey, where she had heard there was more of a community feeling.

Quite what she would do her masterate eluded her. Land snails New Zealand has a multitude of species interested her, but she could see certain drawbacks: I wanted to do the little ones, incredibly small and complicated. None of them had names. They had shorthand titles like punctid n. sp. 31, and I realised I was going to have to spend all my time peering down a microscope wondering what the hell these things were.

Then, after talking with Professor Brian Springett, Ballance fell under the sway of Mike Rudge, of DSIR Ecology Division. Rudge's particular fascination was the feral sheep of the remote and bitterly cold Campbell Island. Ballance had no particular feelings about feral sheep, but she was eager for the adventure of Campbell Island.

If you were to take that turboprop aircraft from Christchurch to Dunedin and persuade the pilot to keep flying roughly south, in another hour or so you would look down onto the grey-green scrub-covered peat of unpeopled Campbell Island. Situated 600 kilometres from New Zealand, Campbell covers 11 square kilometres, with a western coastline fringed by sheer cliffs and promontories.

Sheep had been introduced to Campbell Island in 1895, and it was farmed up until 1931 and then abandoned, together with its 4,000 sheep and 20 cattle. By 1960 the sheep numbers had declined to around 1,000, but then the population began to grow. In 1970, in answer to concerns about the damage the sheep were doing to the island ecology, a fence was erected across the waist of the island and most of the sheep to the north were shot. By the early 1980s the numbers of sheep on the southern half of the island were burgeoning, and another cull was planned.



Mike Rudge was interested in the growth and age structure of the sheep population. How had the population changed in response to selection pressures? What had happened that the population should be growing so rapidly after having declined for so long? He wanted a suitable master's student to find out.

Professor Springett remembers Ballance preparing thoroughly and then effectively disappearing off the face of the earth. Our contact was a once-weekly radio schedule to discuss her progress.

Ballance wintered over on the island (when the late John Skipworth, one of Ballance's thesis supervisors turned up after a rough boat trip to be shown her progress the island was deep under snow), her time on the island coinciding with the cull on the southern half of the island.

Which she remembers as a time of dead sheep and more dead sheep: dead sheep she would have to dissect. Dead sheep from which she would have to take the jawbones, which, boiled and cleaned, would, through their tooth eruption and tooth wear, be used to measure the age of the sheep when she got back to New Zealand. It got very macabre. There were carcasses everywhere. It was cold on Campbell Island, and my hands were always wet. It got to the point where I'd look forward to having my hands in a fresh carcass to warm them up. Or I'd be having lunch and realise I was leaning on a dead sheep.

synchronised sound recording what you hear is people cursing, passing instructions and bumping the mike.

So the sound track is created back in the studio, partly from sound archives for that particular bird call partly with the ingenuity of the foley operator. Ballance takes a tray of white sugar and piece of polystyrene. Want to hear the sound of a kea walking across freshly fallen snow? The sound of polystyrene in sugar is a dead ringer.

The most challenging foley I have had to do was trying to be a limp lettuce leaf that a kea had pulled out of a tip, says Ballance. My most gory one was for a kea digging through the flesh of a sheep's back. I used a teaspoon and a kiwifruit for that one. In fact it was so gruesome we had to mix it out. It was too realistic.

Then there was the cleaning of the jawbones. Ballance shared quarters with the staff of the island's meteorological station. The smell of boiling mutton is foul. Everyone else would leave the weather station when I was boiling jawbones. Then the cook would go, it's roast mutton for dinner tonight, and I would say, 'Well I don't think so.'

The experience would be the trigger that turned Ballance vegetarian. It would also turn her into a published writer. On her return to New Zealand Ballance wrote up her experiences as a story for Air New Zealand's in-flight magazine.

For a while, after her return to New Zealand, Ballance's career trajectory looked a little wobbly: dribs and drabs of contract work followed by periods of unemployment. You don't just walk straight into a job as an ecologist, says Ballance matter-of-factly. But she also set about gaining the hands-on, practical experience she lacked. Working for the Wildlife Service she walked transects through South Westland forests, logging the birds she encountered. As a volunteer she helped in the search for the South Island kokako rumoured to exist on Stewart Island, and she helped trap ferrets and cats in the Mackenzie country. Eventually a job found her.

Ballance had applied for a job as field technician with DSIR's Ecology Division. They looked at me and said we don't think you are field technician material. Instead, on the strength of her masterate, that published article, good English grades from school, and the endorsement of Mike Rudge, Ecology Division created a position for Ballance as an information officer. There she stayed for four-and-half years, during which, she says, I also collaborated in some field research to keep me sane, mostly on wetas and rock wrens.

Soon after handing in her thesis Ballance had been interviewed for a position with the Natural History Unit. Peter Hayden [another Massey alumnus and a contemporary of writer, cartoonist and playwright Tom Scott] interviewed me and I didn't get the job, but I said to myself there's this place called the TVNZ Natural History Unit and they make documentaries. In fact they make Wild South documentaries. I thought 'I'd like to do that'. Three years later the NHU came calling: would she be interested in a job as a researcher? But at that point I was about to go backpacking in South America for four months. When the circumstances finally fitted, it was five years on from her first interview: five useful years during which she had come to know almost everybody working in ecology and conservation. Someone would say, I think I might like to film wetas and I'd say this is who you need to talk to, where you need to go and this is the time of year, and time of day, she says.

About filmmaking, she knew little. When I started, 'producer' and 'director' were Hollywood terms. But she soon came to understand that she wanted to direct. Directors have this creative freedom.



Ballance's first documentary as director and writer was *Invaders of Paradise*, a compilation from the NHNZ library covering the many exotic species deer, possums, rats and suchlike that now, through a series of bad decisions, says Ballance, make New Zealand their home. Her first documentary as producer, director and writer this time Ballance had a camera crew at her command was about wetas, *Return of the Demon Grasshopper*.

And then I did a show, which took three years to film, on kakapo: one year on Little Barrier Island and two years on Codfish Island.

Ballance had acquired a reputation for hardihood: I have a tolerance for hard field work that most people at work don't share. You can put me on an island for six months and I am quite happy to live in a tent and carry heavy packs.

Her first overseas break was the *Deserts* episode of the *Wild Asia* series. They asked 'Do you want to do the desert show?' and I said yes, but I changed it to desert and high grasslands, because dry grasslands are such a major ecosystem in Asia. I also knew how hard it would be to make an entire show about the desert.

In 1998, seven years after the fall of the Soviet Union, Ballance and a crew were in Mongolia following the migration of the demoiselle crane and filming the Przewalski horses, or takhi, as they are known locally. For several months the six Mongolians and three New Zealanders traversed the country, passengers in a rundown jeep and a very rundown van. With designs based on World War II jeeps these could run on 76 octane petrol that would have been the death of a Japanese vehicle.

The parts were completely interchangeable. The drivers just had a big tin of nuts and bolts and screws and if anything broke they'd fix it. We once did a complete head gasket change in a paddock, says Ballance.



I used to despair that we broke down so often. Our Mongolian fixer, on the other hand, would say how great it was that our drivers were such good mechanics. One of Mongolia's other peculiarities is the local cuisine, heavily centred around mutton.

Someone must have thought 'If there is one place in the world where they eat boiled mutton and only boiled mutton and they eat it three times a day, then that'll be Mongolia', says Ballance. 'So why not send Alison there?' The nice thing was my camerawoman was also a vegetarian and we did have our own cook. I lost a lot of weight, and I when I got back to New Zealand I was fond of saying, 'If anyone offers me boiled rice and tomato soup I will throw it at them.'

While the animals themselves haven't taken to demanding salaries or residuals, keeping a camera team in the field is expensive. Wild Asia was a blue chip series of documentaries; blue chip meaning shot in the grand manner, of high moral intent and big budget. To film her single episode of Wild Asia, Ballance spent three-and-a-half months in Mongolia and three weeks in Nepal, and her assistant producer spent two months in India. Equator though smaller budget is also blue chip.

For prestigious ventures like these NHNZ must stitch together partnerships (unlike its state-funded rival the BBC, which need not bother with such details).

For Wild Asia that meant teaming up with NHK (Japan's BBC equivalent) and Discovery Channel. For Equator the co-production partners are NHK, Discovery HD, and France 5.

Ballance has established a particular relationship with NHK: she is often asked to edit and repurpose NHK's documentaries for the international market. The Japanese appetite for nature programming is incredible. They revere nature and the small things in the world, like butterflies, flowers and birds.

Every week NHK will run a new natural history documentary of between one and two hours in length.

To a New Zealand way of thinking these are very slow and full of detail. The Japanese want to know what every animal is. If you show something and don't mention it in the script, they will caption it in the subtitles.



The European sensibility is similar. They like wildlife shows. They like information. If you try making a 'whizzy-bangy' show for the Germans they'll send it back and say we need it slower, partly because it takes a long time to say anything in German.

The American market, on the other hand, has an appetite for the fast-moving shows, where the wildlife on display is 'weird', 'whacky' or titivatingly life-threatening. Don't even bother pitching a show on birds to the Americans. They'll just say, 'We don't do birds', Ballance says, whose assignment before Equator was Animal Face Off for Discovery Channel.

The idea was to pit two big charismatic animals against one another and see who would win in a virtual fight to the death, explains Ballance. Saltwater crocodile took on great white shark. Hippopotamus took on bull shark. Lion took on Nile crocodile.

Animal Face Off drew on NHNZ's vast library of stock footage, supplementing this with models and computer animation.

We had a team of fabulous model makers in Auckland called Glasshammer, the people who made the animated whales for Whalerider. They made life-size aluminium skulls of all of our animals and mounted these on stripped-down diggers powered by a massive hydraulic system. Then we'd get in a couple of experts, one for each contender, and we'd run a series of tests.

Bite Force Tests, overenunciates Ballance. For the croc and the shark they built a huge water tank and they'd take them into the water and would have them attacking things like canoes. All of which is fun, but not really her calling.

I will work on a show like Animal Face Off, but it's not where my satisfaction lies. This Equator series is a chance to work on a show I really believe in.

Animal Face Off is a long way from The Undersea World of Jacques Cousteau, (1967 76).

The sixties and the seventies were the days, as many a baby boomer will attest. Jacques with his hat, his nasal-but-charming French accent, and that of-a-time John Denver theme song. Marlon Perkins in Wild Kingdom (1963 71) travelling the world in search of adventure, exotic wildlife, and the occasional bout of mud wrestling with crocodiles. Walt Disney giving mom, dad and the kids their fill of heavily anthropomorphised animals, whether in documentary narratives or as the characters in animal stories.

In the 1980s ecology and saving the planet became more recurrent themes, and a series of technological advances began to change the nature of what a natural history documentary might set out to achieve.

Natural history documentaries were always an improvement on reality: an animal's life and behaviours viewed in close-up reduced to 50 minutes of footage as seen through a telephoto lens. But with microphotography, macrophotography, infra-red photography and computer graphics people were able to experience the natural world in ways unavailable to even the most privileged observer. Audiences could now fly with migrating geese, take in an insect's view of the world, or eventually visit the simulation of a bygone world in the BBC's Walking with Dinosaurs (1999).

The 1980s was also the decade that cable TV entered the market with the launch of Discovery Channel in 1985.

Discovery Channel's first programme to air was Iceberg Alley, its first original programme, Ivory Wars. In June 96 it launched Animal Planet, the first of what would become a portfolio of channels, which now includes Discovery Travel & Adventure, Discover Health, and the Science Channel.

Discovery is now hooked up to 85 million homes in the United States and to 126 million homes in 70 other countries around the world. (Indeed the Discovery Channel's market penetration and documentaries it screens are one reason public broadcasters give for failing to screen documentaries themselves.)

Like the Discovery Channel, NHNZ has also broadened its offerings, which now encompass nature, science, adventure, health and people. And its blue chip offerings are balanced by cheaper content, often tailored to the timing of the ten-minute ad break. Peter Haydon welcomes the expansion content: I don't regret the natural history has been so popular over the years, but I wish science had had more of a go over the years. There are incredible stories out there to be told.

A tour through the warren of passageways and studios reveals something of the variety of work going on.

In one studio, post-production work is being done on *Up Close and Dangerous*, a programme for Animal Planet featuring wildlife camera operators getting very close to their subjects. A series of screens flicker as footage is digitised.

In another, work is being done on the soundtrack of *The Diva Mummy*, which features forensic scientists investigating 2000-year-old Han dynasty mummies from China. Lords and ladies lived in up in luxury, intones the narrator, dwelling on the alliteration, while a soundtrack of cymbals and synthesisers builds unease, and the lurid green titling floats above the flickering, scratched sepia film footage.

We call this eye candy, says Ballance. In the vaults are thousands of hours of wildlife footage that can be turned to all manner of uses, from high-end documentary to product advertising.

Ballance is not alone in admitting to being influenced by the natural history documentaries she saw in her formative years. A generation of environmental activists would say the same. And theirs were the pre-computer, pre-cable TV years. How much more important has the role and form of the natural history documentary become when we are so much more citified and disconnected from the natural environment?



Professor Brian Springett is fond of beginning his first-year lectures with a cartoon of a character transfixed by the glory of a sunrise on his television screen while the real thing is visible out his window.

Natural history documentaries inevitably construct and frame particular points of view. In filming the *Deserts* episode of *Wild Asia* Ballance and her team tried valiantly to avoid filming people and their intrusions into the landscape. Nature unadulterated has been a natural history documentary convention.

But you couldn't do that. The nomads are as much part of the grasslands as anything else and they have been for thousands of years. People on their horses kept riding past the demoiselle cranes as we were filming them. We got very few shots of people, but that was what everyone wanted to see when we got back.

Natural history documentaries can't be too pessimistic; audiences prefer uplift. But by giving audiences what they want you may create false perceptions. You run the risk of showing everything is okay when it isn't, says Ballance.

But people do gain appreciation and understanding and you don't have any desire to save things until you have some understanding and can form a bond.

(The most famous example of a natural history documentary creating reality is Disney's 1958 *White Wilderness*. In a deplorable piece of nature fakery, they took lemmings to a precipice above a river and herded them off, making them, quite unfairly, a byword for acting on a self-destructive urge.)

Are nature documentaries good for the environment? Can watching one change your world view or alter your behaviour? Perhaps.

A survey conducted in the United States found, as you might expect, that environmental concern was a good predictor of wildlife documentary viewing, but also that watching television nature documentaries to a slight extent:

... contribute[d] in unique positive ways to

pro-environmental behaviours, above and beyond the influence of a host of demographic, contextual and various television use variables, as well as the attitudinal measure of environmental concern.*

So are we seeing the documentaries made by NHNZ? Generally not. NHNZ professes to having great difficulty in getting TVNZ to screen its documentaries, and those that are screened often end up in graveyard slots.

Professor Springett believes the popular heyday of the nature documentary fell in the '70s and '80s.

By 1990 the year in which Moya's Ark, a four-part documentary fronted by botanist David Bellamy, was screened documentary fatigue was setting in, though whether this was among viewers or programmers and advertisers he is less certain.

NHNZ are, of course, at a remove from the ratings game that determines what runs when, but natural history documentaries have been known to rate well and to bring in a slightly older male demographic that is tough to reach.

Wild Asia, which did manage to get a prime-time slot TV3 on Wednesday at 7.30 pm against Coronation Street on TV One gained a respectable 17 percent of those aged 18 to 49.

Public television is awash with 'reality' series: houses are renovated, gardens remade, celebrities sent to play games with one another on tropical islands. But do we get to see reality series that matter? Will New Zealand audiences see Equator?

If the public broadcaster feeds us a diet of pap, then the problem is that it then takes an enormous effort to get hold of real information. I find it very depressing to think that we might only get the dumbed-down version, says Professor Springett.

Although there are some measures which show the world's ecological situation to be improving, generally things look grim. We are, ecologists tell us, living in the time of environmental degradation and mass extinction. Ballance sees hope for places like the Galapagos and Palmyra.

In the Galapagos tourism is tightly regimented, based on boats, and time ashore is restricted to certain trails and certain hours, and is strictly supervised. Palmyra is uninhabited (except for conservation staff) and difficult to get to.

These places still have their problems. In the Galapagos the fishing community engages in shark-finning and is lobbying for longline fishing, a notorious cause of seabird deaths. Palmyra is infested with rats and a recently arrived scale insect is killing the island's stands of Pisonia trees.

But the problems are fixable. Ballance is less sanguine about the ecological prospects of some of the other places she's been.

In 2003 Ballance filmed *Tigers: Fighting Back*, visiting three Wildlife Conservation Society projects one in India, one in Thailand and one in the Russian far east.

There's no one-fit answer. What you have to do in India to save tigers is completely different to what you have to do in Thailand which is completely different to what you have to do in Russia. You are dealing with a predator that requires a huge range and is going to come into conflict with people and their livestock.

In India, they say you have to put them in a national park and remove the people. In Russia, the home range that a tiger requires is so vast you have to come up with solutions that allow people and tigers to live alongside each another. The Sikhote-Alin Biosphere Reserve where we were filming is only big enough for 25 tigers and even those spend most of their time outside the reserve.

In Thailand the problem lies in managing a tiger population with no regard for territorial boundaries. You aren't dealing with one country, but maybe two or three, says Ballance.

In their darker moments, she says, scientists see little hope of tigers surviving in the wild.

Her own favourite place is an environmental success story and it's not that far distant from Dunedin. Cleared of possums and rats in the 1990s, Codfish Island, offshore from Stewart Island, is a sanctuary for a small-but-growing population of kakapo. As a documentary maker Ballance knows them well, though she still has unfinished business: she hasn't yet managed to film kakapo mating, something no one has ever seen. While on the island she, like the kakapo, lives nocturnally.

It is an amazing experience to lie on the ground, look up at the stars, and listen to all the seabirds flying in and the kakapo booming. This is what New Zealand used to be like before we mucked things up.

If ever there was a case of a person fitting their job, then Ballance fits hers. She gets to be creative and to work with other creative people whom she admires. She gets to spend time in places few of us will get to. And they

pay me! she says, in mock astonishment.

She likes getting home to Dunedin, but when she leaves for Ecuador in a few months to film in the high Andes and revive her rusty Spanish there will be a spring in her step.

It used to be more complicated when I had a cat and chickens, but I don't have them any more, she says.

I just walk out of my house and shut the door.

*** Holbert R.L., Kwak N. and Shah D.V. (2003). *Environmental Concern, Patterns of Television Viewing, and Pro-Environmental Behaviours: Integrating Models of Media Consumption and Effects*. *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*, 47(2) 177-196**



Peter Hayden

He's got that sort of Bill Clinton, rubbery face, broken nosed look ... a huge collection of flaws that make up quite an attractive face, Tom Scott told the Southland Times in 2003. Scott, the satirist and playwright was casting the Dunedin showing of Daylight Atheist, his one-man play about his alcoholic father.

Who could better for the role than his friend the talented Peter Hayden, the Head of Special Projects at NHNZ? He was the first actor I thought of.

The friendship dates back to the 1960s when Scott, Hayden and Rob Robinson, the current Commissioner of Police, were bench mates in physiology.

It was at Massey University that Hayden the boy from Hawkes Bay who wanted to become a country vet discovered the stage. He joined the Drama Society, took part in capping shows and saw his first professional theatre production at Manawatu Little Theatre, which probably turned my head a little .

Hayden graduated with a BSc, but his aspirations had shifted. He headed to Wellington to drama school, and to acting gigs with Circa and Downstage. He joined television, becoming the token male in the all-female cast of Today at One. Sharon Crosbie, the programme host taught him his chops as a script writer. She has the quickest wit of anyone I know. She is the master.

The move to Dunedin came in 1980. I was brought down for six months to write a couple of scripts. Michael Stedman [NHNZ Managing Director] asked me to give them a bit of a hand with the first series of Wild South, and I forgot to leave.

This was a time, he says, when New Zealanders knew little about the natural history of their country. Hayden himself was not atypical: The animals I knew were enclosed in fences. A wellspring of curiosity was there to be tapped.

At the Natural History Unit, Hayden teamed up with photographer and naturalist Rod Morris, who had started work on the same day he had. Their first collaboration was producing a documentary about the saving of the black robin, which was then on the brink of extinction. The story told by the footage they had was, on the face of it, straightforward: Staunch guys in shorts racing up and down cliffs, saving these little black powder puff birds and transferring them to another forest that wasn't falling down .

But Morris and Hayden could see that the footage also contained another more titillating narrative. Of the five robins in existence, three were males and two were females, only one of which was laying. To minimise risk, the

first bird to be transferred was a male. The following day a pair were transferred.

But when the new male arrived, he looked around, thought where am I, and went up to the top of the nearest tree to announce himself as the territory owner. The little single guy who had been there from the night before, snuck in, courtship-fed the female, and basically stole her. The same thing happened the next day: the new male of the second pair went up to the top of the tree and the new loner male came in and stole the female. So you had a wife-swapping situation. The birds became characters. I think that was our first break-through story, using the footage to tell some good science, but also to take you into the personalities of the animals involved.

The 1990 television documentary series Moa's Ark, fronted by David Bellamy and in large part engineered by Hayden and his fellow alumnus Ian McGee, was a high point. But then came a decade during which TVNZ took very little from NHNZ, though not for want of our trying, says Hayden, who now has hopes the TVNZ Charter will lead to more NHNZ work being seen locally. He would particularly like to see more science documentaries: I wish science had had more of a go over the years. There are incredible stories out there to be told.

His early nature documentaries are now the stuff of folk memory. A lot of people have a great memory and loyalty for the shows they have seen, enjoyed and grown up with. People come up to you at university and say the reason they are there is because of it. It feels like you made a difference at a time when you could make a difference.

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Writing for Columbine

The April anniversary of the Columbine High School massacre will be remembered vividly by a former student of the University's School of Journalism who was part of the newspaper team that won a Pulitzer Prize for its breaking news coverage of the tragedy.

Dr Alison McCulloch, currently a deputy chief subeditor at the New York Times the American title is backfield editor won newspapers' highest accolade for coverage of the 1999 Columbine High School shootings when working as a copy editor (American for subeditor) at the Denver Post.

America's Pulitzer Prizes were begun by 19th century newspaper magnate Joseph Pulitzer as an incentive to excellence. Rewarding works in journalism, letters, and music, they are regarded as being among the most prestigious honours possible in literature: past winners range from Ernest Hemingway to John Kennedy.

In the tragedy of 20 April, 1999, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold murdered 12 of their classmates as well as a teacher, and wounded more than 20 others. The winning Denver Post coverage began with the dramatic breaking news: Two students, cloaked in black trench coats and armed with guns and bombs, opened fire Tuesday at Columbine High School, killing as many as 25 people and wounding at least 22 others in the worst school shooting in U.S. history.

It also included evocative reportage of the carnage through the eyes of the participants and the witnesses. One piece began: Fanned out across the Denver metro area at work and in their cars, they heard the first sketchy rumors. Trouble at Columbine. Gunshots. Suddenly, existence boiled down to what matters most. And strange kids in trench coats were threatening to yank it away. The result was the most intense moments that some 4000 Colorado parents have ever known. They screamed. Cried. Hyperventilated. Prayed...

Alison is quick to emphasise the award was for a writing team. It was not to me personally. Yeah, I got a plaque, but I was merely one of the many editors involved. That one got improved in the telling, which is a little embarrassing and now means I'll never be able to come home again!

A graduate of journalism's class of 1982 when it was part of the old Wellington Polytechnic, Alison has had a distinguished career in journalism. After graduating alongside home-grown notables including television personality Kerre Woodham and Investigate magazine editor Ian Wishart, she began real life as a rural reporter for Radio New Zealand.

She subsequently worked as a reporter and Gallery reporter for The Dominion newspaper, where she covered, among other things, the first Ma-ori challenges over fisheries and other resources that began when the Labour Government started its state-owned enterprises policy.

In 1990 she joined the new Rainbow Warrior on its trip to Mururoa investigating and protesting French nuclear testing, her reports carried in The Dominion and the New Zealand Listener. On moving to Washington State, she completed an MA in philosophy. After moving to Denver she started a PhD, which she completed in New York in 2003. It's about Kant, Alison says. Not at all journalism related, but I love philosophy, and I'm still trying to work out a way to combine the two. There has to be a way, don't you think?

As a backfield editor on the Foreign Desk at the New York Times, Alison works alongside nine others maybe four to five on at any one time under the foreign editor and deputy foreign editor. Backfielding is one step up the

editing food chain from the copy editors, she says. You work pretty closely with the reporters. Given that it's the foreign desk, they're from all over the world, and I haven't actually met half of them.

How much writing, rewriting, etc., of stories depends on things like what the story is hard news, feature, analysis the reporter, the demands from above, etc. It's a great job, though I find it more stressful than I'm used to.

Alison has fond memories of her time at the School of Journalism. We put out the [now defunct community newspaper] Mt Cook Messenger a few issues a year I think we even delivered it. Notable in my sketchy memory were the trips out of town. I went to Taumarunui to work on the local paper there, and there was also a trip to Carterton - or was it Greytown, or Masterton? Hmm, I can't remember: it was somewhere in the Wairarapa.

We learned a lot of useful practical stuff, photography, developing pictures okay, I guess that's all been superseded by digital typing, shorthand and newspaper production from go to whoa. I loved all that stuff!

Date: 05/04/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Massey Magazine



The lecturer's tale

Donovan Storey during a field work trip to an urban-poor community in Bangkok

Malcolm Wood talks to Dr Donovan Storey

If I have been curious to see what John Entwistle looks like, then Development Studies lecturer Dr Donovan Storey is even more so. Entwistle, like many of his current and former students, is someone Storey feels he knows well, even though he has never set eyes on him. He'd love to see a photo.

As a Development Studies lecturer, Dr Storey has become accustomed to phone calls and e-mails from all over the world, some personal and chatty, often from people he has never met in person. Many he regards as friends.

Most of Dr Storey's extramural students are enrolled in the master's degrees or the postgraduate diploma. Generally they are already knowledgeable within a speciality Entwistle is a qualified health worker and they are pursuing Development Studies both as a means of career development and to give themselves a theoretical context for the work they are doing.

A veteran of development work himself, Storey understands their circumstances: that technology is fallible, that study must compete with work, that to be an aid worker is at the very least to be prey to Third World conditions, not to mention such things as disease, famine and war.

I have a student in Nepal who has been chipping away at a masterate for three years through the Maoist insurgency, he says.

The exigencies of his students' lives also impose demands on Dr Storey. Sometimes contact is sporadic, and then you get a flurry of e-mails. You've really got to get on to it straight away, he says. The compensations? We learn as much from our students as they do from us. It is a circular learning process.

Most of his students will use their own work in their case studies, and in published work this can require some sensitivity. All Development Studies work is to some extent political, says Dr Storey.



Massey development studies students can be found the world over. Each red dot represents one or more students.

Date: 05/04/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Massey Magazine

Danish Red Cross



In development

John Entwistle and the Danish Red Cross are making a difference in Laos, as editor Malcolm Wood reports.

The pictures tell only so much. The taped interview is more evocative. A year on, back in Wellington as I listen and take notes, I am transported back to the languor of Luang Prabang, the old royal capital of Laos. I can hear the tinging of the bell rung by of the man selling home-made water ices from a hand cart, the chatter of a caged parrot, the nasal revving of small motorbikes the family vehicle of choice and the polyglot conversations of backpackers in the café.



It is hard not to fall for the charms of Luang Prabang: the patinaed French colonial buildings; the golden wats and temples; the street markets; the lines of saffron-robed monks, bowls in hand walking barefoot through the early morning mist, accepting the gifts of food proffered by householders. Many a tourist must fantasise, as I do, about pulling a Gauguin; going native under the palm trees by the banks of the slow-flowing Mekong and considering the world well lost.

Sitting in the café, I am curious to meet John Entwistle; to put a face to the e-mails. It is a rare thing for a Massey staff member to actually sight Entwistle. The close-on a decade of study that went towards his Master of Philosophy in Development Studies was all extramural.

And here is a Danish Red Cross white four-wheel drive coming by the café frontage, and here is Entwistle: in his late thirties, shaven-headed not so remarkable in a land of monks and displaying an engaging smile. To be in Luang Prabang is a treat for him, too. He and his Danish Red Cross co-workers are attending an organisational development conference in a nearby hotel.

I can't imagine how Luang Prabang looks to him. My views of the place are shaped by its exoticism; for Entwistle this is known territory.

He and his family are highly cosmopolitan, true members of the global village. Entwistle grew up in Pakistan, where his New Zealand parents worked for the church in a small settlement on the edge of the Thar desert. Of Entwistle's three children, the first was born in Pakistan, the second in New Zealand, and the third in Thailand. All speak Lao fluently.



Entwistle recalls Ruby, the youngest, wandering off when they were last in New Zealand. We were at Punakaiki and we found her running along the road, saying, 'I am going back to Laos, I am going back to Laos'.

Entwistle, who has a degree in nursing and a diploma in public health, first came to Laos with his wife to job-share for VSA in a rural development project outside Vientiane, the current capital of Laos. He followed this with two years working for a private development consultancy, stationed in Xam Nua, a remote town in the far north, chancing his luck flying in and out through the ranges. (On one occasion he watched the pilot choosing when it was best to come down through cloud cover by consulting a wrist watch and the fuel gauge.) But the profit-driven aid work was not to his taste, he says dryly: I did my two-year contract and left. Then came work for AusAid and, at last, his current employer, the Danish Red Cross.

VSA, AusAID, the Danish Red Cross... aid organisations are well represented in Laos. It is easy to see why. Away from centres like Luang Prabang, touched by Western affluence, Laos is a land of bare dirt and bamboo villages. Small, mountainous, lacking arable land and devastated by the Vietnam War, it remains desperately poor. The statistics are unequivocal: average GDP, US\$1,700; population below the poverty line, 40 percent; life expectancy at birth, 55 years; infant mortality rate, 87 deaths per 1,000.

Entwistle's employer, the Danish Red Cross, is working with the Laos Red Cross in running an integrated primary healthcare project in three of Laos's poorest provinces. We train village health volunteers and traditional birth attendants, and do 'watsan' (water and sanitation): gravity-fed water systems and latrines, Entwistle explains.

The Danish Red Cross and its Laos partner have also set up medicine revolving funds (where the purchase of drugs pays for the supply to be replenished), constructed and equipped schools, trained teachers, and set up literacy programmes and credit and savings groups for women. Eventually the work will be done by the Laos Red Cross alone, says Entwistle. Ideally in another couple of years my position will be redundant.



Oddly enough, money alone is often not the limiting resource. The problem we have is that the capacity to absorb the money and to spend it is limited. Development work can be very slow. There are the barriers of culture, language, experience and skill.

Where does Entwistle believe interventions are most effective? There is a clear link between education, health and economics. If you have poor health you can't go to school, and you can't earn money. Though if you had to choose, my own theory would be that to make the greatest difference you should focus on governance and education.

Throughout most of Entwistle's aid career he has also been a student, accumulating points at the rate of one 25-point paper each year, first towards his Diploma in Development Studies and then his Master of Philosophy in Development Studies, which he graduated with in 2004.

Much of his study was in the days before ubiquitous e-mail access. Mail, phone and fax were the staples. [Professor] Anton Meister taught cost-benefit analysis and I am more into the arts side of things, So I'd go down to the public fax office and I'd send screeds of material off, and he'd send all these figures back, and I'd say, 'But what do I do with them?' he remembers.

Entwistle describes Development Studies as the ideal extramural offering. You can take papers anywhere in the world and you can relate what you do to your work.

Nike had a good tagline: there is no finish line. Education is like that, he says. Are you a better, nicer person for it? Not necessarily. But it opens your mind.

Date: 05/04/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Massey Magazine



An education against odds

Jamie Parkin is disabled and living in Blenheim, but with the help of a support worker and a software programme called JAWS he hasn't let that stop him from notching up university papers.

Ansuné Lombard is reading aloud the opening chapters of *The Oxford Book of the Crusades* to disabled student Jamie Parkin. The last book she read him was 300 pages long and took three weeks to finish. This one breaks 400 pages.

The pair have an obvious rapport. They joke as they learn about the exploits of some of the characters involved in the crusades, recalling the fate of some they have already encountered in the previous book. Last year the Vikings held them similarly enthralled. Then, from the nearby bookshelf, a talking clock announces it is one o'clock. Study is over for another day.

It's only mid-February but Ansuné and Jamie have been getting a head start on the texts he needs to read for the three extramural papers he has enrolled for this year. The reading is the toughest aspect of Jamie's study. The 24-year-old has Laurence Moon-Biedl syndrome, a rare genetic condition that severely affects both his eyesight and speech. One of the key ways Jamie accesses the reading material for his courses is by having people read them aloud.

His study guides, on the other hand, are scanned by Massey using Optical Character Recognition (OCR), so that Jamie's computer can read them to him. Some of his texts are also processed this way; others come on audio tapes, usually sourced via the Foundation for the Blind on interloan from overseas, though only a few texts are available as interloaned tapes, and then only for three months.



Ansuné has been Jamie's eyes for the past three years, and she often acts as his translator - only those familiar with his speech can understand him consistently enough to hold a conversation, and even then there are times when he'll have to spell out a word that those closest to him have struggled to grasp.

Ansuné, who is originally from South Africa, is employed by the University as a support person for Jamie. She comes to his Blenheim home two doors away from hers for three hours each weekday. It would be very difficult for me to study without her, he explains.

When Jamie's mother, Beth, asked what help the University could offer her son, she was told to advertise for a support person that Massey would then fund. Beth says around 20 people applied, but it was Ansuné's aptitude

and attitude that easily won her the job. They work so well together because they both enjoy learning, explains Beth, but he does drive his own learning. He'll pick his essay topics early and they'll talk about the focus of his essays so Ansuné is guided to the pre-reading and the texts he wants to source.

Jamie has already passed 13 papers toward a bachelor's degree in history. The first four he gained in his last two years at Marlborough Boys' College, which he attended until he was 21. Teachers there encouraged his interest in enrolling as an extramural student. A former teacher, Brian McNamara, sometimes helps at exam time when Jamie needs an amanuensis. In answer to a newspaper request for help, retired teacher Trevor Taylor volunteers an hour of his time twice a week to read to Jamie.

And then there is JAWS (Job Access With Speech), the snappily titled software programme on Jamie's laptop. Using a computer-synthesised voice JAWS reads the content of Jamie's computer screen, deadpanning out the scanned material sent from the Foundation, tracts from the essays he is writing, or e-mails. JAWS can read back individual letters as they are typed, as well as completed sentences.

When he was young, Jamie wore glasses and used devices such as screen enlargers. But in his teens his eyesight started to deteriorate further; and at 14 the glasses no longer helped. He learned to touch-type and acquired JAWS using funding from the Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind (RNZFB) and Workbridge.

Reading isn't really a chore for Jamie. He's a passionate learner and when he doesn't have anyone to read to him he has audio books to draw on, many of them coming through the interloan service of the RNZFB. His bookshelf groans under the weight of the works (on tape) of Shakespeare, Dan Brown and JK Rowling. Alongside these is a large collection of music CDs and DVDs.

Jamie tries to get to Christchurch at least once or twice a year to go to a concert. And though his eyesight has now almost gone, he still goes once a week or fortnight to a movie, which he says are usually quite easy to follow from just the sound track. The most recent one he saw was Ray.

Asked which papers he enjoyed most, Jamie says high on the list would be Modern New Zealand Politics. Among the most difficult were Introductory Latin and Greek Mythology. In the latter case Jamie didn't realise 50 per cent of the course was related to visual artwork, which Ansuné was unable to help him with. The University came to their aid by converting the visual requirement to a written one specifically for Jamie.

However, in the case of the Latin things became almost comical, says Ansuné. It's a very visual language. We were quite good at translating from Latin to English but the other way round was quite tricky because Jamie couldn't see the letters. We had to phone the Latin lecturer and he just laughed. He couldn't believe that here was a person with a heavy South African accent who was working on Latin translation with a blind person!

Nonetheless it was a subject Jamie had long wanted to study. Lecturer Stuart Lawrence sent down extra assignments and was always willing to help over the phone. Jamie managed a restricted pass.

Jamie has twice travelled to the Palmerston North campus to attend block courses and hopes to go again this year. He says he likes to meet the lecturers and the experience gives him a stronger sense of being a university student. But it's not easy. Massey is willing to help fund a support person, says Beth, but she still has to take time off work. The problem is that he needs someone with him who can understand him and help with his personal care outside of Massey. Ansuné is unable to go for that length of time.

However, getting around Massey's Palmerston North campus poses no problems. Jamie describes it as reasonably user-friendly for him. He says he'd probably cope quite well as a regular student if he lived nearby. He would just need someone to show him around initially; he has a cane and could tape his lectures.

Though Jamie wants his course work judged on its own merit, he says he does sometimes wonder if all his lecturers are aware of his disability. One had written on an assignment that he needed to read more. If only they knew! says Ansuné.

In 2004 1529 people with disabilities were enrolled at Massey University: 190 in Albany, 184 in Wellington and 230 in Palmerston North. Another 925 were on the extramural roll. Massey employs 18 casual support staff in Albany, 10 in Wellington and 55 through Disability Services in Palmerston North. The support is funded jointly by the Tertiary Education Commission and the University.

Date: 05/04/2006

Type: Features



The economics of illicit drug markets

In a kind of convenient shorthand, people often refer to Dr Chris Wilkins as an illicit-drug researcher. This is true, as far as it goes, but a more adequate description would be that he is a New Institutional Economist with a particular interest in stateless economic systems such as illicit drug markets.

New Institutional Economics (NIE) is an economic school which studies the role institutions play in economic behavior and performance. These include formal institutions such as the law and the state, and informal institutions such as social custom, norms of behavior and ideology.

NIE looks at the institutional context of economic behaviour, explains Wilkins. It looks beyond the workings of demand, supply and pricing to examine how institutions, property rights, social convention and transaction and information costs affect the decision-making of economic actors and the performance of economic systems.

New Institutional Economics is particularly suited to the study of 'stateless economies': economies where there is no state to enforce contracts or property rights, and this includes illicit drug markets.

In his PhD thesis Wilkins looked at the workings of cannabis markets, where, in the absence of legal enforcement and remedies, cheating might be expected to be widespread. But Wilkins found these markets were typified by generally reliable transacting between buyers and sellers. The reason, says Wilkins, lies in the search and information costs associated with these exchanges.

In the legal economy exchange is generally impersonal. In the supermarket you don't know the person at the till and you may not even deal with cash. In the cannabis black market the buyer typically knows the seller, can inspect the product, and hands over cash. It is very personal, very face-to-face.

In the clandestine illicit drug market it can be quite difficult for buyers and sellers to find one another. Legal commodities are advertised, and there are public retail outlets. In the cannabis market it is difficult to obtain information about the location of sellers, and the quality and prices of products. It takes some effort even for experienced buyers to assess the options available in the market. This means that in cannabis markets both the buyer and the seller make a significant time investment in the exchange relationship, and that constrains cheating to some extent. If a cannabis seller cheats a customer, then that customer won't return, and that's potentially a big loss.

In a recent paper, Wilkins and Professor Sally Casswell explored the role gangs play in outdoor cannabis cultivation in New Zealand. The analysis in the paper suggests that gangs are unlikely to have complete monopoly control of cannabis cultivation cannabis is too easy to cultivate and rival cannabis cultivators and cannabis crops too hard to deter and detect though Wilkins is quick to say this does not mean the gangs do not have persuasive advantages elsewhere in the cannabis market, or when it comes to other drugs.

In their paper Wilkins and Caswell set out the conditions under which an illicit drug market most favours the involvement of organised crime. These occur where there are cost advantages from larger-scale production, where there is a need for specialised skills, capital equipment or large amounts of start-up capital, and where there are visible targets for violence aimed at discouraging competition.

While a few seeds, some potting mix and a secluded patch of ground are all that is required to cultivate cannabis, manufacturing methamphetamine is a much more technical and sophisticated process, says Wilkins. You need to have access to the appropriate precursor chemicals and have the knowledge and equipment required for manufacture.

Anecdotally, 'cooks' the amateur chemists who manufacture methamphetamine have become much sought after. Highly skilled, they can command premiums, and such is the demand that kidnappings are not unknown.

Stories have circulated that gangs traditionally at odds are co-operating in the methamphetamine market.

Working together may be a rational way of gaining access to rare precursor chemicals and to exchange manufacture techniques.

One of the flow-on effects of the rise in the use of methamphetamine may be to extend the power and influence of New Zealand's gangs, in much the same way that Prohibition once strengthened the hand of the Mafia in America. If this is happening then it will mirror trends that have been seen internationally. A report by the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime has noted a shift away from a loose network of independent laboratory operators towards larger organisations able to produce more and better drugs at lower costs. The larger groups are more flexible, and are able to identify and exploit any lucrative business opportunity, as well as any flaws in law enforcement efforts. They assist each other to more efficiently produce, market and distribute their products.

Wilkins is the current recipient of a Fast Start grant from the Marsden fund to investigate which illicit drug markets nurture the development of organised crime.

Date: 05/04/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Massey Magazine; Research

meth

Anatomy of a designer drug

Virtually all psychoactive drugs work by interfering with the normal workings of the brain's neurotransmitters - the chemicals that pass messages between neurons. The amphetamines closely resemble two prominent neurotransmitters: dopamine and norepinephrine.

Amphetamines have their effect by releasing these neurotransmitters into the gap between nerve endings. The alerting, stimulating effect comes from the norepinephrine. The accompanying schizophrenia psychosis is associated with the abnormal release of dopamine.

Norepinephrine is a single chemical step away from epinephrine, the neurotransmitter better known as adrenaline. Epinephrine is a part of your body's fight or flight response. It serves to raise your heart rate, increase muscle strength and dilate the bronchial tree, helping you breathe more quickly and deeply. This last effect makes epinephrine an effective treatment for asthma, but only when delivered by injection because it is rapidly broken down if swallowed.

The Chinese herbal remedy, ma huang, or *Ephedra vulgaris*, has been used to treat respiratory disorders for centuries. In 1887 Japanese chemist Nagayoshi Nagai extracted the active ingredient from the plant. This proved to be ephedrine, which is chemically similar to epinephrine. This was also the year in which a German chemist, L. Edeleano, first synthesised amphetamine, the 'parent' of the family of alkaloids of which ephedrine is a member. But amphetamine's pharmacological potential was missed, and the molecule lapsed into obscurity until 1927, when it was resynthesised by Gordon Alles, one of a group of chemists looking for an ephedrine substitute.

Alles also prepared amphetamine in a volatile form. Soon, under the brand name Benzedrine, amphetamine inhalers were widely sold over the counter and the contents were widely used for purposes other than the treatment of respiratory disorders.

Methamphetamine, which is more potent than amphetamine and easier to make, was first synthesised in Japan in 1919. From the Second World War on amphetamines were used by the armed forces of many nations to combat fatigue. The world's first major amphetamine epidemic took place in Japan in the wake of the War as companies marketed their methamphetamine stockpiles for 'elimination of drowsiness and repletion of spirit'.

Manufacturing methamphetamine is not as a chemist might see it a particularly sophisticated process, according to Associate Professor Trevor Kitson, who now must establish his bona fides before he is able to restock some common reagents and whose lesson plans now skirt certain areas. It is, however, in the absence of such equipment as fume hoods, risky.

The most common method of 'cooking' methamphetamine in New Zealand employs a range of toxic, corrosive and flammable chemicals. These include hydrochloric acid, caustic soda, and solvents such as ethanol, acetone and ether. Associate Professor Kitson would also be extremely wary of consuming any product that had emerged from a home laboratory, even if he himself were the chemist. There simply isn't the control of purity.

Ecstasy (the street name for MDMA or 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine) releases norepinephrine but much less dopamine than amphetamine. Consequently it does not have amphetamine's association with aggression and paranoia, and in fact it is sometimes termed an 'empathogen'.

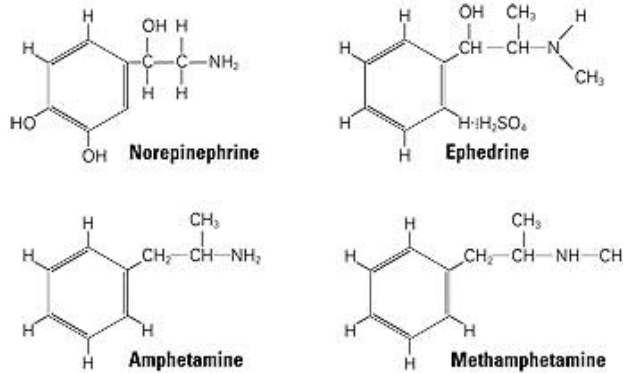
Nonetheless, a set of consumer warnings do apply: there have been deaths (usually, but not exclusively, from hyperthermia, or overheating), and, as the UN report puts it, the risk for ecstasy users suffering the effects of



early decline in mental function and memory, or Alzheimer's-type symptoms, is real. Then, too, there is no assurance that what is sold as MDMA/ecstasy actually is MDMA. It may well be a mix of other drugs and adulterants, or, as Associate Professor Kitson points out, it may be MDMA mixed with a brew of by-products.

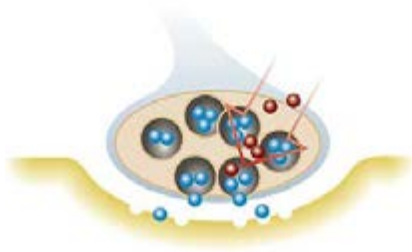
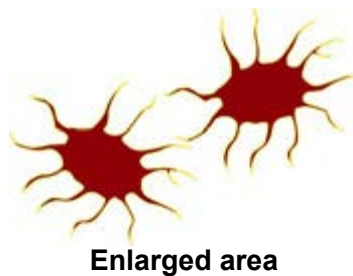
For his part, Wilkins urges extreme caution. It is hard to generalize health risk for different substances. Different people react differently to the same substance and the risk of use is influenced by the experience a person may have had with a drug and the social setting of use.

Associate Professor Trevor Kitson has a particular expertise in the interaction of organic reagents with various enzymes. He is also known as an engaging teacher, winning a Distinguished Teacher Award from the Institute of Fundamental Science in 1998 and 2001. He regards methamphetamine as an 'interesting' molecule, and sometimes uses its structure (though not its manufacture) in his first-year classes.

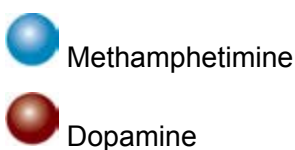


The structure of the ATS drugs resembles that of the body's natural molecules adrenaline (a.k.a. epinephrine) and dopamine, which are involved in a variety of physiological responses such as 'fight-or-flight' and feelings of pleasure. All of these compounds include an amino group (nitrogen atom) and a benzene ring separated from each other by a chain of two carbon atoms.

How methamphetamine works



1. Methamphetamine enters the nerve cell
2. Releasing dopamine
3. Which then fits into specialised receptors located on other nerve cells, creating a rush of pleasure



Methods of absorption

Snorting

Methamphetamine is inhaled through the nose. Methamphetamine travels from the lungs into the bloodstream and to the brain. Drug effect takes 3-5 minutes. User experiences a long-term euphoria that can last from 8-24 hours



Smoking

Odorless vapor inhaled through a glass pipe. Methamphetamine travels from the lungs into the bloodstream and to the brain. User experiences an intense rush or flash that lasts for a few minutes (extremely pleasurable).



Injecting

A solution of water and methamphetamine is injected directly into the bloodstream and travels to the brain.



Ingesting

Methamphetamine enters the bloodstream through digestive system. Drug effect takes 15-20 minutes. User experiences a long term euphoria that can last from 8-24 hours. User experiences an intense rush or flash that lasts for a few minutes similar to smoking.



Infographic sources: *HonoluluAdvertiser.com, National Institute on Drug Abuse*

Date: 05/04/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Massey Magazine; Research

meth

The statistics

The Socio-Economic Impact of Amphetamine Type Stimulants (ATS) in New Zealand

In May 2003 the Police contracted Massey's SHORE Centre (the Centre for Social and Health Outcomes Research and Evaluation) to conduct a study of the socio-economic impact of the increased use of amphetamine-type stimulants and in particular methamphetamine. The team was led by Dr Chris Wilkins.

In the course of the study Dr Wilkins and his team:

- reanalysed the results of the 2001 National Drug Survey
- surveyed frequent methamphetamine users in Auckland
- conducted key informant surveys of drug enforcement officers, drug treatment workers and regular methamphetamine users outside of treatment
- piloted a New Zealand Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring System at the Papakura Police Station, over a period of three weeks interviewing and drug testing 62 arrestees
- interviewed key informants from drug treatment, drug enforcement and frequent methamphetamine users
- drew on the results of the annual survey of an alcohol and drug treatment workers survey conducted by the National Addiction Centre in Christchurch. (The survey asks workers about the two most recent patients they have seen.)

The report was published in September 2004. This and other publications are available for download from www.shore.ac.nz

Global ATS abuse

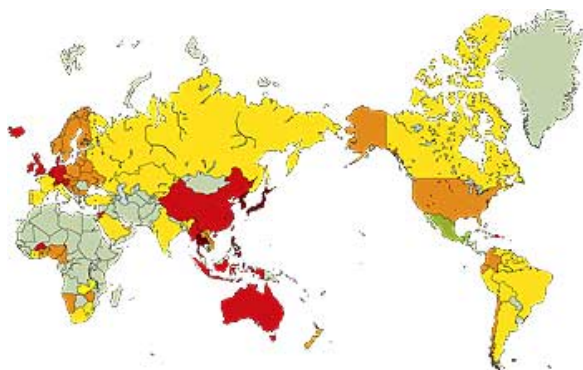
In 2003 the United Nation's Office on Drugs and Crime estimated the production of ATS (Amphetamine Type Stimulant) drugs at 500 tons a year, with more than 40 million people having used them in the past 12 months.

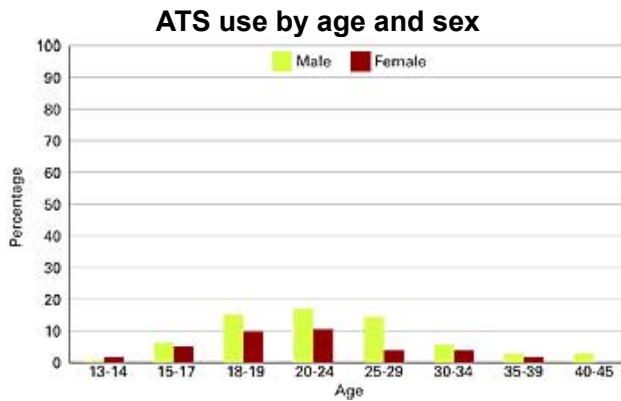
In the decade from 1990/91 to 2000/2001 seizures of ATS drugs rose from about four tons to just less than 40 tons. Seizures of precursors rose by 12 times. The pattern and prevalence of ATS drug use varies considerably from nation to nation.

In Europe, in particular, the place of methamphetamine is taken by its less powerful relative amphetamine. In 2001, Australia the neighbour against which New Zealand often compares itself had the highest level of ecstasy abuse worldwide and was second only to Thailand in methamphetamine abuse.

The prevalence of use

Among the New Zealand population in 2001: A comparison between the level of last year use of ATS in New Zealand and Australia in 2001 indicates that New Zealand generally had lower levels of use. This was particularly so of ecstasy. But the levels of amphetamine use are much closer, and in one group men aged 15 to 19 the New Zealand use of amphetamine appears to be higher. (This is, unfortunately, the period during which drug use is mostly likely to disrupt education and damage future life prospects.) In total, one in ten New Zealanders aged 18 to 29 had used an ATS drug in the last year.





Disproportionately more ATS users lived in urban settings, in the upper half of the North Island and in Auckland.



Northern Region
 Proportion of all people 13 4536%
 Proportion of ATS users47%
 Midland Region
 Proportion of all people 13 4517%
 Proportion of ATS users12%
 Central Region
 Proportion of all people 13 4524%
 Proportion of ATS users24%
 Southern Region
 Proportion of all people 13 4524%
 Proportion of ATS users17%

The scale of the market

Dollar value of the ATS market 2001	Amphetamine	Ecstasy	Cannabis
Annual individual expenditure*	\$1,000	\$600	\$450
Annual total market value (million)	\$123	\$46	\$169

*For users of these drugs.

Patterns of use

Among frequent methamphetamine users: 65 percent reported bingeing in the last six months. The average frequency of bingeing was approximately once a fortnight.

20 percent thought their methamphetamine use was 'often' or 'always' out of control. One in five had injected

methamphetamine in the last six months.

Among arrestees: The typical dollar amount spent on amphetamines was \$350, as against \$20 for cannabis.

Damage to health

Among frequent methamphetamine users: Most reported harms from methamphetamine use

Physical Problems% sample

Poor appetite83

Trouble sleeping77

Loss of energy57

Skin problems51

Poor concentration51

Heart palpitations51

Most reported psychological problems from methamphetamine use

Psychological Problems% sample

Anxiety70

Mood swings66

Short temper62

Paranoia60

Depression60

Addiction

Among patients receiving treatment for addiction: One in five cite amphetamine, alone or in combination with other drugs, as their main substance abuse problem.

Among frequent methamphetamine users: Eight percent described giving up methamphetamine as 'very difficult or impossible'.

The clandestine market

Among arrestees: Whereas about half of arrestees purchasing cannabis did so through public 'tinny' houses, only five percent of arrestees purchasing amphetamine did so through 'tinny' houses.

Among frequent methamphetamine users: All of the amphetamine sellers interviewed reported selling only to close friends and family members. About half of amphetamine buyers contacted their buyers by mobile phone or texting.

New user groups

Among key informants: About 50 percent of user key informants, 60 percent of enforcement key informants and 33 percent of treatment key informants had noticed new groups of people using methamphetamine in the last six months. The new user groups most commonly reported by all three key informant groups were 'teenage users' and 'business people'. User key informants also noted more 'young women', 'lower socio-economic' and 'Maori/Polynesian' users. Treatment key informants commonly noted more 'young women'.

47 percent of user key informants and 24 percent of drug enforcement key informants reported the repackaging of methamphetamine into smaller weights and lower prices.

Crime and social harm

There are a number of ways in which methamphetamine use is associated with serious and particularly violent offending. The first is where an offence takes place because someone is under the influence methamphetamine; the second where someone engages in crime to obtain the money for drugs; the third, where violence is employed as part of the process of carrying out business in the drug market.

Among arrestees

63 percent had used cannabis in the last year

49 percent had used amphetamine in the last year

11 percent had used ice (crystal methamphetamine) in the last year

7 percent had used ecstasy in the last year.
 21 percent had used amphetamines in the last month.
 9 percent had used amphetamines just before committing an offence.

About a quarter of those who had recently used amphetamines considered that their use of these drugs had played a major part in the activities for which they had been arrested. Three quarters perceived the market for amphetamine to be very violent.

Reported effect of drug on the likelihood of getting angry

Drug type	Much less likely	Less likely	No effect	More likely	Much more likely
Alcohol	32	15	28	16	9
Cannabis	46	29	18	1	6
Amphetamine/Methamphetamine	18	16	33	8	24
Ice (crystal methamphetamine)	0	19	30	51	0
Ecstasy	77	0	23	0	0
Hallucinogens	34	29	37	0	0

Among frequent methamphetamine users: One third were often involved in other illegal activities such as drug dealing and drug manufacture. One third had sold methamphetamine and one in five had manufactured it or exchanged it for stolen property. The average amount earned from illegal activities was \$24,000.

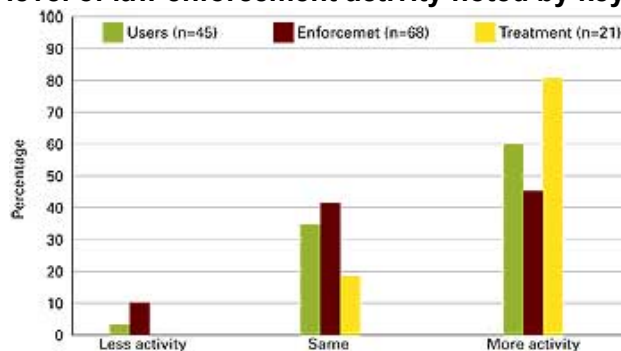
Among key informants: About one third of user and treatment key informants indicated that there had been changes in the type of crime committed by methamphetamine users. All three groups of key informants were most likely to report increased 'violent crime' and increased 'property crime'.

Law enforcement

The highly clandestine methamphetamine market presents special challenges for law enforcement.

Among frequent methamphetamine users: Sixty percent noted more law enforcement activity directed against methamphetamine in last six months. A third reported more arrests of other users they knew. Eight percent thought that increased law enforcement had made it more difficult to get methamphetamine in the last six months.

Change in level of law enforcement activity noted by key informants



Among key informants: 51 percent of user key informants rated the availability of methamphetamine as 'very easy'.

Among arrestees: About one half described purchasing ecstasy, amphetamine or heroin as 'very risky'.

Date: 05/04/2006

Type: Features



Profiling an epidemic

It is a wet, grey morning in the Wairarapa. In the back seat of the old white Lada, the two children the boy aged eight, his sister aged six sit bundled in their wet-weather clothing on their way to school. Rain rattles on the roof, the windscreen wipers beat out an insistent rhythm. The car stops in the school car park and the boy scurries out of the car for shelter. The girl baulks. Can't she go home? She has a present there for Harold, the Life Education giraffe mascot, who is visiting the school that day.

The driver, the children's stepfather, leans over into the back seat. Earlier that morning he has made them breakfast and helped them prepare for school. Now he loses it. Leaning into the back of the car he hits the girl; hits her, and hits her again.

The girl, whose elfin face will become so familiar to the public over the coming weeks as the search is mounted, her body found and charges laid is Coral Burrows. The driver is Stephen Williams. He has a methamphetamine habit, and on that rainy morning has just emerged from a four-day binge during which he has hardly eaten or slept.

While taking methamphetamine Williams would have felt a rush of intense euphoria as the neurons in his brain released the neurotransmitters dopamine and norepinephrine. He would have felt alert, confident, invincible.

But methamphetamine is known for its demon, a condition called methamphetamine psychosis, characterised by confusion, delirium, panic, hallucinations, and an intense paranoia which may manifest itself in aggressive behaviour or violence. Indeed, the psychosis most closely resembles a type of schizophrenia known as paranoid schizophrenia. William Bell, who beat three people to death with the butt of a shotgun during a robbery, had binged on 'P' ('pure' amphetamine) just hours before. Ese Faleali'i, who shot two people during a rampage, was reportedly using P at the time. As this magazine went to print, Antonie Dixon was on trial for attempted murder, and murder in connection with sword and shooting attacks in 2003. Again, P figures.

Crimes like these violent, senseless, sometimes bizarre help shape our views of methamphetamine. To read the accounts you might think the use of methamphetamine is the exclusive province of the unemployed and the uneducated, of no-hopers, of habitual criminals, of people, in other words, generally quite unlike you and me. All of them 'ticking time bombs', crimes waiting to happen.

You would be wrong. A recent study of the socio-economic impact in New Zealand of amphetamine-type stimulants a category of drugs that includes amphetamine, methamphetamine and MDMA/ecstasy, among others conducted by Dr Chris Wilkins and his team at the Centre for Social and Health Outcomes Research and Evaluation (SHORE), located at Massey University in Auckland, has provided a broader and more comprehensive understanding of this new drug trend. The New Zealand Police have funded the research to inform its own and other agencies' response

The methamphetamine high

5-30 minutes

- Initial rush
- Racing heart rate and elevated blood pressure

4-24 hours

- Sense of well being
- Feeling of intelligence
- Aggressive state may lead to violent behaviour
- Loss of appetite

3-15 days

- Hyperactivity
- Can remain awake for days

Binging

User may become violent, delusional or paranoid as high wears off. Eventually higher doses of meth are required to achieve the desired high. User may take methamphetamine every two or three hours for several days.

to methamphetamine. They recognise that beyond reacting to single incidents there is a need for an evidence-based approach

That illicit drug use is difficult to measure is almost a matter of definition. No one is keen to admit to a criminal activity, and because the traffic in illicit drugs is invisible to agencies like the IRD, most evidence is either anecdotal or indirect. The exception to this is the National Drug Survey, the results of which are the best measure we have. In 2001 the National Drug Survey interviewed 5,800 people aged 13 to 45 nationwide. The survey found that 12 percent of New Zealanders aged 13 to 45 years had tried amphetamines and five percent had used amphetamines in the last year. It showed that the users of ATS were more ordinary than not. They had high levels of full-time employment, came from a range of occupational backgrounds (including professionals), earned mid-level incomes and had high levels of educational achievement.

Drugs like methamphetamine and MDMA/ecstasy are not new, and neither is their use as recreational drugs. But in New Zealand there has never been anything approaching the current explosion in their use.

Dr Chris Wilkins puts the timing of the shift at some time between the mid to late 1990s, when he was finishing a PhD thesis on the economics of cannabis markets, and 2000, when he returned to New Zealand after a stint in Britain to join SHORE's predecessor (the then Alcohol and Public Health Research Unit).

His PhD thesis involved developing a model of how cannabis markets work and then validating it using interviews with cannabis users and dealers. The interviews were also revealing of other facets of the drug scene.

Methamphetamine was around then, he says, but it wasn't big and there was nothing like today's level of awareness. MDMA/ecstasy was present, too, a part of the dance scene, though interdiction at New Zealand's borders had made it far harder to get hold of and much more expensive than in Europe.

But two years later, when Wilkins returned from working in Britain, it was very apparent to him that something seemed to have happened.

Something had happened and it was continuing to happen. In 1996 1.3 kilograms of ATS drugs were seized. In 2001 the figure was 76.9 kilograms. In each year since the indices for ATS drug use laboratories busted, drugs intercepted, arrests made have lurched upwards.

In May 2003 mounting concern led the New Zealand Police (on behalf of other government agencies) to contract the SHORE Centre to conduct a study of the socio-economic impact of the increased use of amphetamine-type stimulants, and in particular, methamphetamine.

Dr Chris Wilkins would lead the team.

That year Wilkins set out to interview a sample of high-frequency methamphetamine users in Auckland. Coming in the wake of a number of high-profile homicides, the proposal caused some consternation in the University Ethics Committee, which helped formulate and approve a set of sensible protocols. There was a concern that we might come across psychotic and violent users and that there would be risk to interviewers and the public, says Wilkins.

In Australia the community sampling of illicit drug users had been going on since the early '90s, says Wilkins. Those surveyed were generally heroin users, but there were also methamphetamine users, and when you looked through those studies at the sample characteristics, the participants tended to be intravenous drug users and to have really high rates of unemployment something like 90 percent of the sample with all of the problems associated with that.

Wilkins's sample, which he arrived at using a mix of community advertising and referrals from those interviewed, had a quite different profile. It included students, mothers and business people. We were interviewing people you



A single dose of methamphetamine lasts for 6 to 8 hours.



A single dose of cocaine lasts only 8 to 20 minutes.

wouldn't associate with methamphetamine.

But they were often involved in the wider drug economy. One-third of the methamphetamine users had sold methamphetamine, and about one in five had manufactured methamphetamine or exchanged it for stolen property at some time.

The correlation between methamphetamine and crime was given some credence in Wilkins's next major study, which took him to the holding cells at the Papakura police station to interview arrestees about their drug use. Over a period of three weeks in mid-2004 Wilkins and a team of interviewers were based in the cell block. Again there was some trepidation.

I had to employ interviewers over three shifts, one of them from midnight to 6.00 in the morning. I was concerned that once I explained what was involved in the study to the prospective interviewers I would lose them, says Wilkins, whose fears were unrealised.

The arrestees assured of anonymity were interviewed away from the presence of the police and were asked to supply a urine sample for drug testing. Forty-one percent had used amphetamines and a quarter of those who had recently used amphetamines considered that their use had played a major part in the activities for which they were subsequently arrested.

Amphetamines are now also significant drugs of addiction. National surveys conducted by the National Addiction Centre in Christchurch show one in five patients now citing amphetamine, alone or in combination with other drugs, as their main substance abuse problem.

Why these particular drugs and why now? Wilkins can provide some explanation. Amphetamines fit well with current socio-cultural norms which place a high value on productivity and achievement both at work and socially.

I think one of the really dangerous things about methamphetamine and the amphetamines in general is that they are very instrumental drugs, says Wilkins. If you take heroin you sit there in a semi-conscious stupor, and likewise cannabis impairs work effectiveness and social attentiveness. But amphetamine is a type of performance enhancer you can do lots of productive things and it's a social drug, you become very talkative and very confident and this is part of amphetamine's allure.

Studies overseas, he says, have shown methamphetamine is often used to enhance social confidence or to get mundane or challenging tasks done in short time frames. This is not 'being wasted' in the old sense. Methamphetamine can help you do the chores, work longer hours and go on to party into the small hours. The paradox of amphetamine use is that as the negative mental and physical effects of use accumulate, they eventually substantially damage the user's ability to work, perform and socialise. Addicted users find their work performance impaired, relationships damaged and their desire to seek out others' company curtailed.

Society's views on taking drugs legal and illegal have changed too. This is an age when drugs are increasingly accepted as a means of enhancing life as well as treating ills. There are pills to make you happier, to boost sexual performance, to avoid hair loss. There are pills offering so-called legal highs. Why not add a few others to the personal pharmacopoeia?

Wilkins also sees the phenomenon of a society that is refusing to age expressing itself in today's patterns of drug use. Ecstasy use by men goes all the way up to 40 or 45, says Wilkins. You are young all the way up to 35 or so. People are marrying later and having children later.

Australia and New Zealand two countries closely linked geographically and culturally make an interesting contrast. New Zealand has a lower use of heroin and cocaine than Australia, but a higher use of LSD.

The likely explanation is the success with which drugs are intercepted coming into New Zealand and the effectiveness of internal drug enforcement. Being a small and remote nation with no land borders has some advantages. LSD, the argument goes, became popular because it is a comparatively easy drug to conceal and smuggle.

Those advantages remain. In 2003 a record 266,000 MDMA tablets and 830,000 capsules of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine the precursor drugs used in the manufacture of methamphetamine were seized by Customs officers, as well as 748 g of methamphetamine itself. In 2004 a remarkable 17.5 kg of crystal methamphetamine were seized at New Zealand's borders.

Even if the seizure rate is unlikely to approach the quantities of drugs making it into New Zealand Wilkins has estimated the rate for amphetamine in 2001 to be two to seven percent and the rate for MDMA/ecstasy to be five to 17 percent these successes and the associated prosecutions are still a significant deterrent to traffickers.

As a further discouragement, in 2004 ephedrine and pseudoephedrine were elevated to the status of Class C controlled drugs to provide the Police and Customs Service with more powers to respond. People illegally importing these substances now face up to seven years in prison.

New Zealand pharmacists maintain a register of people who buy over-the-counter medications containing pseudoephedrine (a decongestant) and restrict the number of the tablets they will sell. More generally, a national Methamphetamine Action Plan is in place setting out how agencies should work together.

Policing methamphetamine brings particular challenges. This is a highly clandestine market. The survey of arrestees at Papakura police station showed that about half of the amphetamine sellers contacted their buyers by mobile phone and texting, and all of the amphetamine sellers reported selling only to close friends and family members.

New Zealand motorcycle gangs with affiliations to criminal networks overseas are thought to have played a leading role in establishing the domestic manufacture of methamphetamine in New Zealand, and although they may no longer hold a monopoly, they remain dominant suppliers.

The revenues from methamphetamine may be a major source of funding for organised crime. Wilkins estimates the retail market for amphetamine at \$122.5 million in 2001, with a further \$45.8 million spent on MDMA/ecstasy. These sums of money flowing into organised crime are part of the justification for the Government's plans to strengthen the existing Proceeds of Crime Act with a broader 'civil forfeiture' regime.

Wilkins believes and the evidence would seem to support him that law enforcement is getting better at stopping methamphetamine manufacture and MDMA/ecstasy smuggling. Agencies have gone through a learning curve identifying methamphetamine labs and precursor sources, and they now have teams dedicated to that task. My feeling is that the law enforcement effort against methamphetamine has steadily become more effective over the last two or three years. This is a tribute to the efforts of individual officers and the seriousness with which the Police as an organisation have taken this problem, says Wilkins.

In the end, however, enforcement and other measures may only do so much, says Wilkins. Trends in drugs tend to be powered by the macro forces of youth culture and they are difficult things to impact.

A lot of drug trends just happen. The ability of the authorities to stop a drug trend using enforcement, education and supply-side or demand-side policies is more limited than some people may suppose. But good policy and timely response can significantly limit the damage and the duration of the trend.

Eruptions of drug use, such as that of methamphetamine, usually follow a predictable pattern, says Wilkins. Young people discover a 'new' drug which may fit the prevailing music or lifestyle trend. The cool part of the demographic try it, enjoy it, they tell all their friends and they tell theirs. Then some of the originators become heavy users and experience ill effects like psychosis, mental breakdowns, violence and addiction the bad things about the drug become more widely known, and eventually use falls away as new recruits decline in numbers. So the use of a drug can spread very quickly until a social or group understanding of the downsides develops within the youth population.

Crack cocaine, a drug in many ways similar to methamphetamine, was just such a phenomenon. In the early to late '80s crack was a big problem in the United States, says Wilkins. But in the late '90s and into this century use has greatly declined. It is no longer as widely used. The users that remain are often the older addicted users from the original spread of use. The decline in crack has happened not only through dedicated law enforcement or increased productivity in intercepting cocaine coming into the country. Part of the explanation appears to be that people have simply become tired of crack. Young people have seen their older brothers and sisters waste their lives on the drug. A social consciousness has emerged that crack is a bad drug to get involved in and not a cool thing.

So sooner or later the methamphetamine epidemic, like epidemics before it, will peak and begin to decline. In this sense the stories like that of Steve Williams and Coral Burrows, deeply appalling though they are, will do some good by hastening a shift in cultural perception.

The next update on what is happening with methamphetamine in New Zealand will come from the analysis of the Ministry of Health-funded 2003 Health Behaviours Survey Drugs (which has replaced the previous National Drug Surveys), on which Wilkins is currently at work.

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Massey Magazine; Research

In Review

History

Historical Frictions: Maori Claims and Reinvented Histories

by Michael Belgrave

University of Auckland Press, \$49.99

The Treaty of Waitangi claims process has been a boon to historians, offering steady work and fascinating historical pathways to explore. It also offers unusual challenges. They may find themselves forced to explain and defend their work not in peer-reviewed journals or academic conferences but under cross-examination by lawyers and tribunal members.

Even more perplexing is what the Waitangi Tribunal may do with their contributions at the end of the day. For, as Michael Belgrave points out in *Historical Frictions*, his study of the claim process, one of the tribunal's main tasks is to make practical recommendations about resolving grievances, which means it is concerned about the present as much as the past.

Interpreting the past according to present values and knowledge, rather than in the context of its own time, makes historians uncomfortable, says Belgrave, Associate Professor at Massey University's School of Social and Cultural Sciences at Albany. That observation is not an attack on the tribunal. As Belgrave points out, it is just the latest in a long line of commissions, courts and inquiries into New Zealand's past, dating back to within a couple of years of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840.

These periodic exhumations the points of friction in the title are part of the continual process of Maori and the state realigning themselves. While they have never resolved the problems of Maori marginalisation and resource loss, they have reduced tensions and provided opportunities for Maori communities to grab what was on offer. Don't expect finality from the current round, but given the time and cost of the current round of claim and settlement, it is unlikely that a new round will occur soon .

This book does not try to give a definitive interpretation of the Treaty. As an elegant and valuable frame or reference, Belgrave argues that there is no one Treaty, or even two an English one and a Maori one. Rather, the Treaty is a touchstone for debates on the place of Maori in New Zealand society , which gets remade every generation or so.

The English text of the Treaty, written by James Busby, was a legalistic statement of rights. Missionary Henry Williams's Maori translation stressed relationships and the protection of Maori from what he regarded as the evils of colonisation. By the time of the Kohimarama Conference in 1860, on the eve of the Land Wars, Governor Gore Browne was emphasising the Treaty as creating a unique relationship between Maori and the Queen. After 1867, with a settler government in place and Maori representation in Parliament through the four Maori seats, it became a Treaty of rights to be tested through the courts.

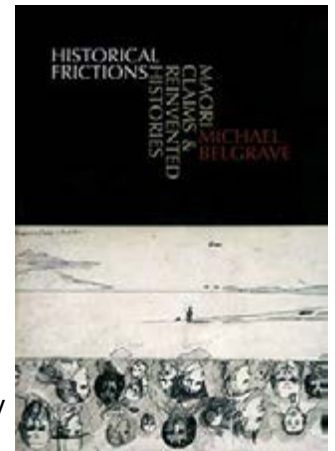
Mid-last century the Treaty was a symbol of national unity and good race relations. This interpretation was rejected by Maori in the mid to late 1970s as the notion of unbroken Maori sovereignty emerged, leading to the 'modern' Treaty, with its emphasis on the conflict between the texts and the tribal nature of the guarantees under Article Two.

Add to this the concept of 'principles' introduced in the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975, which was an attempt by the drafters to sidestep arguments about which text was correct and to create a modern Treaty relevant to policy making in the present.

Belgrave worked for the Waitangi Tribunal during some of its most critical years, so has an insider's understanding of the forces affecting that institution. His expositions of four claims Muriwhenua, Ngai Tahu, Taranaki and Chatham Islands are an excellent overview, although his wrap-up chapter on the settlement process screams out for further exploration.

He rightly sees claims as an assertion of mana, which is one reason they re-emerge in different guises from generation to generation. He also sees the current round descending into a rehash of the Native Land Court battles of the late 19th century, which is why it is inevitable they will eventually be revisited.

An immensely valuable book and a cracking good read. AG



Natural History

Swimming with Orca: My Life with New Zealand's Killer Whales

by Dr Ingrid Visser

Penguin Books, \$39.95

When it comes to what biologists refer to as charismatic megafauna, the orca is right up there. Sleek, powerful, smart and with that aura of menace. Flipper with attitude.

And it is hard to conceive of anyone more obsessed with orca than Ingrid Visser. This is a woman who at the age of six or seven decided she wanted to work with whales and dolphins. Who bought the personalised number plate ORCA before she had any prospect of an appropriate vehicle to put it on. Who put the proceeds of a family inheritance towards purchasing the boat she used to pursue her PhD research.



In *Swimming with Orca* she is eager to teach us something of what she knows.

Did you know New Zealand's orca have a taste for stingrays, venturing into estuaries to hunt them and occasionally tossing them like frisbees to stun them? Did you know that Kaikoura has a pod of orca that specialises in hunting dolphins? I did not. Nor had I ever thought about why on the shores of Argentina orca throw themselves onto beaches to pull back sea lion pups while in New Zealand the seals are unmolested and unfazed when a pod of orca swims by. Different pods of orca; different cultures.

Visser also tells us something about her encounters with particular orca. Orca are naturally playful and curious, and Visser takes to the water whenever she can to interact with orca she now knows as individuals. Is Visser transgressing boundaries here? I am uneasy, but Visser's argument is that in doing so she witnesses behaviours that would otherwise go unobserved. Perhaps, but it is difficult to say where Visser the scientist wanting data ends and Visser the self-described 'whale hugger' craving a fix begins.

What can be said is that Visser, with her singlemindedness, is a zealous publicist and advocate for New Zealand's orca. MW

Visser has a BSc majoring in zoology from Massey and an MSc and PhD (the achievement of which is a tale in itself) from the University of Auckland.

Training

***Training Secrets: Helping Adults Learn* by Geoffrey Moss**

Moss Associates, \$29.95

I've been a fan of Geoffrey Moss since I got hold of his Trainers Handbook in about 1990. Moss lives in Wellington and has been published in 16 countries and in nine languages.

This book follows his trusted format of presenting useful, practical information in a visually lively layout. A huge number of clever ideas, checklists, quotes and stories illustrate a very sensible and comprehensive approach to helping adults learn and practise new skills.

Says Moss, There are many different ways to train, but always remember people learn best when they are enjoying training, learning helpful things, contributing with ideas and having fun. Those of us who have endured bad training will endorse that approach.



For people taking on training as a new role or wanting to freshen up tired skills, this will be an excellent resource. It has 190 pages packed with information to save hours of time and make training rewarding for everyone. BL

Moss is both a Massey alumnus he graduated with a BAgSc in 1957 and a former staff member. Reviewer Barbara Lambourn has a DipSocSci (Social Policy and Social Work) from Massey.

Aviation History

Lost... Without Trace: Brian Chadwick and the Missing Dragonfly

by Richard Waugh

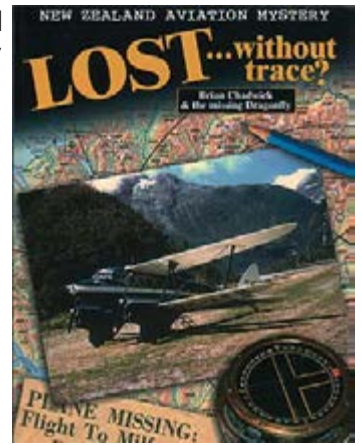
Craig Printing Co Ltd, \$59.95

It was a pretty thing, the 1930s twin-engined biplane in its blue and white livery, and one can imagine the excitement with which its four passengers boarded one morning in February 1962 for a scenic flight to Milford

Sound. It would never make it, and despite the largest aerial search in New Zealand and four decades of trampers, climbers, hunters and scenic flights, where Dragonfly ZK-AFB lies and how it came to grief are unknown.

Richard Waugh has published a number of books of aviation history, which seems an odd thing for a Wesleyan Methodist Minister to do until you learn that Brian Waugh, his father, was a professional pilot. And Brian Waugh was also good friends with Brian Chadwick, the pilot of the ill-fated Dragonfly. Indeed, it was Chadwick who persuaded the Waughs to emigrate to New Zealand.

As is the pattern with his other books, Waugh's *Lost ... Without Trace* is lavishly illustrated and exhaustively detailed. Waugh gives us Chadwick's biography and that of each of the passengers; he gives a history of the plane ZK-AFB; he relates all of the leads as to where the Dragonfly may have gone down; he even, in an appendix, gives the history of the two surviving planes.



Where does the Dragonfly lie and will it be found? Waugh makes some educated guesses about where the plane went down and why, and no doubt the book will reawaken interest in finding its whereabouts.

Those who do search will have their work cut out. The bush on the flanks of the Southern Alps is thick, and has a way of holding on to its secrets. MW

Richard Waugh has a BA in history from Massey.

Popular Science

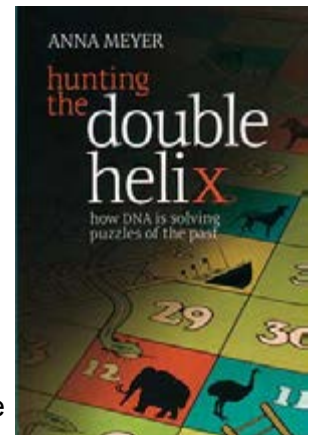
Hunting the Double Helix: How DNA is Solving the Puzzles of the Past

by Anna Meyer

Allen&Unwin, \$33

As if they didn't have enough to deal with, the police forces of the world are now apparently being confronted with the CSI effect, an unlimited belief in the application of forensic science and DNA fingerprinting.

In *Hunting the Double Helix*, first-time book author Anna Meyer looks at how DNA analysis has been applied to some very 'cold' cases indeed. Were the Neanderthals part of our ancestry? (They weren't.) What agency was responsible for the Black Death? (Still debated.) Are we likely to be able to resurrect extinct creatures such as the Tasmanian tiger or the woolly mammoth? (Some day, perhaps, but don't hold your breath.)



Chapter titles such as 'Big bird' (about moa) and 'Cretaceous capers' (could dinosaurs be cloned) give something of the book's flavour: conscientiously accessible. Meyer devotes each of her seven chapters to a topic where the analysis of ancient DNA has either solved a problem or raised issues.

In researching her book Meyer spoke to two experts on ancient DNA, Massey's own Professor David Lambert of the Allan Wilson Centre, and Professor Alan Cooper (another New Zealander), who is a recent recruit to Adelaide University. However, most of the book's content has been drawn from her own reading. MW

Meyer, who has a BSc (Hons) from Massey and a PhD from ANU, is a welcome addition to New Zealand's small pool of specialist science writers.

Date: 05/04/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Book; Library; Massey Magazine



HE Ambassador Jan Henderson on her way to presenting her credentials to President of Turkey President Ahmet Necdet Sezer after her arrival in 2003

On Turkish soil

Jane Tolerton writes

When Jan Beattie was putting the finishing touches to her geography MA (Hons) thesis on the impact of labour shortages on productivity on farms in the Manawatu, a career in diplomacy was not much in her mind. Jan now Her Excellency Jan Henderson, New Zealand ambassador to Turkey, Israel and Jordan planned to become a primary school teacher.

Hers was not a cosmopolitan upbringing, she confesses on the phone from Ankara, where she is based. Jan grew up on a dairy farm in Kopane, about 15 km from Palmerston North. Massey was the comfortable choice: close to home, and her friends from Palmerston North Girls High School were going there.

She was local, too, in her choice of partner: she would meet her husband-to-be David Henderson in one of her Massey geography classes.

And firmly locally located she might have remained had geography dean Professor Keith Thompson not given her name to the recruiters from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and had her thesis supervisor Richard Le Heron not encouraged her to go along to an interview.

I had never thought about a career in diplomatic life. To be honest, I had very little idea of what it would entail, says Jan. And I came from a family who didn't think going to Wellington and working for the government was the best career. They were firmly private sector. So was David's family from a sheep and cattle farm in Hawke's Bay. He was going back to the farm and I was going to be a primary teacher.

But the officers from the Ministry made a good case. They talked about this wonderful career. I had always been interested in international issues, but more as a hobby it was the travel opportunities that made me think why not give it a go. Jan had been no further afield than Australia.

After four years in Wellington working in several different geographical divisions learning the ropes, she and David set off for her first posting in 1983 Thailand, where her role as second secretary in the embassy included managing the New Zealand aid programme.

We could see then what a career in the foreign ministry would mean. Every three or four years you pack up and get to do something completely different. The opportunities just keep turning over and over going into new political, cultural and social environments.

After four years in Bangkok it was back to New Zealand, and a year's maternity leave after the birth of daughter, Jennifer. David re-entered the paid workforce he hadn't been able to take paid work on their overseas postings. The ministry was very family friendly. I came back into it at the same



point I'd left, and was assigned the following year. So even a year off, and a child, didn't interfere with my career progression, says Jan.

Her second posting was as deputy head of mission in the Solomon Islands, which included aid work as well as political and security issues. It couldn't have been more different from Thailand, a large dynamic Asian economy. The Melanesian economy was still emerging and there were communal tensions that would later erupt into civil strife in the late 1990s. Usually we'd have stayed two-and-a-half years in the posting, but we asked to stay on because work and life in the Solomons had so much more to offer that we were in no hurry to come home.

The next home stint delivered second daughter, Rachel, and another year of maternity leave. Then it was on to a posting to Washington DC dramatically different to the Solomons and, after another interlude in Wellington, an ambassador's posting to Ankara, the capital of Turkey.

In the years since Jan's 2003 arrival a deeper, more substantial relationship has developed between New Zealand and Turkey, and this has led to an extended tour of duty for Jan. There's a lot happening in the bilateral relationship, so it made sense to stay and embed the changes.

About 18,000 people including HRH Prince Charles and Prime Minister Helen Clark attended the April 25th dawn service at last year's 90th anniversary of Gallipoli. (On the 24th, Helen Clark and Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan had met for a picnic lunch on the shore near Anzac Cove.)

The New Zealand ceremony was held up the hill at Chunuk Bair, the highest point reached by the New Zealand troops during the 1915 campaign. The New Zealand memorial is sited next to a monument to Mustafa Kemal, the Turkish commander who became Ataturk, the first president of modern Turkey.



It is significant that each year brings more and more Turkish to our New Zealand commemorations, says Jan. Their focus has traditionally been to commemorate March 18 as the victory over the Allied ships trying to push through to Istanbul, but we are noticing increasing interest, particularly among young Turkish people, in commemorating April 25 with the Australians and New Zealanders.

We talk about the loss of Australians and New Zealanders, but it is important to remember that there were many more casualties on the Turkish side. We stress the legacy of Gallipoli, the bringing together of old enemies, the spirit of friendship and respect that was forged on the battlefield, and that now underpins a successful bilateral relationship.

Last year a 120-strong Turkish delegation, led by Prime Minister Erdogan and including four government ministers, visited New Zealand. As a result, the Turkish ministers of agriculture and education will visit this year.

The education minister will discuss prospects for more Turkish postgraduate students to study at Massey and other New Zealand universities. Says Jan, Turkey sends a number of postgraduate students to study in Britain and United States, and they are interested in looking at New Zealand as a destination because it is safe, good value for money, and has a good reputation.

Jan could be filling out an enrolment form herself again some day. I would love to go back to university. One of my sisters was a primary teacher. She recently took two years off and went back to Massey to do Development Studies. I envy her that. I'd like to take time out and do history, particularly history of religions.

For now she is on what could be an extended field trip for a history of religions course. Living in Turkey, and travelling to Israel and Jordan and the Palestinian Authority, I've been able to learn a lot about the religious context to issues here.



Making the most of what a posting offers comes easily to Jan. She believes that adaptability and flexibility are key personal qualities, and that she developed them as one of seven children in a rural New Zealand childhood. You learnt negotiation skills early. You learnt to do your bit in the family. You developed the ability to make the most of rural life because things weren't laid on for you and there wasn't a lot of money around. Those skills have seen me through.

In this job, you are thrown all sorts of things. Here it's the full range of trade, political and consular work, from assisting New Zealand earthquake engineers on a World Bank programme in Istanbul, to resolving trade access issues for New Zealand importers, to talking with the Turkish Foreign Ministry about political issues such as Turkey's EU accession process because there is a New Zealand interest in how that's managed and recently, speaking to a group of Turkish and foreign women on Women's Day.

Jan is one of a group of eight women ambassadors in Turkey who meet regularly. Offshore diplomatic circles tend to be fairly male environments, particularly in this part of the world, so we find it useful to network.

The Hendersons will return to Wellington and their own house later this year. They'll reunite with Jennifer, who chose to go to boarding school in New Zealand and is now off to university. Rachel, having finished her primary years at the British international school in Ankara, will begin secondary school.

But the three years between postings will soon be over, and then it's another posting. It is an unsettled life, but she's not complaining. She doesn't know what her family's next posting will be. But we've had interesting choices so far.

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Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Massey Magazine

After the hurricane

James Gardiner writes

When Hurricane Katrina came ashore last August, world attention focused largely on the fatal flooding that devastated New Orleans and the botched aid efforts in the weeks that followed.

Yet most of the damage caused by the actual storm occurred in Louisiana's neighbouring state Mississippi, and eight months later, the cleanup continues.



Massey alumnus Dr Richard Watson is a professor at Mississippi State University where he has been the state specialist in pastureland for the past two years, a role that involves both applied research and directing the technological transfer between the University and the public and private sector.

You can almost feel Dr Watson's head shaking down the telephone line from his home in Starkville, about four hours' drive north of the worst-affected areas, as he describes the cleanup efforts and the huge difficulties faced by the farmers and others.

It's not in the news anymore but if you go down to the bottom two counties in Mississippi not much has changed.

East of New Orleans, a stretch of at least three to five miles inland has been completely destroyed. Every single building is flattened or gone.

A lot of people still aren't back in their houses. In fact a huge thing at the moment is the insurance. A lot of insurance companies just aren't paying out, for whatever reason. They're saying things like it was wind damage that caused it and you're only insured for floods, or it was flood damage that caused it and you're only insured for wind. They're just being real shysters about it.

The really daunting task is rebuilding. It's not just houses and buildings, you have to build industries, infrastructure and a tax base to support all that.

A lot of employed and affluent people left the Gulf Coast and I presume there's a large proportion of them won't go back because there are no jobs, no schools, nothing to go back to.

He says a lot of the problems stem from the politics and bureaucracy at state and federal government level and a post World War II state history of embracing horticulture to justify converting the many armament factories into a huge farm machinery industry.

The state's agricultural sector was already on what he describes as an economic knife-edge before Katrina and although a \$US87 billion federal relief package is on offer, this is offset by ongoing moves to cut back subsidies to farmers and other industries.

Coming from New Zealand to the United States agricultural sector was a bit like stepping back 20 years in time for Dr Watson.

He sees a rural landscape damaged by inefficient cropping industries propped up by historical subsidies. Cotton, corn and soy bean rank in the top four commodities in Mississippi in terms of revenue, but coming in at number four or five are the \$800 million worth of state subsidies. In some places farmers are subsidised to grow certain crops regardless of the economic value. In other parts they are paid not to grow.

But now, with the federal government's massive deficit forcing drastic spending cutbacks and World Trade Organisation moves to stamp out trade barriers like subsidies, the crunch has come.

The initial focus was humanitarian, feeding people, getting them water and shelter and medical care. It's actually the easiest part because you get attention, you get donations and people want to help, although as you know in New Orleans they had all the problems.

Without being overly simplistic, America's aim since WWII is to be self-reliant on energy and food. The downside of that is they can't do it as efficiently as other countries can. They can't produce food as efficiently as say New Zealand, Argentina, Chile or China.

Again, Dr Watson seems at a loss to explain this. American farmers embrace technology, they have soils as good as anywhere on the planet and a climate hurricanes aside that is generally well suited to raising crops and livestock.

But they can't see how they can achieve the level of efficiency that we can. Their ways of doing things involve very high inputs. They embrace technology, but producing something for a market? They just don't get it.

Dr Watson's expertise is in forage and pasture-based systems. The cattle industry is not directly subsidised, although subsidies in other areas mean cheaper feed. Even so, this is an industry that is struggling.

They're so far behind in terms of their levels of management compared to New Zealand or Australia, they don't know how to use their land efficiently.

He has spent the months since Katrina taking groups of students down to the coast to rebuild fences.

There are a lot of trees in Mississippi, and most of the ones within five miles of the coast were knocked down by the same 240kmph winds that knocked down all the fences.

Afterwards, even if farmers could find their stock alive they had no way of containing them, so the animals have been free-range.

Salination was an even more widespread problem. The winds blew salt water up to 100km inland, contaminated pastures and water supplies. Some stock were killed drinking it.

The other big job has been organising food. Hay was donated from other states but the damage to roads made it difficult to distribute. Also, there was a drought lasting nearly three months after Katrina.

Even now they're still struggling because they couldn't put their winter forage crops in like rye grass. I'm still trying to find feed sources and come up with ways that they can grow enough forage to keep their animals going through this coming summer.

Dr Richard Watson graduated from Massey with a Bachelor of Agricultural Science in 1995. His master's degree was conferred two years later and his PhD in 2000.

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CBT and the art of motivation maintenance

Beverly Haarhoff, senior lecturer in clinical psychology at Massey Albany, explains to journalist Jane Tolerton how students can use Cognitive Behavioural Therapy techniques to stay positive and focused throughout their courses.

What challenges that I'll face as an extramural student could CBT help me with?

If you have job and family commitments, as most extramural students do, then you need to work efficiently with the time you have. It can be pretty daunting and you can slip into behaviours that sabotage your efforts. CBT can give you strategies to counter these.

CBT being?

CBT is a short-term psychotherapy aimed at finding solutions. It doesn't mean spending years in therapy. You can do it yourself, it won't cost you anything and it is a process that makes intuitive sense to most people. When you've learnt some CBT skills you effectively become your own therapist.

How do I do that?

When you encounter a specific problem, what we call a triggering situation, CBT techniques help you identify and understand the interaction between your thoughts, feelings and behaviours in order to find a way through. In stressful situations, emotions can distort our thinking. CBT provides the tools to think objectively to ask, Is there any real evidence for this (self-defeating) thought?

Example?

The triggering situation might be a difficult assignment. Instead of doing it, you tell yourself it's too hard, you'll never understand it, and you should give up the course now. If you examine your emotions, they are anxiety and sadness. Your physiological response is a knot in your stomach. And the effect on your behaviour is that you are using your favourite procrastination technique watching television.

Examine each negative thought and ask, What is the actual evidence for this? You'll realise that you have coped with equally difficult tasks before.

Just doing something different will impact on your negative emotions, making you feel less anxious and sad. Writing a 'to do' list or tidying your desk can activate you, and suddenly you might find yourself suddenly feeling you can do something towards the your assignment. You'll learn to identify the way the triggering situation tips you into this cycle and be able to take action more quickly in future.

Can CBT techniques prepare me in advance for the challenges I'll face?

Yes. Be prepared for motivation problems by writing down your short term and long term goals and keeping them in a place where you can regularly review them. Break them into small steps so that you get a sense of achievement as you tick each one off.

Keep yourself focused on your goals by rating their importance in your life. You could attach percentages. Realise that there are trade-offs, and it's important that your goals are in line with your values. One advantage of getting your degree may be that you'll be able to get a better paid job. But a disadvantage will be spending less time with your partner or children. Discuss your goals with them and come up with coping strategies together because they will feel the impact too. If they can understand your motivations, they can support you. Otherwise they may feel left out and you might feel guilty.

Many women find it difficult to put their own goals ahead of others' needs, and feel guilty when they do. Start practicing planning times for yourself before the deadline pressure is on.

Can it help a chronic procrastinator?

Often people think they can only work if they have a big block of time and put things off till then. But in a busy life time is always broken up. Try to do a small amount of work each day. Break things down into small steps and use a diary to schedule study into small blocks of time. Give yourself rewards like going to the movies or visiting friends when you have achieved the small goals.

If I liked the CBT approach, what can I read?

Mind Over Mood, by Dennis Greenberger and Christine Padesky [Guilford Press, 1995] will give you a clear step-by-step process.

What about university courses?

Depending on your background, maybe you should get in touch. I just happen to be the coordinator of the post

graduate Diploma in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy. The Diploma is open to health practitioners including doctors, nurses, social workers and psychologists.

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Photos by Libby and Pip East

French Revolutions

Patrick Morgan writes

When she's not killing thistles or helping dock lambs on her Hawkes Bay farm, history graduate Barbara Grieve guides cyclists around the back roads of France, visiting vineyards and farms, and staying in boutique inns.



I hadn't been on a bike since primary school, but it was something I'd always wanted to do, she says. A newspaper story about a father and son who cycled in Provence inspired her to launch her business at the age of 48.

As the owner of Barbara Grieve's Cycling Holidays in France, she has been organising cycling trips in France for 13 years. She planned the first trips while working as a secondary school teacher in Auckland.

My four children were all living in Europe, and I had the idea that I could combine visiting them with cycling holidays, she says. She took a year's leave from her teaching job, and hasn't looked back since.

Barbara says she felt like a square peg in a round hole when she commenced her extramural study at Massey. It was 1969, and the young mother travelled through the night from her Te Awamutu farm to her first block course at Palmerston North. I wandered around the campus early in the morning looking for my course, feeling like I didn't belong, she says. I had been struggling with assignments. Then I met another student, who was then living at a convent in Hamilton. We became friends, and used to visit each other and support each other through our study.



Exams were traumatic. I was expecting my third child when exam time came around. I was a week overdue when I had my oral. They told me I could have taken the exam in the maternity hospital. After I gave birth to Julie, I still had two three-hour written exams to sit, although I was feeding four-hourly. I was shattered.

I thought the exams went horrifically, but by some miracle I got through, Barbara says. I really wanted to keep my brain busy. She went on to

complete a BA in history, all extramurally, before becoming a teacher.

Her love of learning and an urge to explore has now taken her much further afield.

She led her first cycling trip to Normandy in 1994. Since then she has taken trips to the Loire valley, Bordeaux, Burgundy and Provence. This year she will introduce a new tour to the Charente, a region north of Bordeaux.



I move every two years to keep it interesting. My favourite part of the job is when I'm exploring routes. I get a buzz out of knocking on doors and turning up treasures that aren't listed in the guidebooks. I remember finding an old church in the village of Seillac, in the Loire valley. It was locked, but a woman emerged from the house next door with an ancient key and showed me around. These villages often keep detailed records at one mairie they had a list of every flood since 1290.

Why France? I love the history, she says. My clients enjoy hearing stories about all the little places we visit, so I have to do my research. She contacts tourist offices and checks hotels, attractions and the cycling route a year in advance.

Barbara's French has improved since her first days at Massey. I can get by, she says. She listens to talking books to keep in practice between trips.

Her clients are mainly New Zealanders, but Americans, Australians, English and Canadians also sign up for her holidays. Most are in their 50s and 60s, she says, but I have one woman in her 80s coming with me this year, and have had riders as young as 12.

Jo and Keith Barclay from Wanaka have been on three of Barbara's cycling trips since 2000. Despite not being regular cyclists in New Zealand, the idea of biking through rural France appealed. The camaraderie was wonderful, says Jo. We had so much fun. Cycling past fields of blooming sunflowers was a highlight for me. The riding wasn't too onerous, and we stayed in some fabulous places, like small chateaux in the Loire valley.

I never saw Barbara panic she could fix a puncture or put a chain back on without fuss, says Jo.



The tours are mainly on 'C' roads. These are the back roads that most traffic avoids because they are too windy or narrow perfect for cycling. When I do my reconnaissance I like to choose roads without a white line down the middle, says Barbara. Many of these roads aren't even on the Michelin maps, so I use topographical maps to help me locate suitable routes.

Each year she visits France twice, in spring and autumn. Most cycling holidays are a week long, and Barbara rides along with the group. Riders can go at their own pace, and she uses walkie-talkies to keep them on track.

The rest of the year is spent with her husband on their Hawkes Bay farm. Last year for my sixtieth birthday the whole family came cycling in Provence including four grandchildren riding pillion, says Barbara.

She hasn't had to advertise since the late 90s, and doesn't have a website. I get all my business by word of mouth, with many clients coming

back for more.

She says the trips are designed to be relaxing. The days get shorter as I get older, she says. We ride about 45km each day, with lots of stops. We stay in interesting places. France has many charming villages. I like to arrive by mid-afternoon so we have plenty of time for relaxing. Riders' luggage is now transferred by taxi to the day's destination.



Bikes are hired locally. They are equipped with hill-taming gears, handlebar bags and gel saddles for comfort.

Barbara says she prefers to avoid the usual sights like museums, unless they offer something really special. Instead they visit farms and small wineries where they can meet the locals, and lesser-known attractions like dolmens, aqueducts or old Roman roads.

After thirteen years of leading cycling trips in France, Barbara has lots of stories to tell, but doubts that she will write a book about her experiences. I wish I had kept a diary.

From next year she plans to cut down the numbers of trips she leads, as spending time with her growing family takes priority. But she says she will never stop learning. I love what I do meeting wonderful people and absorbing French culture.

International cyclists, publishing editors, diplomats and plenty of intending tourists

Just some of the students who have taken extramural courses in French through Massey University

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Semester 2

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164.208 Entrée to French Literature

164.303 20th Century French Novel

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* papers taught in English

Enrolments for semester 2 papers are now open. For further information contact Dr Colin Anderson, Programme Co-ordinator, European Languages Programme, School of Language Studies, Massey University, Palmerston North, e-mail c.g.anderson@massey.ac.nz, phone (06) 356 9099 extn 2397

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Leaving the beat



Retired Commissioner of Police Rob Robinson talks to Professor George Shouksmith

On 18 December 2005 Rob Robinson left his desk at national police headquarters for the last time, ending a career of 30 years with the police, the last six as Commissioner. He had planned to leave a year earlier on the expiry of his contract, but stayed on to see matters through.

Rob Robinson studied at Massey during the late 1960s, sharing, at one point, a lab bench with Tom Scott and Peter Hayden; the first now a cartoonist and writer, the second an award-winning natural history documentary maker. Mr Robinson was appointed a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the 2006 New Year Honours. (Tom Scott was appointed an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit at the same ceremony.) Emeritus Professor George Shouksmith, a former Dean of Social Sciences, was involved in the development of police studies at the University. He and Rob Robinson are old friends.

How did you come to study at Massey?

The attraction at Massey was vet school. During secondary school I worked in a standard bred stable just outside Timaru, with a trainer whose half-brother was the local vet, and the two of them persuaded me that veterinary science was my future. But with rugby, rowing and other distractions I didn't pass my physics paper in my intermediate year and when I had to repeat I changed over to a science degree majoring in physiology. Eventually I completed my science degree, and in my final year I worked as a research technician in the botany and zoology department for Pauline and David Penny.

And the police?

I married while I was at Massey and I needed to get a real job. So I applied for the police in 1972 and I was initially accepted but then rejected on health grounds. I had had an operation for a melanoma and the police medic thought the risk of it recurring was too great. So I went off and did other things. I milked cows in the Horowhenua. I worked for Wrightson as a stock agent for a while and I was an artificial insemination technician.

So then you reapplied?

Yes. I placed a call to the Palmerston North police station from the Tokomaru dairy factory one day when I was calling to pick up my bull semen for the artificial insemination, and I was put through to the same recruiting sergeant

who had dealt with me those years earlier. He obviously thought that I had some potential. He went to great lengths to get affidavits from my surgeons and to convince the Wellington medical advisors that I should be given a chance.

Together with another fellow I presented myself to the chief inspector at Palmerston North on the 12th of May 1975. We were sworn in by taking the oath before the chief inspector. We were given papers and a warrant card to be on the train later that day to travel to Trentham. And we did that. We travelled down to Trentham, walked up to the Police College, and commenced what was then 14 weeks of training, graduating from there in August 1975.

Was having been to university a help?

I was never a stand-out at secondary school or university. I was always in the pack. When I got to Police College I found myself among 108 peers and I wasn't going to let this chance slip away, so I worked pretty hard. I think I had acquired skills at University that I didn't actually recognise myself as having: thinking skills, writing skills. And I found myself at the head of the pack in terms of examinations and our assessments, which was a strange place for me. It really was. When I look back at that time, very few people in the police were graduates and even fewer entered the police with a degree, so I was a little different. Of course things have changed dramatically in the last 30 years.

Did you at that point have higher career aspirations?

I just wanted to be a good cop. I enjoyed working on the street and I worked with a good bunch in Palmerston North during those first years. In particular I remember Thomas Chester Joseph Sutherland, who was my sectional sergeant and had been instrumental in setting up the Police Youth Aid section and worked in Porirua as the principal youth officer for many, many years. He would drink tea until it came out of his ears. But he used that time as in-service training. If you'd made an arrest Tom would want to know not only why you'd made the arrest but you'd have to analyse the components of the offence before he'd take the prisoner into custody. And then he would debrief you, unpacking what had happened so you understood what you'd done right and what you'd done wrong. He was a great mentor.

And the Youth Aid programme Sutherland set up has been a great success, hasn't it?

Yes it has. It's held in high esteem throughout the modern Western democracies. Sir Charles Pollard, the chair of the Restorative Justice Board in the United Kingdom, travels down to New Zealand periodically to see what we are doing, and the restorative justice programmes that have been run out of the Home Office with research projects based in Oxford all draw on the New Zealand experience in many, many regards.

I suppose one of the biggest changes you have seen during your time with the police has been in the domestic drug scene?

Yes. Certainly cannabis was around in the seventies when I started. In fact the first arrest I made was for possession of cannabis seeds maybe two or three seeds found in a drawer when we were doing a warrant which we would hardly blink at now.

Until recent times New Zealand has been very fortunate, because we can control the borders pretty well. That's the reason we had homebake heroin, because it was difficult to bring illicit drugs across our borders. When there was significant drug smuggling the Mr Asia drug syndicate we were able to crack it.

But the drug scene has changed in the last seven or eight years with the significant arrival of methamphetamine and pure methamphetamine or P. Methamphetamine is one of the most physically and psychologically addictive drugs around and its been portrayed for too long as a bit of a thrill: you can use it and walk away from it. But unfortunately too many of our folks

don't.

One of the watersheds in your time in the police and in the relationship between the police and the public was the 1981 Springbok tour. I remember one day in particular. I was a sergeant in Masterton and we were working in Wellington. There'd been a demonstration at Parliament. They'd marched to the South African ambassador's residence in Wadestown. We'd been deployed there, along with many other staff. Some arrests were made at the ambassador's residence and the arrestees were returned to Wellington Central Police Station, which we were sent down to protect. We were part of a cordon blocking the end of Waring Taylor Street at Lambton Quay. I was in charge of six constables. Four of them were either Ma-ori or Pacific Island, and what really distressed me and gave me a view of the vigour and the feeling in the protest was the range of middle New Zealanders, young and old, confronting and abusing my constables for hours, calling them Uncle Toms. This was predominantly white New Zealand confronting police officers of Ma-ori or Pacific Island ethnic origin and abusing them for doing their duty. So there were things that really did push the community and the police apart.

A low point in terms of policing in New Zealand, do you think?

Yes, it was. It was a strange time, the period of the 1981 Springbok tour. I think big operations get the cops excited. You know, it's boy's own stuff in many regards. The plane being flown around the country. Red squads. Blue squads. Specialist squads that were trained in different ways. All of those things added to the spectacle, if you will, from a policing perspective.

But it quickly palled. There was the level of feeling that was expressed from within the community after the Hamilton game. There were the difficulties when police were called on to police members of their own families. There were those police officers who, following their consciences, were allowed to stand down from active duty on the Springbok tour which was, I think, enlightened policy from the leadership of the day.

It has taken a long time for some of these wounds to heal.

That was a low point. Could you spot one or two high points?

Some of the achievements of the New Zealand Police over this last decade have been sources of great pride to me. We've been criticised for a number of things, but I know of no other police agency that has the mandate and the national brief that the New Zealand Police does, that has the community engagement we do, the community mandate we do. I know of no other police agency that has our ability to respond to crime, to investigate, solve, and prosecute crime. It doesn't matter if I am sitting with the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Service in London, or a Chief Commissioner in the Netherlands, or the Commissioner of the New York Police Department, or Bill Bratton, the current Chief of the Los Angeles Police Department. They celebrate what we have achieved in New Zealand in the past 10 years. They would love to have our performance record. And I think the service the New Zealand public have received and are receiving from their police is as good as can be got anywhere.

You mention the Chief of Police of Los Angeles, Bill Bratton, who is known for being a proponent of 'zero tolerance'.

Bratton is credited with turning New York around. He came from Boston to the New York transit police and then amalgamated that with NYPD. He introduced Compstat, a performance management regime which New York still uses and has become very fashionable worldwide. I talked to him last year when he was out in Australia. He thinks that by getting sufficient police on the street and getting them doing the right things he can not only change crime trends, as he did in New York, but also re-engage with the community, even in underprivileged neighbourhoods.

It is different here. In New Zealand, although there has been tension between police and the community at times, as there was during the

Springbok tour, there has never been a time in the last 30 years when the police have been separated from the community. We've been able to police by consensus and our high success rate in the solution of crime is because the public tell us what is going on. There is some good detective work, there are some fine detectives, but we get the information from the public.

I have seen zero tolerance criticised as completely counter to community policing.

Well yes, but you would enjoy talking to Bratton. He says that the concept of zero tolerance has been bastardised by the media. It's a media misrepresentation. Bratton says zero tolerance has to be applied in a very selective way.

Take a block in downtown New York that has been taken over by crack dealers, with the legitimate residents squeezed out, migrating away from their own properties because of the crime and the domination of criminal elements. Bratton's zero tolerance approach would be to close down a block for anything up to a week and to take anybody they could prove was guilty of a misdemeanour or crime, and prosecute them, lock them up. But then legitimate residents can come back. You and I, we could turn up at the police cordons, with our ownership documents for apartment 9C at 1324 West and reclaim our home. That's what Bratton says is zero tolerance.

When he was head of NYPD he applied zero tolerance to the subway. The fellows who were leaping the turnstiles were the fellows that were doing the pickpocketing. They were the ones that were perpetrating the crimes on the subway. So rather than wait for them to do the crime on the trains, they'd actually get them as they're leaping the turnstiles and not paying their fares.

Is that a way for us to approach some of the problems we're having with gangs?

Potentially so. In South Auckland we've got an emergent though not new street gang issue. What I think we're seeing is a group of kids who are disengaged, a group of kids who want to protect their patch. They're not necessarily following a traditional path. They are not saying We're going to go and create crime . But they are being caught in traditional crime because the more traditional gangs ethnic gangs are recruiting from these street gangs. Once upon a time they used to go and find prospects and put them through the hoops before they actually gave them their colours, their patch. Now they're picking the best and the brightest, the leaders, out of some of these smaller street gangs.

And the street gangs themselves can create tragedies. You'll recall there was an incident in late 2005 in which a major conflict between gangs on the streets led to some deaths and a number of serious head injuries. When we actually unpacked how that happened it wasn't about kids trying to dominate a drug scene or anything like that. It was just about This is our patch, we play here .

So are you saying that gangs are separate from the drug scene?

No, certainly not our traditional gangs.

Ah, yes.

What we've seen from our motorcycle gangs and our ethnic gangs is that they now do the business. When I was a young cop the Mothers motorcycle gang here in Palmerston North would hop on their bikes, ride in convoy down to the pub on Main Street, Café de Paris, drink there, cause a bit of mayhem, hop on their bikes and go en masse somewhere else. They would intimidate. They would create confrontation, never back down, and there were some ugly moments. We don't see that to the same degree though we've seen it recently in Wanganui between two ethnic gangs.

Some of our outlaw motorcycle gangs now produce strategic plans. They produce annual business plans. They do the business. Our ethnic gangs are

co-operating to produce and distribute methamphetamine when it makes financial sense. It would be wrong to portray all of the gangs as being less than intelligent. There are people there with real leadership skills. They've just directed their energies in the wrong direction.

What do you understand by police professionalism?

Well, I can share my own personal view and it's slightly at odds with some of my peers in Australasia. Police professionalism for me is about moving police to a level of competence and a level of understanding that lets them consider all the options. They should be able to choose a path in terms of the services they deliver, in the same way a health professional makes a diagnosis and chooses a treatment. Does police professionalism mean having more and more police with tertiary qualifications? I don't think so. If we insisted on tertiary qualifications we would be presenting a barrier to some intelligent and able people. That is not to say that there isn't a place for professional qualifications, but if you have the right people within the police they can work towards qualifications when they are ready.

I think the other problem would be that because, for whatever reason, particular groups are underrepresented in tertiary education, a police force recruited solely from tertiary graduates would be out of sync with the New Zealand population.

How do you feel about the distinction between sworn and non-sworn police staff? I mean the idea that the sworn staff are the frontline and the non-sworn staff stand behind and really just do back up.

The thing that sets sworn officers apart is the coercive power the legislation gives them. But when you look at the circumstances where police require the coercive power or the threat of coercive power, it's probably 20 percent of the time. In the other 80 percent the police don't need coercive power. Then it is about interacting with people.

I don't think we have the right mix between sworn and non-sworn police yet and that's because there are agendas.

Some of the reasons for the resistance to non-sworn police officers I can't quite understand. For example, the police union in New Zealand has a certain view that this job should remain as a sworn police officer's job. Now that same union represents the non-sworn police officers as well, but unfortunately, the way I see it, the decision-makers in the hierarchy within the police union are sworn officers, and their own allegiance is first of all to their own, and whilst they represent the non-sworn they do that in a marginal way.

I have noticed that statistically we do have a higher proportion of females in the police than most of the United States. There's been a real effort to promote equal employment opportunity for women, Ma-ori, and Pacific Islanders, and we have done better, but we are under some pressure to do better still. One thing I am proud of is having brought in the first female and non-sworn deputy commissioner, Lyn Provost.

One of the things that interests me as an organisational psychologist is the effect of the big eighties and early nineties reforms. What effect did they have?

I think the biggest impact wasn't the state sector reforms of the late eighties although the Quigley review was a blueprint for some of the things that happened during the nineties. The biggest impact came from the review commissioned by the government of the day from Doug Martin and a team of consultants. They set out to find financial excess, and when they couldn't find millions slopping around in the bilges they responded with the classical consultant's restructuring, a flattening of the structure. This was fashionable in business circles during the nineties, but for a discipline modelled on military service like the police it presented some issues. Martin brought in the principle that there were to be no more than five layers from commissioner to the constable. According to theory this is how you create a

highly responsive organisation: the top knows what's happening on the streets and the street knows what vision is held by leadership.

But when you're actually maintaining a true every-day-of-the-year, twenty-four-hour service the model becomes exceedingly difficult, so we have had to make changes. On the other hand, the review was the spark that helped us achieve better representation of groups like Ma-ori and women.

It seems to me that we demand more from the police than we ever have before.

Thirty years ago when I started there were busy times but there was still sufficient space and time to deal with the issues you had to. That is still so in some locations in New Zealand, but we've got pressure points. The conurbation of Auckland is one. There are one and a half million people in the greater Auckland area. It's a world city. It's a huge raft of ethnic groups, and all those things bring confrontations.

We've become a much more litigious society than we were thirty years ago. I can remember folks coming in to make a complaint about police action and the senior sergeant saying, I'm not prepared to countenance this. If you don't leave the station, you know, you may find yourself in some trouble, and the complainant would turn around and walk away and that would be the end of story. Now we've got a much healthier arrangement where police are held accountable and so they should be but there's a price. The process of clearing prosecutions in our justice system is much more time consuming and much more demanding than it was. And public expectations have risen. All these things compound.

Then there are the perceptions created by the media. If you go round the media newsrooms in New Zealand they are small sweatshops. There are very few reporters and they have to provide copy, whether it be for the print media or tape for the electronic media, and they need volumes of the stuff. And one of the most productive fields they can till is crime. Because it's ready made. It's easy to report. It can be provocative. It can be headline-grabbing. And that fish bowl aspect can be distracting. Statistics would say there's less crime now than there was 10 years ago per capita and that we're actually safer in our homes, but ask most people who read the papers or listen to the six o'clock news and they would say no, you know, this a dangerous place we live in. And yet the facts don't bear out those perceptions. Although it must be conceded there is a greater level of gratuitous violence today and the methamphetamine phenomenon is also having an impact in this regard.

And it is a higher pressure occupation?

Police officers see the very best and the very worst of the human condition. They deal with the flotsam and the jetsam, the people that society doesn't want to acknowledge or deal with. They come face to face with horrific trauma and devastation. When police officers went to Phuket after the tsunami last year, or when they turn up to a road crash where there are bodies which have been torn apart, they have to deal with that physically and emotionally. They have to deal with the emotions a coroner's inquest creates within a family. Those things take you apart.

Even now I can tell you in great detail about my experience of picking a baby up alongside a railway line in Palmerston North 30 years ago. It took me literally weeks to get over it. I had a daughter of the same age. I'd go home from a shift and I'd go and check my daughter in her cot and, as stupid as it seems now, I would actually lie down and go to sleep on the floor beside her cot because I didn't want to leave her. I was irrationally fearful for her wellbeing. The good thing today is that the police have a better understanding of trauma. Trauma counselling is available and even mandatory in many circumstances now. It was never there for people of my generation, but then again the events that require that weren't as frequent as in my generation either.

Sometimes the police seem to me to have been something of a political football. How do you feel about our political process?

I look at other jurisdictions offshore. In the United Kingdom, for example, there has been an increasingly non-partisan or bipartisan approach from government and other major parties to advance law and order issues. Their discussion and debate around it has been focused on issues and not on personalities. New Zealand politics has become, in my view, personality focused, not issue focused, and we see it over and over again, not just in the police portfolio.

I think we're in a transitional phase here where as a country we're still finding our feet. We've grown up a lot, we've got our own identity, but our political interactions are not serving key institutions like the police or the public well at the moment.

What about the perception that the Commissioner is politically-influenced?

If someone tried to tell the Commissioner what to do he would say, Well thank you very much. I hold a warrant from the Governor General. I'm independent. And the thing that I've always said to people informally is that during my time if anyone ever questioned the independence of the police, if they just went back and made a review of the enquiries we'd carried out of a criminal nature and how we've acted in those, there would be no doubt about the independence of the police from the executive.

What have changed are the financial mechanisms. Earlier commissioners spent what they needed to spend and if they ran short they got topped up. It was no more sophisticated than that. The only thing that was set was how many staff they were allowed to employ. The Police Act of 1958 simply says that the commissioner is responsible for the good order, discipline, and performance of the police. No specifications.

The State Sector Act and the financial management reforms of the late eighties gave a level of accountability to the commissioner for the management and financial performance of the organisation.

The police budget is huge, almost \$1.1 billion in my last year. It's almost as big in personnel terms alone as the whole of the armed services. I'm proud that the police executive have been fiscally prudent over the last six years, that we've fought very hard for additional funding but we haven't overspent.

The Independent Police Complaints Authority Amendment Bill, which has been held back until the report of the Commission of Inquiry into Police Conduct, is back on the legislative agenda this year. What are your views?

I view the Police Complaints Authority as a very important watchdog. They do a great job. But more could be done to assure the public of their independence. The bill seeks to change the name of the authority by adding the word 'Independent'. I think we could and should go further than the bill does, and I look to the United Kingdom model as one which could inform developments.

[The Commission of Inquiry's Reporting Date has been extended until 31 May 2006.]

Should we be hankering for the good old days?

I think policing has a very proud record from 1886, when the armed constabulary became the New Zealand Police. But some of the good old days were actually the bad old days. When I joined the police 30 years ago the culture viewed from today's perspective was very insular and relatively right-wing, perhaps even, in some ways, bigoted. That's not the hallmark of policing today. There's a way to go yet, but I think in terms of public sector organisations there is much about the police that is closer to the vanguard than to the back of the pack. I don't always see that same accountability and openness from other key public sector service agencies. I'm proud that we have got to where we are.

What else has changed?

The police understand their business much better than they did five or ten years ago. When I first took over as commissioner I began by visiting the district management teams. I would say, tell me about burglaries in the district. Now in the first round probably eight out of ten of my senior officers could not tell me what was happening in their districts, with burglaries for example, which is bread-and-butter stuff. Now if you came with me or the current commissioner to any district or station in this country and you were to ask a senior officer about burglaries, assaults, family violence, they would be able to tell you the characteristics: how much, when, what, where. We understand our business a lot better than we ever did before, and when you look at the performance improvements in terms of our clearance rates, our reduction in crime. Burglaries in the last five or six years are significantly reduced from what they were five years ago.

We understand our community better. We understand Ma-ori. We understand Pacific Islanders. We understand Asian cultures better than we did a few years ago. At the most fundamental level we understand our family violence better than we did. We understand some of the community and social factors that drive our crime. We understand what works and what doesn't.

And one of the really encouraging things for me is finding experienced cops around the country and some of us are getting long in the tooth realising the extent to which they as individuals can make a difference in their communities.

Being a police officer can be a bit overwhelming at times. You're getting crime reports and you see things that you think you can't influence, and sometimes you feel like you're just mopping up after the event. But individual police are saying to themselves, If I actually work out what the heck's going on here I can make a difference.

Now that can be as simple as finding out who's doing the crime and locking them up and holding them accountable, or maybe it's realising that the only houses that are being burgled are ones that have got a huge amount of foliage around their front doors and advising people, Well if you don't want your house to be a target then I'm sorry but you need to reduce some of the foliage in your front yard .

The Diploma in Police Studies

The Diploma in Police Studies offers a theoretical and practical background to modern policing in its social context and to police administration. It is especially useful to those working in organisations responsible for the enforcement of criminal justice, whether governmental, non-governmental or private.

The Diploma is grounded in the social sciences and in particular papers in Sociology, Psychology, and Social Anthropology. Through the three 200-level papers in Police Studies students develop a basic understanding of the culture, and economic and political context of policing in New Zealand and other similar societies, the structure of police organisations and social factors involved in everyday policing problems.

The Diploma can be studied extramurally or on the Palmerston North campus. It requires at least two years of full-time study. Many students study part-time.

Many members of the police use the diploma papers as stepping stones to a degree. Others select only those papers accepted by the police for career promotion.

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Date: 05/04/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Massey Magazine

Rethinking Palestine

Nothing is to be achieved by penalising the Palestinians for the election of Hamas, writes Nigel Parsons, a lecturer in politics.

The event

The results of the January 2006 elections to the legislative council of the Palestinian Authority (PA) came as a shock, not just to the international community, but also to the victorious Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, and the shaken former governing faction, Fatah. In the days that followed, Israel and the United States sought to orchestrate a chorus of international disapproval at the outcome, while the Hamas leadership pondered the practical implications of a somewhat unanticipated parliamentary majority. Of the 132 seats, Hamas had taken 76. Fatah, the movement founded by Yasir Arafat and which had occupied the heart of Palestinian politics since the late 1960s, garnered a meagre 43 seats and was cast into opposition, a prospect as unfamiliar as it was unwelcome.



... and what to make of it

Hamas's assumption of legislative power within the PA raises three immediate questions. Why did Hamas succeed in the election to an extent that surprised even its own leadership? What does this election victory mean for Palestinian politics, including a down-but-not-out Fatah? What are the implications for Israeli politics and relations between the two reluctant neighbours?

An explanation on five levels

The factors contributing to Hamas's success can be discerned on five levels. On the international level, the US-led drive to democratise the Middle East, which included an insistence on elections in the PA, provided a window of political opportunity. On the regional level, the state of Israel's accelerated colonisation campaign across the occupied Palestinian territories generated a climate conducive to anti-colonial resistance of the type championed by Hamas. On the national level, Israel's colonial agenda undermined the Oslo process championed by Fatah, while the movement's failure to reform either itself or its methods of governance through the PA left it vulnerable to a timely challenge. On the level of the electoral system, reforms carried out the previous year created a proportional representation model which offset the advantages of wealth and family to the benefit of the disciplined, grassroots Hamas support. Finally, on an organisational level the infrastructure, coherence and purpose of Hamas left it well placed to bid for power.

Hamas: organised, mobilised, socialised

Opponents of the diplomatic process that created the PA in 1994 Hamas, along with most of the secular leftist opposition declined to take part in presidential and legislative elections held in 1996, or in the post-Arafat presidential poll of January 2005. However, Hamas leaders had long said they would participate in local elections as and when they were held. Discerning that Hamas enjoyed a measure of real popularity, the US had previously encouraged Arafat not to hold such elections for precisely this reason.

It was a view that found sympathetic ears among the senior Fatah leadership, until Minister of Local Government Jamal al-Shubaki began to articulate an alternative vision. Arguing that the benefits would outweigh the risks, Shubaki saw that local elections might address two enduring problems: the PA's inadequate tax revenues, and Israel's relentless colonisation campaign. Generating a new tier of fresh, legitimate administration would encourage Palestinians to pay their taxes. Moreover, these same local councils could better mobilise communities to resist the predations of Israel's machinery of colonisation.

Shubaki triumphed, and from late 2004 local elections were held in four stages over 12 months. Hamas took part, and did very well. Campaigns were organised across the West Bank and Gaza, mosque-based and informal networks were mobilised to great effect, and both leadership and members were socialised into the practicalities of running for elected office. It lent Hamas experience and confidence as the legislative contest approached.

The case for electoral reform

The previous legislative elections of 1996 had been widely criticised by Palestinian opposition groups for taking place solely on a constituency basis. Constituencies played straight into the hands of wealthy extended families with financial and human resources ready to deliver the vote. Promising candidates were readily co-opted by Fatah. Hamas was never likely to participate in these circumstances, and the system needlessly marginalised the secular left which could have accrued sufficient votes for representation across the territories.

In the spirit of reform, Arafat's successor as PA president, Mahmud 'Abbas, agreed to adopt a mixed

constituency and proportional system not dissimilar to New Zealand's. The implications were clearly understood by Hamas, which deployed its assets to great effect: figures of national standing ran as constituency candidates where their better public profile helped them compete, while local organisational leaders ran on the list to benefit from the movement's broad popularity. Christians, women and Fatah affiliates were all brought in to enhance its appeal, while Hamas's religious leaders, noting that each Palestinian now had two votes, decreed that both should be awarded to Hamas alone.

Fatah fails

It is often said that 'oppositions don't win elections, governments lose them', and this adage holds true for Fatah, with the qualification that the state of Israel helped. For its own part, Fatah failed in two respects: to unify the internal and external wings of the movement, and to govern with due accountability and transparency through the PA.

The Oslo-born process that returned the Palestinian leadership to the West Bank and Gaza in 1994 brought the historic leadership (marked by revolutionary armed struggle in Jordan and Lebanon) face to face with the local leadership (whose formative experiences came inside occupied Palestine, particularly Israeli jails). Symbolised by Marwan al-Barghuthi, this middle-aged, middle-ranked leadership resented its exclusion from Fatah's highest echelon, the central committee, and, by extension, its exclusion from the highest rungs of the PA.

As elections approached, bitter divisions were revealed over the composition of Fatah's electoral candidates. Resentful at marginalisation by the old guard from 'outside', younger Fatah 'insiders' decided to form their own list: in contrast to Hamas's unity and discipline, Fatah appeared divided and unruly. Fatah's image was further undermined by a decade of mismanagement of the PA: Arafat's reliance on patronage through opaque and secretive funding had served him well as head of a revolution, but did not translate well in the state-building era. Barghuthi had been vocal in his calls for reform, and although much had been done to redress this in recent years, not least of all by 'Abbas, it was too little, too late.

Accelerated Israeli colonisation

Compounding Fatah's internal problems were the manifest failings of the Oslo 'peace' process to which they were attached. Far from delivering the promised independent Palestinian state, Oslo delivered a dramatic acceleration in Israeli settlement and road construction that tore through Palestinian land and rendered the possibility of a viable Palestinian state ever less likely. As Arafat signed the Declaration of Principles that inaugurated the Oslo process, the number of Israeli settlers on Palestinian land stood at around 250,000; after a decade of 'peace' that number had risen to some 400,000, and it goes on rising today. The reality of 'peace' for Palestinians was a dynamic Israeli colonisation drive that took land, water, mobility, prosperity and hope. It defied the requirements of international law, and proved unacceptable to the Palestinian people. And Fatah had brokered it.

When the Oslo arrangements finally collapsed in September 2000 (following the visit of Israeli prime minister Ariel Sharon to Islam's third holiest shrine, the al-Aqsa mosque, in the company of several hundred policemen and soldiers), rebellion erupted and Fatah was torn: preserve the political project that was the PA, or launch anti-colonial resistance anew? Hamas had no such quandary, taking a leading role in the al-Aqsa intifada, and forcing Fatah to respond with the al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades as the uprising acquired a religious tone. In a climate informed by despair and revenge, neither faction was lacking recruits for armed struggle, including suicide bombing operations. Israel's response - reinvasion, destruction and collective punishment - demolished much of the PA governed by Fatah, and allowed Hamas to take a greater role in the provision of mosque-based welfare services. The ensuing Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip seemed only to vindicate Hamas's insistence on military resistance.

The War on Terror

In prosecuting the multidimensional War on Terror, the US seems to have decided that democratisation is one of its weapons of choice. If the Bush administration had not insisted on elections at this point, they would in all probability not have been held and Hamas could not have won them. Hamas's triumph, in the wake of the unruly experience in Iraq and the electoral success of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt a month or so earlier (they won approximately 25 percent of the seats, and would have won a lot more if allowed to) underscores a point: newly enfranchised Middle Eastern voters have their own agendas and are not much preoccupied with American sensibilities.

Conclusions

Hamas won in Palestine on its own merits as a responsive, respected and popular movement, ably assisted by the failings of the ruling Fatah faction, a reformed electoral system, a context of ongoing Zionist colonisation and what seems to be a regional trend towards Islamist success in increasingly open electoral competition. For Palestine, this might all be to the good: Palestinians want a transparent, efficient government that provides them with the security and services any of us in New Zealand take for granted. A reputation for honesty and effectiveness give some grounds for hope, so long as external sources of funding (necessary due to Israel's

destruction of the Palestinian economy) are forthcoming.

For Fatah, the route to reform is clear: convening of the sixth general conference (for the first time since 1989), and election of a new central committee that reflects the will of the membership in Palestine. This done, a return to power is not inconceivable. For Israel, a PA led by Hamas could have unlikely benefits: now possessed of a real asset in the PA, it is possible that the Hamas political leadership will discern an interest in maintaining calm in order to protect and preserve its position from assault. If it does decide to so do, the Hamas movement will likely have the discipline and wherewithal to implement such a decision.

Date: 05/04/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Massey Magazine

Fuels for thought

Biofuels offer up the possibility of not just slowing climate change, but of reversing it, writes Dr Peter Read.



What a difference a few years make. In 1998, with oil selling at US\$16 a barrel, biofuels rated hardly a mention. Today, with oil at US\$60 a barrel, Brazil has plans to increase its sugar-cane-based ethanol exports to at least 250 million litres this year, five times its exports in 2004. And no less a person than President George W. Bush is promoting the production and use of biodiesel and ethanol as a part of his Advanced Energy Initiative to Help Break America's Dependence on Foreign Sources of Energy.

As its title makes clear, the Bush initiative is more about geopolitics than it is about the environment. Nonetheless, some good wider environmental outcomes may come of it. I, for one, welcome the research attention that is now to be given to the technical challenges of producing ethanol from cellulose a much more challenging problem than producing it using sugar or corn even while I worry about the insularity of the focus.

By replacing the use of fossil fuels with biofuels, and alongside measures such as promoting better vehicle efficiency, the Bush administration will slow the rate at which carbon dioxide will be added to the atmosphere. But biofuels, in particular, could be the key to achieving much more.

Vegetation grown for biofuel removes carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through photosynthesis. When the resulting biofuel is burned, that same carbon dioxide is given up to the atmosphere. But the latter need not be the case. In the late 1990s it was proposed that the carbon dioxide produced by fossil-fuel-driven power stations be captured, compressed and then sequestered perhaps pumped into saline aquifers, depleted oilfields or unmineable coal fields. What if the same process were applied to the burning of biofuels? Then you would have a negative emissions energy system the more bioenergy products are consumed, the less carbon dioxide remains in the atmosphere.

The concept is known as bioenergy with carbon dioxide sequestration (BECS). It is an extraordinary option, and one we may want to have to hand as a form of insurance. Basically, there are good reasons why we may want to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and keep it out.

Although the Kyoto negotiators thought of the effects of global warming as gradual, the Earth's climatic history shows that abrupt changes do happen. Thinking humans have roamed the earth for a million years or more. Civilisation flourished over the last 8,500 years when, by some chance change, the natural climate settled down enough for agriculture to develop and support settlement, large populations, cities, culture and all we hold dear. As greenhouse gases accumulate and the Earth's climate warms, there may well be tipping points where natural processes abruptly cascade into runaway events typical of prehistoric climate change.



What might those tipping points be? Here are three.

- In western Siberia the permafrost is melting as the climate warms, creating vast lakes and bogs and releasing stores of methane, a more potent greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide. An estimated 400 billion tonnes of methane lie frozen in the permafrost of Arctic soils. If a substantial part of this is released, then the pace of global warming is likely to accelerate, in turn speeding the thawing of the permafrost in a vicious circle.
- As the southern summer limit of Arctic sea ice cover diminishes, the reflectivity of the earth decreases and more heat is absorbed (snow and ice mostly reflect solar radiation back into space while exposed ocean absorbs it), again accelerating global warming.
- Late last year researchers measuring the strength of the current in the Atlantic Ocean between Africa and the east coast of America found that the circulation had slowed by 30 percent since measurements were taken 12 years earlier. Pulled by the sinking of cold, salty, dense waters in the North Atlantic Ocean, the Gulf Stream bathes Britain and northern Europe in warm waters drawn up from the tropics. If it were to stop, disrupted by global warming, Britain and Europe would paradoxically be subject to cooler summers and more severe winters.

Human activities pump eight billion tonnes of carbon into the atmosphere each year. The natural processes associated with plants, animals, soil bacteria, volcanic activity and weather emit and recycle 110 billion tonnes of carbon. If we want to have a chance of forestalling a runaway climate change event then we will need to be able to do more than just reduce the quantity of industrial emissions that make up some part of that eight billion tonnes.

Bioenergy to carbon dioxide sequestration is hopefully an answer, but we will not get there all at once. The first thing we need is a global biofuels industry. This is not my belief alone. An expert workshop held by the Better World Fund of the UN Foundation to address the policy implications of potential abrupt climate change recommended that policy makers should be urged to stimulate the growth of a global bioenergy market with global trade (mainly south to north) in liquid biofuels such as ethanol and synthetic diesel.

Why the south to north reference? Well, it so happens that the underdeveloped south is rich in land that is neither in natural forest nor in cultivation land that might be turned over to producing the likes of sugarcane or plantation forest.

Where should the carbon go? Although most of the solutions suggested so far are 'think big', one of the first places we should look at storing carbon is in the soil. Enriching the soil with charcoal is a traditional form of soil improvement in Japan. In Brazil it formed the basis for pre-Columbian

agriculture on the otherwise infertile soils of the Amazon basin. This technique alone could absorb several decades worth of humanity's carbon dioxide emissions. Another means of carbon storage in some places may be to 'make' new soil, spreading the chipped twigs and small branches of deciduous trees that degrade to soil agglomerates by natural processes.

Ideally, the revenue from the sale of biofuel would pay for the costs of carbon dioxide sequestration or storage, especially if oil prices get into triple digits as forecast by oil industry expert and sometime Bush advisor Matt Simmons.

A global programme of planting crops for biofuel production and ploughing organic matter back into the soil could cut carbon dioxide to pre-1800 levels. It might also address some of the imbalances between the developed and underdeveloped nations.

Will this happen if the free market is left to its own devices? No it won't. If biofuel is treated as just a substitute for petrol or diesel then there may be unintended consequences. Already in Indonesia dense tropical rainforest has reportedly been cleared to make way for palm oil plantations to produce biodiesel. Any country exporting biofuels should be held to certain sustainable development criteria.

Could BECS happen? Perhaps. The Kyoto protocol has shown the willingness of a good number of nations to band together to tackle global warming, and the time when biofuels make it into the marketplace is clearly here.

We just need to take the next steps. Regard it as disaster insurance.

Date: 05/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Enviromental issues; Massey Magazine

W.F. Massey's life and times

A conference to mark 150 years since the birth of the politician and prime minister William Ferguson Massey addressed aspects of his life, career and administration, and the social, economic and political context in which he lived.

Hosted by the School of History, Philosophy and Politics, the two-day conference featured keynote presentations from historians Professor Miles Fairburn (Canterbury University) and Emeritus Professor Erik Olssen (Otago University).

Titled *Who voted for Massey, 1908-22*, Professor Fairburn's paper examined the claims that a major shift by small farmers to Reform was largely responsible for the sharp rise of Reform's share of the vote from 1908 to 1911, that voting became strongly aligned with class during the industrial turmoil of 1911-14, and that voter loyalties were heavily influenced by religious affiliations from the Great War to 1922.

Professor Fairburn says these claims are often aired despite the fact that the social basis of voter behaviour between 1908 and 1922 is a neglected topic of research relating to Massey's rise to power and electoral successes.

Professor Olssen's keynote presentation was titled *Reflections on W. F. Massey: One of Our Greatest Prime Ministers (Arguably)*.

He outlined his reassessment of W.F.Massey, who has long been dismissed as reactionary both in cultural and political terms, tainted by association with racism, sectarian bigotry, and irrational hostility towards organised labour, and either unpleasant, plain dull, or both.

Professor Olssen argues that only in a society with a political culture as radical as New Zealand's, could Massey and his government be described as conservative let alone reactionary .

He drew examples of evidence of W.F.Massey's importance based on his work as wartime Prime Minister, and his success in winning the 1919 elections and in elaborating an electoral strategy that ensured another decade of Reform dominance.

From Massey, conference speakers included those from Associate Professor Peter Lineham, Associate Professor Michael Belgrave, Professor Michael Roche, Professor Glyn Harper and Dr James Watson.

Date: 12/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Reflections

Looking back on 2006 from the perspective of Deputy Vice-Chancellors and Pro Vice-Chancellors

Professor Mason Durie - Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori)
Professor Nigel Long - Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
Professor John Raine - Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Auckland)
Professor Ian Warrington - Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Palmerston North)
Professor Andrea McIlroy - Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Wellington)

Professor Lawrence Rose - Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of Business
Professor James Chapman - Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of Education
Professor Paul Spoonley - for the Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Professor Robert Anderson - Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of Sciences
Professor Sally Morgan - Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of Creative Arts

Professor Mason Durie, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori)

The appointment of Professor Sitaleki Finau as Director Pasifika was a major milestone for the University this year.

Based on the Auckland campus, Professor Finau is assisted by Azima Mazid as well as Pacific staff from all three campuses.

The appointment of Makere Edwards to the position of Māori Communications Co-ordinator enables us to develop a clear Māori message in external communications.

Along with the successful To Tatou Reo Rangatira conference and the establishment of a Māori Language Advisory Committee, important platforms for implementing the University's Matua Reo Māori language policy have been built.

A further important development has been a grade distribution database that will enable a more thorough analysis of student academic achievement across campuses, colleges, ethnicities, and modes of delivery.

Importantly also, the first student from the Highbury Scholarship programme to graduate, Lisa Kimura, received a Bachelor of Education in May.

Next year's priorities will include the development of a Māori Research Strategy, the appointment of a Director for Te Mata o te Tau (the Academy for Māori Research and Scholarship), Purehuroa Scholarships for postgraduate study and the ongoing implementation of the Māori@Massey and Pasifika@Massey policies.

In addition a team will be entered in Hikoi for Health.

Professor Nigel Long - Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)

The PBRF Quality Evaluation dominated research management activities this year.

In contrast to the 2003 evaluation, Research Management Services ran centralised processes for staff eligibility and publications processing, and encouraged greater planning and coordination surrounding internal quality assurance processes for Evidence Portfolios. The standards required for evidence portfolio presentation were

as a result, raised substantially.

Although this resulted in more pressure on academic and participating general staff, I'm glad to say that the operation was a success, in administrative terms at least.

The University has met all Tertiary Education Commission deadlines and audit requirements to date and we are looking forward to a much improved result when this is available early in the New Year. PBRF funding for the University is estimated to be \$32m per annum from 2007.

Highlights for the University included the Manawatu Microscopy and Imaging Centre being funded from a successful \$1.5m Innovation and Development Fund bid and the University's success in the Tertiary Education's Growth Pilot round earlier this year, for which it won more than \$1m for two projects in the design area.

To cap things off, a bid developed jointly by the Training and Development Unit and Director Research Management Services, Michael Peters, resulted in the University attracting \$20 million over five years to host a National Centre for Tertiary Teaching Excellence funded by the Tertiary Education Commission.

This has cemented Massey University's association with excellence in tertiary teaching as well as excellence in research.

Professor John Raine - Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Auckland)

This year the Auckland campus continued to consolidate its position as the primary University presence north of the Harbour Bridge. Enrolments grew despite pressure across the New Zealand university system on domestic and international student numbers.

Another outstanding 21st Century Career Pathways in Technology Programme for school students was jointly undertaken with Smales Farm Technology Office Park, with major financial support from Smales Farm and New Zealand Trade and Enterprise.

The Speech Language Therapy (SLT) Clinic completed for the College of Education reinforces the position of SLT on the Campus, which also hosted a number of conferences, notably the Boys Education Conference in April and the Asian Finance Association Conference in July.

The opening of the Sir Neil Waters Lecture Theatres in April was a highlight of the year. This magnificent building offers top quality facilities and a large foyer, now regularly used for campus events.

Community and Business relationships have developed well in 2006, and a Memorandum of Understanding was signed on joint activities with Rodney District Council. The e-centre Ltd has excelled in its first year as a company and developed new export links to India. In 2007 it will reinforce campus linkages with Enterprise North Shore through closer collaboration on regional business development.

Priorities for 2007 will be campus strategic positioning, academic programme developments, further efforts to raise Massey's profile in teaching and research in the region, and a continuing focus on student services and satisfaction. We aim to get the student accommodation village and student amenities buildings under way as commercial projects and look forward to progress on the library-information commons building.

Professor Ian Warrington - Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Palmerston North)

This year has seen a number of important building developments on the Palmerston North campus and enhanced levels of service and support to students.

Included among them were two new halls of residence, now rated the best student accommodation in New Zealand, and the redeveloped Registry Building, which satisfies a long-standing need to provide seamless, effective services to support students through a one-stop-shop including the Medical Centre, Career and Counselling Services, Disability Services, StudyLink, Cashiers and Financial Services, International Student Support and Student Liaison Advisors.

Finishing touches to the Students' Centre will be made before the end of the year with an official opening in Orientation Week.

The opening of Te Whare Herenga in the remodelled YFC building in July created attractive and highly functional study spaces for Pacific, Māori and international students.

Major internal refurbishments at Wharerata will be completed before Christmas.

The \$17 million Hopkirk Research Institute building development will reach practical completion this month, with an official opening planned for March.

The \$19.6 million College of Sciences buildings' project is well under way with construction of Riddett 12, consisting of workshops, presentation rooms and offices expected to be completed by semester two, and construction of Riddett 11, a redevelopment of food laboratories and pilot plants, to commence at Easter.

AgHort B level 1 has been partly refurbished and work on the rest of the floor and to create a new foyer and entry to the building is continuing. Construction of the Manawatu Microscopy Imaging Centre will be completed by mid-year.

The unlimited access free bus scheme for Massey staff and students marked its millionth passenger in October and has been approved for a further five years.

The rise in students' satisfaction survey results demonstrates the efforts the university has made to be responsive through provision of new and enhanced services.

The University and this campus have much to be proud of, and the outstanding work and dedication of its staff are foremost in all that is achieved.

Professor Andrea McIlroy - Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Wellington)

This year saw the full implementation of strategic direction through the Wellington Campus Academic Development Plan.

Changes in 2005 saw education programmes transferred to Palmerston North and most sub-degree programmes discontinued, which is reflected in the campus student profile, with more than 90 per cent now studying at bachelor level or above and more than 50 PhD students.

Another highlight was the creation of the New Zealand School of Music, hosted on the campus, with inaugural director Professor Elizabeth Hudson arriving in June.

Three important new research centres are also now proudly hosted on the campus: The Centre for Disaster Research, the National Centre for Tertiary Teaching Excellence and the Centre for Affective Product Design.

Refurbishments were completed in Block 3 for the Engineering and Technology programme for the start of semester two.

Refurbishments in Te Pumanawa Hauora Centre for Māori Health and Development will allow Professor Chris Cunningham and his team to enhance their Māori health research.

Next month we will welcome the new Te Kaiwāwao, Te Tumatukuru O'Connell, and we are looking forward to increasing our engagement with Māori communities. Across all sectors of the campus we will be increasing our

engagement with the region's communities, particularly schools, with initiatives that target postgraduate students as well as school leavers.

Next year we can look forward to progress on the Library and Information Centre project, while our campus transportation plan will promote the use of public transport, cycling and walking for staff and students.

Professor Lawrence Rose - Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of Business

While the College of Business can claim a significant number of successes during 2006, these should be regarded as signposts for 2007 and beyond.

Highlights this year included the Asian Finance conference in Auckland, hosted by two departments that teach Finance, and the celebration of the School of Journalism's 40th anniversary. We continued to receive confirmation of the international status of our research, most recently for Marketing and Finance. Several departments, including the School of Aviation, also established important new high quality international academic partnerships.

During 2007 we will develop further links with our local, national and international communities. A highlight will be the inaugural meeting of our new College Advisory Board. Chaired by Business New Zealand's Phil O'Reilly, this group reflects a wide representation of the New Zealand business sector. We also have accelerated work on accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (ACSB).

Future priorities include moves to diversify our funding base, making further progress in creating a distinctive College focus at each campus, adding to our wholly research student numbers and the revitalisation of our extramural offerings.

As a relatively new Pro Vice-Chancellor I am continually impressed by the energy and dedication of College staff and look forward to working with staff to meet the challenges which lie ahead.

Professor James Chapman - Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of Education

The College of Education continues to build on its national and international reputation for excellence, and in 2006 hosted a number of overseas delegations who visited the college to share in research and expertise.

The forging of new and innovative partnerships in Education will strengthen research networks, and lead to an exciting future for the college.

We will continue to develop and strengthen our national partnerships also. Our Ruawhoro centre has recently moved to the EIT campus in Napier. The relocation from our old site will benefit students and staff and reflects the college's ongoing commitment to education in the wider Hawke's Bay region.

The College of Education is working towards implementing a four-year teacher education programme which will be unique to New Zealand, in its delivery, qualification, and reputation ensuring our graduates are among New Zealand's best.

It is a project in which I am proud to be involved, and one that has brought together academic staff from all areas in the college for constructive development, cooperation and healthy debate as we continually strive to deliver the best.

It is a project that reflects the college's ever-changing, and innovative nature, a College of firsts and a pioneer in New Zealand education - reflected in our recent 50th anniversary celebrations - an important milestone and a

positive affirmation of the important role educators play in society.

This has also been reflected in the University's first Doctors of Education to graduate this year. I extend my congratulations and thanks to all staff and students for their hard work and look forward to the challenges and success the year ahead will bring.

Professor Paul Spoonley - for the Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

This year staff have continued to contribute to research and public debate on public health, immigration, the labour market, the national economy, parents and families and international politics.

As leaders and teachers, they have explored the character of our diverse culture, the nature of civil society, democracy and public policy, the distinctive foundations of New Zealand society, and the realms of art, literature, music and religion.

This expertise was internationally and locally recognised, notably in the Massey Research Awards for Professor Robin Munford (supervisor), Dr Sarah Ross (early career), and the Centre for Public Health Research (team medal).

This year the first graduates of the Bachelor of Communication were capped, while many graduates returned to the college to take up postgraduate study offered to a PhD level.

Through its nine schools and eight research centres across all three campuses the college has strengthened its partnerships with government and professional agencies. The Centre for Disaster Research was jointly launched by the School of Psychology and GNS Science to better prepare New Zealand for natural disasters, which complements the Earthquake Commission-funded chair in natural hazard planning.

The Centre for Public Health Research, the Centre for Social and Health Outcomes Research and Evaluation, and the Sleep/Wake Research, Pūmanawa Hauora, and Te Ropu Whariki have all contributed crucially to researching the health of New Zealanders.

The artist in residence scheme in the School of English and Media Studies has grown to become a highly sought-after residency and students of visual and expressive arts continue to shine here and internationally.

While the college faces challenges, it has proven to be another year in which the teaching and research excellence of staff has been recognised.

Professor Robert Anderson - Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of Sciences

The College celebrates another year of national and global achievements while looking ahead to the challenges of the next.

In the decade since its formation from the University's five science faculties, the college has strengthened its position as a leading provider of research-led education. It plays a pivotal role as a training ground for both established and up-and-coming scientists.

The year's graduation ceremonies saw hundreds of young scientists embark upon exciting careers, while our postgraduate students and staff go from strength to strength with an enviable presence at awards such as the Royal Society Science Awards and the MacDiarmid Young Scientist of the Year Awards.

This summer the Hopkirk Institute, a joint venture between Massey and AgResearch, opens its doors to house the largest concentration of animal health scientists in the Southern Hemisphere.

The launch of the Manawatu Microscopy and Imaging Centre early next year will strengthen the college's position as a leader in the fundamental sciences, and the opening of the Institute of Advanced Studies at the Auckland campus will bring together an elite, dedicated research team.

The College will continue to extend its excellence in engineering and technology, environmental science, agriculture, and in veterinary and life sciences among other areas.

I congratulate College staff for their many achievements and look forward to the successes and challenges the New Year will bring.

Professor Sally Morgan - Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of Creative Arts

The college has a long and proud history of excellence.

Through our establishment as the Wellington School of Design 120 years ago, we share the same roots as institutions such as the Royal College of Art and Imperial College London.

This year, our 120th Anniversary, we have enjoyed the challenges that have arisen from implementing the strategic planning that we began in 2004 to enhance our research capability, to grow postgraduate provision; and to maintain undergraduate excellence.

The college has reconfigured into a new set of schools and institutes, each developing its own specialist focus through research loci. One such centre being AFFECT, associated with the new Institute of Design and Industry and Environment, which recently achieved a \$1 million GIPI grant.

The Litmus research initiative, based in Fine Arts and financially assisted by the Massey University Foundation, brought the internationally recognised curator Claire Doherty out from the UK.

Research successes have included staff being selected to exhibit in the Shanghai Biennale, a prestigious international exhibition in Chile and Design Expos in the UK and China. Staff and students have won prizes in the Designers institute of New Zealand BEST awards, and two members of staff had a short film received with critical acclaim in the United States.

I am confident we will see the College going from strength to strength in all these areas.

Date: 12/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Business; College of Creative Arts; College of Education; College of Humanities & Social Sciences; College of Sciences



Wellington school teachers learn about the Young Enterprise Scheme, at Massey's Wellington campus. Claire Brown from St Catherine's College and Chris Dodds from the Ministry of Economic Development.

College of Business says 'Yes'

The College of Business will have a greater involvement with the Lion Foundation Young Enterprise Scheme next year.

The programme, known as Yes, is the flagship of the Enterprise New Zealand Trust, a non-profit organisation focused on creating entrepreneurs.

It gives year 12 and 13 secondary school pupils the opportunity to create and develop companies with real products and services.

Yes is school-based and teaches skills in budgeting, planning, teamwork, interpersonal relations, decision making, reporting, communications and risk management.

College marketing manager Fraser Bell says University staff will deliver teacher training workshops in Wellington and Palmerston North.

Plans are also well advanced for Massey to provide additional support to the programme in both regions.

Mr Bell says the partnership is a logical fit for Massey and for the College.

We have considerable expertise in entrepreneurship, enterprise development and small-medium enterprise research. Our New Zealand Small and Medium Research Centre in Wellington is the Australasian leader in this field. We are pleased to be able to share some of our knowledge to support the next generation of entrepreneurs.

Date: 12/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Scholarships



Chinese immersion day

Krishant Goyal, a year-10 student from Wellington College, shows Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear the art of Chinese calligraphy. Seventy students from Wellington schools were on campus at a Chinese language immersion day last week.

New Zealand's ongoing negotiations for a bilateral free trade agreement highlight China's importance for New Zealand in the 21st century, says senior lecturer from the School of Language Studies, Dr Ellen Soulliere.

Young people learning Chinese language in New Zealand schools and universities are preparing to take their places in a new global environment, where relationships with Chinese people and Chinese institutions will play a key role, she says.

The day was sponsored by the Wellington Chinese Speech and Cultural Day Organising Committee, the Confucius Institute, the Asia New Zealand Foundation and the Chinese Language Foundation.

Date: 12/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any

Gallipoli gift for new Defence chief

The gift of a rare map of Gallipoli to Lieutenant-General Jerry Mateparae marked his first visit to Massey as the Chief of the New Zealand Defence Force.

Lieutenant-General Mateparae met with Dr Glyn Harper, staff and students in the Centre for Defence Studies before the surprise presentation by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Judith Kinnear.

The framed map is a copy of one used in 1915 by Major R.M.Smythe at the Anzac headquarters.

Dr Harper, a WWI military historian, says the map's fine contour detail and hand-written annotations are unique.

Members of Major Smyth's family lent the map and his diaries to Dr Harper so they could be photographed and archived for future research.

Copies of the map were also made for the National Archives and the Army Museum at Waiouru.

Date: 15/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Palmerston North



Check up for Edge

Hawke's Bay police dog, Edge stabbed during a confrontation on a farm on 6 June returned to the University's Veterinary Teaching Hospital recently for what his handler hopes is the final check-up after life-saving surgery.

Before conducting a chest x-ray and examination on Edge, veterinary surgeon Associate Professor Barbara Kirby was presented with a certificate and heartfelt thanks by Superintendent Grant Nicholls, Eastern District commander.

This was a particularly challenging time for both Edge and [handler] Dave Whyte. Edge has a huge career in front of him, and it would have been a tragedy to lose him to the team.

The 26 month-old German Shepherd was flown to Palmerston North from Hastings with two stab wounds, one which missed his heart by millimetres.

Date: 15/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Sciences; School of Veterinary Science



Top US bass player jams with jazz musicians

American jazz bassist Tom Warrington, who has played with jazz legends including Stan Getz and Peggy Lee, shared his musical expertise and insights with third year Jazz School students recently.

Los Angeles-based Warrington ran a workshop with students at the school (part of the joint Massey-Victoria NZ School of Music) on the Auckland campus. He also performed concerts in Wellington and Auckland with leading New Zealand artists Phil Broadhurst and Rodger Fox, who teach at the Jazz School.

Although there are fewer jazz clubs in Los Angeles now than there were 20 or 30 years ago, Warrington thinks jazz an umbrella term for a huge variety of styles is alive and well in the 21st century.

With new technology being used in to make music, jazz is constantly evolving as a musical genre.

Specialised jazz programmes such as the New Zealand School of Music's, where a jazz performance major is available at both the Wellington and Auckland campus, provide an opportunity for young musicians to develop, he says, and the success of such programmes is partly due to having teachers like Broadhurst and Fox, who are also talented performers.

It's very encouraging to see young people still developing their love of this music, and interested in learning.

He outlined his teaching approach in both technical and philosophic terms.

I start out by seeing what the students are capable of, what their level of ability and experience is. Then I zero in and make some suggestions about trying different things.

But the essence of good musicianship is the ability to listen to the other musicians you are playing with, he says, using the analogy of a good conversation in which everyone gets their say, rather than one voice dominating.

There has to be give and take between the musicians.

Warrington too, divides his time equally between teaching and performing, as well as recording. He teaches jazz students at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas, and is highly sought-after for seminars, workshops and clinics because of his ability to clearly communicate musical ideas and methods.

He believes that the appeal of live jazz comes from the fascination of watching someone creating music.

On a more ethereal level, it's about communication and touching people through music at a spiritual, soul level.

Warrington, who has been to New Zealand several times in the past five years to teach and perform after meeting Rodger Fox through a mutual musician friend, says this trip was a mix of holiday, teaching and performance.

He didn't bring his own bass because that would be like going on holiday with your refrigerator .

He has toured and recorded with many great jazz artists, including playing in a back band for jazz legend Peggy Lee in concert in the mid-1990s.

With the Tom Warrington Trio, he has recently released a new album titled Black Nine.

Sample tracks and more information can be found online: <http://www.tomwarrington.com>.

Date: 15/04/2006

Type: Features





The secret lives of Maltese pagans

A Massey researcher studying modern day witches and pagans in the Mediterranean island republic of Malta says she has had to conceal the identities of those she interviewed to protect them.

Social anthropologist Dr Kathryn Rountree believes the people she interviewed for a book could risk losing their jobs if they became known as practising pagans in the strongly Catholic country.

Dr Rountree, a senior lecturer in the School of Social and Cultural Studies in Auckland, says Catholic disapproval of alternative religions meant extreme caution and attention to ethical research practices were vital in her approach to interviewing pagans and witches, as well as Catholic priests, about the existence of paganism in Malta.

With a working title *Between the Worlds: Witches and Pagans in Malta Today*, it will be the first book to explore neo-paganism in an overwhelmingly Catholic society, she says.

Although contemporary paganism which she describes as an umbrella term for a large number of modern western nature religions, each with their own beliefs and practices which include expressing love for and kinship with nature by celebrating seasonal cycles is an anathema to the average God-fearing Maltese citizen, there are, in fact, some surprising links between it and traditional Catholicism.

Contrary to common Catholic perceptions, paganism is not synonymous with devil worship, Satan and the Occult, she stresses.

Dr Rountree, who teaches courses in ritual and belief, has widely researched and published on Goddess Paganism in New Zealand and abroad including her 2004 book *Embracing the Witch and the Goddess: Feminist Ritual-makers in New Zealand* (Routledge). She stumbled upon contemporary pagan culture in Malta after a series of field trips there to study ancient megalithic (huge stone prehistoric) temples that date back 3000 4000 years B.C.

She was aware that these 23 unique monuments the oldest free-standing stone buildings in the world were frequently visited by modern Goddess followers on pilgrimages from the United States and Britain. But she had never come across a local version of Goddess worshippers.

About a year after returning to New Zealand from a trip to Malta in 2003, she received an intriguing email from someone in Malta, asking her if she knew about a secret order claiming to have revived the worship of a pre-Christian Maltese Goddess.

The correspondent introduced her by email to a modern Maltese witch (pseudo)named Isabella, one of three people whom Dr Rountree interviewed extensively in her research on this hidden pagan culture.

In a paper recounting her field work, she says: I met my first Maltese witch outside Burger King, just inside the city gates of Valletta, Malta's walled capital. Isabella wasn't old and ugly with warts on her nose; she was young and pretty with a stud in her nose, white curtain-hooks in her ears, and a glossy purple Mohawk.

Isabella was not part of any secret order , but she was in touch with many Maltese wiccans and pagans. By accepting an invitation to attend a Summer Solstice celebration, Dr Rountree met other pagans and witches in Malta who gathered to participate in these and other pagan rituals.

What fascinated Dr Rountree was the observation that although Maltese pagans and witches shared a kind of global pagan culture with feminist and New Age spiritual movements elsewhere through books and the internet, they did not share the same antipathy towards orthodox Christianity.

And despite not having the freedom to declare their pagan beliefs openly in a society suspicious of alternative religions, Maltese pagans maintain an affinity with Catholicism simply because they are so deeply imbued with it, she discovered.

There is little choice about being Catholic in Malta, she says. It is not so much a religion which an individual accepts (willingly or not) or rejects as it is the cultural 'ground of being' for all Maltese.

As one of the pagans she interviews says: For me, trying not to be Catholic would be like trying not to be Maltese.

Like staunchly Catholic Latin American societies, Maltese Catholicism has evolved to include remnants of old beliefs, superstitions (such as warding off the 'evil eye'), folklore, magical practices and healing which persist today.

In a country where religious and social issues are ardently debated in the media, Dr Rountree suspects a book exposing the existence of a contemporary pagan culture may not be warmly welcomed. Yet she hopes it will educate people about the true nature of neo-paganism.

What I want to do is to show it (paganism) for what it is, and by doing so, dispel fears and prejudices.

She also intends the book to serve as an appealing text and showcase of modern anthropological research for students.

Date: 15/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences



Parent hurdle to healthier kids campaign

An award-winning researcher in communications has found that although children are regularly exposed to positive health messages at school, many may be getting different signals at home about healthy living.

Marketing communications researcher Jacinta Hawkins says public health campaigns may need to use different communication strategies for different communities. She says although there are calls from many quarters to increase the quality and quantity of education in schools on healthy eating and exercise, there is often a gap between school learning and what children are learning at home.

For her PhD in marketing communications, Ms Hawkins has been studying programmes used in schools to promote healthy eating and exercise and assessing the partnerships between families and schools that impact on health intervention outcomes.

Her doctoral research in marketing communications so impressed the communications agency Senate that she is the latest recipient of the \$1500 Senate Research Grant. She worked with four schools interviewing teachers and principals, surveying parents and running focus groups with children.

A Health Ministry anti-obesity campaign launched two years ago called Healthy eating healthy action: Oranga kai oranga pumau treated school-based interventions as a key component.

The relationship between families and schools has been shown to be vital to success in education, Ms Hawkins says, but her study of families and school-based health interventions is breaking new ground by taking a much closer look at this relationship.

While schools are actively communicating to children about healthy eating and exercise, this research suggests parents themselves, particularly in lower decile communities, need to be further educated in order to make the school-based programmes more effective.

She found some experienced teachers in low decile schools reported that connecting and communicating with parents is a challenge in itself and a weak link in the overall communications campaign.

Teachers felt that responsibility for educating parents in healthy living was beyond the duty of schools.

Ms Hawkins says her findings point to the need for other agencies to take responsibility for getting the message through to parents.

An integrated marketing communication approach, employing a variety of persuasive advertising and promotion techniques to communicate key messages to different groups in society, is essential to the successful implementation of the strategy.

School-based messages about healthy eating and exercise must be complemented with national advertising campaigns that reach a wide range of parents and generate the necessary synergistic effect that enables parents to reinforce the lessons children learn at school.

Date: 15/04/2006

Type: Research

Getting the good oil on avocados

Five years after the successful commercial release of avocado oil, scientists are still eager to learn more about the health benefits and find ways to maximise them.

New Zealand was the first country to commercialise the oil, and although it quickly found favour with consumers, and is used in many of the top restaurants, there had been no analysis of what has been hailed as wonder oil .

The University's Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health played a key role in developing the extraction process that led to the commercialisation of avocado oil as a fully edible, culinary oil from cold pressed extraction.

The institute's Albany-based Dr Marie Wong has been working with HortResearch for four years on the study of the health components of avocado oil.

The study includes measuring the proportions of the health-giving components in the oil and the post-harvest factors that affect those components, such as storage and handling.

Although there are studies on the avocado itself, there is virtually no published information world-wide on avocado oil and this is the first study of the health components of New Zealand-grown avocados, Dr Wong says.

Health trials looking at the benefits of the high carotenoid levels as protective antioxidants in the oil are likely to be among the next steps.

A carotenoid is a plant pigment that produces the yellow colour in the oil, Dr Wong says. It is known that the carotenoid lutein, for example, reduces ageing of the eyes and helps maintain good eye health.

There are a number of compounds in avocado oil that place it high among the so-called good oils in terms of human benefits.

Oils from fruits such as avocado are comprised of healthier fatty acids than those found in edible fats from animals.

Two thirds of the fat in avocados are good fats, mono and polyunsaturated fats.

In addition the oil is high in the powerful antioxidant vitamin E, and the plant sterols that are known to have a beneficial effect on cholesterol levels.

The trials have studied the composition of the oil in relation to different conditions including storage, handling and the regions and growers they have come from.

Although the Hass avocado is the predominant fruit used for production, other cultivars have been studied too. Variations in composition have been found, Dr Wong says.

The study is also considering how the health benefiting components and their quality can be maximised during extraction.

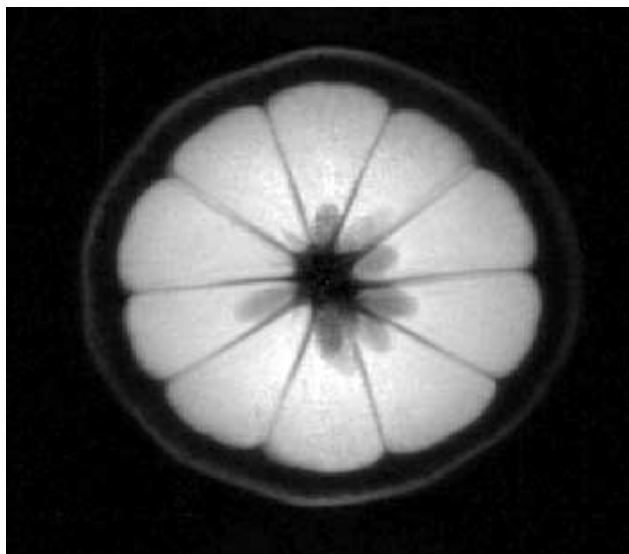
It could be that we will be able to come up with recommendations on what varieties to grow where. Ultimately we may find out how to produce the healthiest blend of avocado oil extracted with the optimum components for health benefits.

Date: 15/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences





Lemoncross: an MRI cross-section of the inside of a whole lemon.

MRI machine re-commissioned for research

The lemon in the image (right) aptly illustrates the ability of the magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machine recently installed in the Institute of Fundamental Sciences.

Although it appears to have been halved and scanned, the lemon remains intact and unharmed. The MRI machine is a small version of those used in hospitals to safely scan people's brains and bodies. Essentially, the machine is able to provide non-destructive images of the internal properties and states of objects

Riddet Centre researcher Dr Jason Hindmarsh and Institute of Fundamental Sciences researcher Robin Dykstra have re-commissioned the MRI machine after a four-year break in its operation. The project is a collaboration between the institute, the Riddet Centre, the MacDiarmid Institute and Bruker New Zealand to make MRI micro-imaging available to researchers.

HortResearch originally purchased the hollow, horizontal bore superconducting micro-imaging magnet for the purpose of measuring fruit. Dr Hindmarsh is using lemons and other fruit to calibrate the machine in preparation for his study of the drying and hydration of milk.

He is building a small system to dry and then rehydrate milk powder and probiotic bacteria. This system will then be inserted into the hollow core of the machine and both can operate at the same time, allowing a comprehensive set of images showing compositional changes to the milk throughout the process of drying and rehydration.

Dr Hindmarsh says that unlike the nuclear magnetic resonance machines installed in the same laboratory suite, the MRI machine provides an image of spatial resolution.

It shows how an object is physically distributed and, in the case of milk drying, the speeds at which the components of lactose, fats, and water are redistributed. It does this by measuring the magnetic properties of objects; a hard object will give a weak signal and liquid a comparatively strong one.

Dr Hindmarsh says there is a broad range of applications of MRI micro-imaging in the fields of engineering, food, biotechnology, agricultural, veterinary, horticultural and medical research.

Researchers interested in using the MRI machine should contact Dr Hindmarsh: 06-356-9099 ext 5856 or 3523.

Date: 15/04/2006



Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Staff thanked for PBRF hard work

Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear has thanked and congratulated the hundreds of academic and general staff involved in the preparations for participation the second cycle of the Performance-Based Research Fund evaluations.

The University recently completed the mammoth task in time to meet the deadline for quality evaluation by the Tertiary Education Commission, with the PBRF team successfully uploading to the commission the evidence portfolios of academic staff for evaluation by the inter-disciplinary panels.

It required a concerted effort to prepare and submit evidence of the University's research achievements to the commission.

Professor Kinnear and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research, Professor Nigel Long, who oversaw the University's PBRF activities, recently visited the PBRF Office to mark the completion of the process and to pay tribute to staff at the sharp end of much of that hard work.

She said more than 25,000 research outputs were prepared and processed, including publications, performances and art works.

The exercise required a concerted and co-ordinated effort to prepare and submit evidence of the University's research achievements.

This is critically important for us because how we lock in on this partial round sets our position for the next six years.

Professor Long said staff had done a brilliant job under sometimes trying conditions and the result of that will be evident when the results come out next year.

The fund is a pool of about \$250 million allocated to tertiary education organisations on the basis of their research performance. It is the largest single source of research funding available to the sector.

To participate, tertiary education organisations must provide a census of staff to be included. The University had 1162 eligible staff, of whom 710 provided evidence portfolios for assessment.

Sixty per cent of the funding available is determined by the assessment, 25 per cent on the basis of thesis completions by research students and 15 per cent according to the share of external research income won by a university.

The University is second only to Auckland in its research degree completions, according to the commission's latest annual report, and, of the non-medical school universities, holds first place for its success in attracting external research funding.

Research strategy and policy director Michael Peters, who co-ordinated planning and operations, says the quality evaluation is particularly important, because it also provides for publicly-available comparisons of research quality across the entire tertiary education sector.

These comparisons can be made at an institutional, sub-institutional level, and according to the commission's 42 national disciplinary subject areas, Mr Peters says.

In this sense, the PBRF is key driver of the University's reputation as a research-led tertiary education provider.

Because of the financial and reputational stakes involved, planning for this round began early last year with Professor Kinnear's Statement of Expectations .

This set the scene for the PBRF work programme throughout last year, which commenced in March with a strategy workshop by the University's PBRF Expert Advisory Group consisting of senior academic staff who held roles in the commission's assessment panels for the 2003 quality evaluation.

The expert advisory group suggested a two-stage quality assurance process. This required academic unit heads to assess draft evidence portfolios for their staff against a common set of standards.



A subsequent review was held at college level by reviewers who gave advice to staff on the basis of discipline-specific assessment criteria specified by the commission.

The commission's assessment panels will convene from now until December, with results expected early next year.

Preparation for the quality evaluation has involved numerous staff including Professors Kinnear and Long.

Data management and preparation for the staff census and Research Information Management System was undertaken by Doug Franz while Victoria Bradley, Diana Young and Emma Round from the PBRF Office trained and assisted 900 staff in the use of the University's PBRF system and ensured that the 25,000 research outputs provided by staff for evaluation were correctly entered and verified according to the commission's exacting standards.

College champions, nominated by Pro Vice-Chancellors for co-ordinating college level reviews, were: Professor David Parry (Sciences), Professor Anne de Bruin (Business), Professor Richard Harker (Education), Professor Anne Noble (Creative Arts) and Professor Paul Spoonley (Humanities and Social Sciences). Mr Peters says their expert assistance and hard work allowed those submitting to the commission to groom their evidence portfolios to a very high standard.

Human Resources advisers collected the huge quantity of employment-related data required for the PBRF Office to make decisions about staff eligibility.

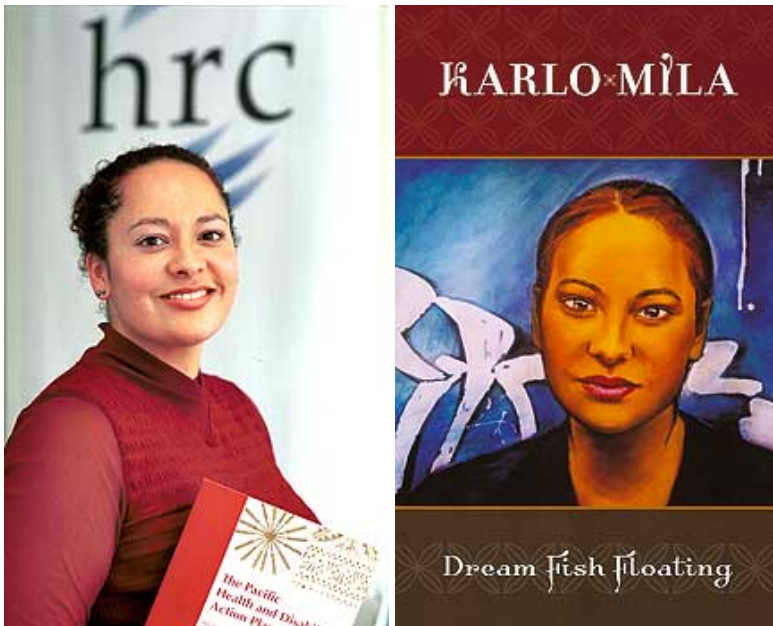
They also gave essential advice to academic managers about the implications of employment provisions for PBRF eligibility. This work fed into the staff census provided to the commission.

At times, the advisers had to work to very difficult deadlines and despite this, responded professionally, rapidly and effectively to all requests.

Date: 15/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any



**Beaven Lecture Theatre: Otago
2 July 2002**

*In a room where ivory academics tower
above her
ideas as ingrained
as the beards that prick
from under their skin
stubbled and coarse
she stands
using words as her weapon
it is a half carved club
it is an unpolished spear
that is thrown by a girl
into a room full of grown men
her fingers trembling
she speaks of 'by Pacific for
Pacific'
these politics of self
determination
breaking into the bastions
of rationality
and value-free
science
they are untouchable
these men
shining as white as the God
they no longer believe in
they eat up her smile and the
hula hips
of the dusky maiden before them
radiating tropical sunlight from
her power-suit*

Montana poetry award for first book

Poems for people who don't like poetry is how sociology doctoral student and poet Karlo Mila describes her debut collection *Dream Fish Floating*.

But the book obviously appeals just as much to poetry lovers. It has won the New Zealand Society of Authors' Jessie Mackay Best First Book Award for poetry at this month's Montana Book Awards.

The 31-year-old mother of two is working on a doctoral thesis on Pacific youth identity and health at the Auckland campus.

She says she has always loved literature, especially poetry and her win at New Zealand's most prestigious book awards was a real honour, and totally unexpected .

I didn't think my poems fitted the literary expectations. They are quite straightforward, quite simple poems for people who don't like poetry, she says. They are for communicating, not vague and artistic.

She has been writing poetry since she was a teenager when she had her first poem about the awkwardness of her father visiting home after her parents divorced published in the school magazine.

Alongside her academic work, she has enrolled in writing and literature courses at Massey and Auckland Universities since 2000 for personal interest because I've always loved writing and literature .

Taking a creative writing class at Auckland University taught by Samoan-born writer Albert Wendt gave her further inspiration and encouragement.

He was my hero. [His first novel] *Sons for the Return Home* reminded me of my parents. Then here he was as my teacher, and taking an interest in my writing.

Born in New Zealand to a Tongan father and pakeha mother, Mila's sense of identity and literary themes span the two cultures.

Although she has lived mostly in New Zealand, she went to school in Tonga briefly, and later taught English at a school there.

Her academic and professional work is centred on Pacific issues. She worked as a manager for the Health Research Council for three years, and is currently working on her doctoral thesis which examines the impact of negotiating two cultures on the health, behaviour and attitudes of New Zealand-born Pacific youth.

As much as she loves writing fiction, she considers it a part-time activity for now partly because she has two young sons aged two years and 10 months to look after, and also because of her academic interests.

Since having her first book of poems published, she has been asked to write a novel as well as more poems to accompany a book on Pacific artworks by her Wellington publisher Huia Publishers. She is also a contributor to a short story collection due to be published later this year and titled Myth of the 21st Century, edited by Massey University English lecturer and author Dr Jack Ross and writer Tina Shaw.

And she has an international audience, thanks to poems she wrote for a recent memorial service in Auckland for the Tongan Prince Tu'ipelehake and Princess Kaimana, who were killed in a car accident in the United States on July 5. Internet video and audio recordings of Ms Mila reading her poems have received world-wide attention.

Date: 15/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Book; College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Vibration treatment put to the test

Vibration treatment is being hailed not only as a way to get fit faster but also as a means of rapid recovery from sore muscles and other soft tissue injuries.

In the United States, top professional basketball and baseball players are using the treatment and commercial gymnasiums and health studios here are buying the \$15,000-plus vibration machines to offer to clients such as the Silver Ferns.

Now Massey scientists are putting those claims to the test, trying to work out whether vibration treatment is effective and how it works.

They are looking for 30 volunteers to injure themselves by running non-stop downhill for 40 minutes then have their recovery monitored. Some will receive vibration treatment but others will not.

Dr Sue Broadbent from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health says little is known about how vibration treatment may reduce the inflammation associated with soft tissue injury.

To test this we are going to induce muscle damage in volunteers, by downhill running on a treadmill, and then give vibration treatment to half of them, says Dr Broadbent, a lecturer in exercise prescription.

We'll take blood samples to measure markers of muscle damage and inflammation for a week afterwards.

The Vibrogym platform donated for the study can be set to vibrate at between 30 and 50Hz (cycles per second). It moves up and down either 2mm or 5mm each cycle.

The user stands, squats or lies on the platform to treat different parts of the body. People using it say it makes muscles tingle.

Assisting Dr Broadbent are colleagues Jacques Rousseau, Dr David Rowlands, and Rhys Thorp.

Vibration therapy is used in rehabilitation and general fitness for increasing muscle and bone density, and in some sports for increasing flexibility.

Research has suggested that what is known as whole body vibration, or WBV, of between 30 to 50 Hz may increase blood flow and tissue temperature, reduce pain by stimulating nerve endings, and increase muscle strength by stimulating muscle spindles, motor neuron activity and isometric muscle contractions.

It is also said to increase bone density by increasing the ground reaction forces on bone tissue.

However the exact mechanisms by which whole body vibration may reduce inflammation associated with soft tissue injury, as reported anecdotally, remain unclear, says Dr Broadbent.

One study suggested that vibration-induced alterations in blood volume, blood flow and tissue temperature enhanced recovery from soft tissue inflammation, but no study has investigated WBV effects on the specific markers of inflammation.

The 30 study volunteers will undertake a 40-minute downhill run on a laboratory treadmill set at a 10 deg gradient and within a day or two all are expected to have sore muscles.

They will then be randomly allocated to a control group or a treatment group. The treatment group will undergo WBV lasting 15 minutes per session, for five consecutive days, to determine if the vibration decreases the inflammation associated with muscle soreness.

Blood samples will be drawn from both groups before and after the run, and again one and five days later to measure differences between the groups in leukocyte concentration and inflammatory markers both indicators of injury and soreness.

Increased knowledge of the specific actions of vibration treatment may improve the recovery from soft tissue injuries, which can also be used after major trauma and surgery.



So if vibration treatment is good for the body, how about working with a jackhammer all day? Dr Broadbent says no. The higher frequency and forces of industrial machinery have no therapeutic effect and in fact heavy machinery vibrations are over 100Hz with a higher amplitude often cause work-related injuries.

Mr Rousseau is using vibration treatment on hockey players. Modern hockey played on artificial surfaces is much faster than games played on grass, he says. Players are prone to groin or hamstring sprain, and I'm using the Vibrogym to speed up recovery for these players.

Dr Broadbent is recruiting volunteers for the runners' study next month, and expects to report findings early next year.

<http://ifnhh.massey.ac.nz>

Date: 15/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - HEALTH



Iwi creativity in the Great Hall

An exhibition of posters featuring artwork from eight Māori students from Toi Rauwharangi, the College of Creative Arts, went on display at the Great Hall in the Museum Building last week.

Kaiwhakaahua, Director of Māori Development, Ross Hemera (Ngāi Tahu) says the work is a celebration of creativity from Māori who have majored in Māori art and design, graphic design, fashion and industrial design.



The work signals the importance of Māori student achievement and highlights the students academic endeavour in their chosen discipline. We have utilised the concept of Papatūānuku, the earth mother, to describe the work in this exhibition. Papatūānuku is the symbol of sustenance for Māori. Papatūānuku sustains all life including these tender new shoots of iwi creativity as they strive for excellence, he says.

Donna Walford (Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Kahungunu) is in her last year of a fashion design major. She is married with three young children and moved with her family to Wellington to pursue her interest in wearable arts and fashion design. Ms Walford used her grandfather's penny collection to make a set of poi and called her work Awhina Poi.

Poi symbolise the concept of awhina in Māori culture the need to stay in touch through strong family ties, love and friendship. The pennies used to make these poi were part of my grandfather's collection. They represent the gifts and taonga prepared by women and children at home to comfort our men folk at the front line in World War II.

Other artists featured in the exhibition are: Emma Kitson, Laura Gordon-Mitchell, Jamaine Fraser, Eleazar Manutai Bramley, Nick Jones, Ranga Tuhi and Megan Baker. Iwi Creativity will be on display until the end of August.



Date: 15/04/2006

Type: Features

Categories: College of Creative Arts; Exhibition/Show; Maori; Wellington

Huge potential for bioplastics

It almost sounds too good to be true - turning cow pats into plastic. But the unlikely-looking liquid in the flask Dr Steven Pratt holds is the key ingredient to an environmentally friendlier drink bottle.

The murky mix of acids is produced by fermenting bacteria taken from wastewater ponds and fed with a glucose solution. A glucose solution is used in this laboratory situation, but the bacteria will feed with equal efficiency on dairy-farm effluent or other carbon-based wastewater.

It is the renewable and biodegradable nature of such ingredients that give the types of plastic produced from the acids the classification of 'bio-plastics'.

A researcher in the Centre for Environmental Technology and Engineering, Dr Pratt says the potential for bioplastic production in New Zealand is huge.



The waste produced by our agricultural and pulp and paper industries is ideal, and there is so much of it.

He says plastics are a major environmental problem as they are non-biodegradable and their production from synthetic polymers consumes vast quantities of non-renewable resources.

By using cheap and renewable sources there is a tremendous opportunity for biopolymer production to be made economic. At the same time, the problems of wastewater treatment and natural resource depletion are addressed.

He says some acids are better than others for the production of bio-plastic. For example, acetic acid-based plastic is comparatively brittle to that produced from other acids; it has been shown that the inclusion of propionic acid produces polymer chains (the building blocks of plastic) with the favourable characteristic of malleability.

The task of producing one particular acid, however, is complicated by the diversity of the constituents of raw wastewater and effluent.

Part of Dr Pratt's project looks at controlling the fermentation procedure by adjusting factors such as pH so that only one kind of acid is produced. His team of postgraduate students are also focusing on a stage in the fermentation process that is typically ignored.

Fermentation has been around for thousands of years, and the science of fermentation has been understood for quite some time, but no-one has really looked at what happens in transient stages.

A transient stage occurs when bacteria are shocked by the input of food (in this case, carbon-based effluent) or when conditions such as pH are altered. The micro-organisms react to these changes in interesting ways before evening out and producing a consistent volume of mixed acids.

In this transient stage one type of acid may be made in greater proportions, and other unknown or unexpected compounds can also be made. Sometimes the most interesting things are made when things go wrong.

Date: 15/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Landmark scheme for journalism school

Fairfax, publisher of The Dominion Post, The Press and the Sunday Star-Times, launched its new journalism internship training scheme this month, in partnership with a small number of journalism courses, including Massey.

Under the scheme, each Fairfax intern will pay their own fees at the start of the year and go through the Journalism School course, like any other student. Assuming they successfully complete the course, Fairfax will reimburse the intern's fees and employ them at a Fairfax newspaper.

The interns are selected by the company, in conjunction with the University.

We are very excited about being involved in Fairfax's internship scheme, journalism head Grant Hannis says.

This partnership is all about equipping journalism students with the skills they need to do the job in the real world. The fact Fairfax has invited Massey to be involved indicates how highly the industry regards our course.

To maximise their chances of getting on the Massey course, Dr Hannis strongly encourages Fairfax intern applicants to apply directly to the University as well.

Fairfax has announced that two other journalism schools are also to be involved in the scheme: The University of Canterbury and Aoraki Polytechnic.

Date: 15/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business; Scholarships



Violinist on the road to study in Austria

Violin student Blythe Press has been invited to study in Graz, Austria, and is performing at a concert to raise the funds needed for his study.

To take up the invitation to study at the University of Music and Dramatic Arts in Graz, Mr Press has to find \$13,500 for each year of study.

The 17-year-old student says it is a fantastic opportunity to study with internationally acclaimed violin teacher Professor Yair Kless.

Mr Press is in his second year of a music degree with the New Zealand School of Music and is studying violin with NZSO concertmaster Vesa-Matti Leppänen.



In March he placed second in the National Concerto Competition performing with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, where judges said he has an extremely promising career ahead of him.

In 2005, he was co-winner of the NZSM Concerto Competition. He has performed solos with several Wellington orchestras and given many solo and chamber music recitals.

Last year, he attended the Salzburg Mozarteum Summer Academy in Austria, studying with Professor Kless. I'm looking forward to extending my study overseas, but there are not many avenues for funding, said Mr Press.

NZSM Associate Professor Matthew Marshall says Mr Press is a talented performer, and the School is delighted to support his concert.

Mr Press is performing at a fund-raising concert on 19 July at St Andrews on the Terrace at 7.30pm with pianist Emma Sayers and Vesa-Matti Leppänen. He will be supported by advanced string students from the NZSM.

The programme will include music by Mendelssohn, Mozart, Schumann, Wieniawski, and Helen Bowater.

Tickets are available from Ticketek or at the door.

Date: 15/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Creative Arts



Biochemist Celia Webby with a structural diagram of the Tb enzyme.

The biochemistry behind tuberculosis

The latest breakthrough in the fight against tuberculosis (Tb) comes at an atomic level by a PhD student.

Celia Webby, a PhD student in the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, has solved the atomic structure of an enzyme that the Tb bacterium needs to survive. This will pave the way for future developments in new antibiotics to fight the disease.

Ms Webby is under the supervision of Associate Professor Emily Parker and Professor Ted Baker, director of the Centre for Molecular Biodiscovery at the University of Auckland. The centre has several projects under way to determine the protein structure of the Tb bacterium, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, but researchers were having difficulty characterising the particular bacterial enzyme known as DAH7PS.

In order to study and describe the atomic structure of an enzyme (a type of protein), it must first be made soluble. Ms Webby had had previous success in making proteins soluble in order to purify and cultivate them in the laboratory for characterisation.

It's difficult to work on a protein that is not soluble because it needs to be soluble to be able to purify, characterise and grow crystals with. The Tb protein is grown in and isolated from *Escherichia coli* as this is a lot safer than working with the Tb bacterium, Ms Webby says.

Once we know what an enzyme looks like, and how it works, we can target it. What's really exciting is that this particular enzyme is not produced in humans, making it an ideal target for anti-Tb drugs.

She says the DAH7PS enzyme is significant to the development of antibiotics as it is essential for the virulence or spread of the bacterium that causes the disease. Professor Baker says Ms Webby's success has helped Tb researchers understand the evolution of the enzyme, providing valuable insights into how it works and potentially how its activity could be blocked.

The current antibiotics used to treat Tb have been around for a long time. We need more effective therapies to combat the disease and to tackle resistant strains which have developed over the years, Professor Baker says.

Scott Walker, a PhD student in the same laboratory with Ms Webby and under the supervision of Dr Parker, is working on the chemistry of inhibitors (substances that bind to the chemically-active sites on proteins and enzymes to inhibit their activity). This recent breakthrough will allow him to take a closer look at the Tb enzyme.

Last year Mr Walker was a runner-up in the biotechnology section at the MacDiarmid Young Scientist of the Year awards, for his PhD project on the development of new classes of antibiotics. He specifically targets bacteria using chemical compounds he has designed to act as inhibitors. These inhibitors have the potential to disable the activity of bacteria that have become resistant to antibiotics, which is one of the largest problems in modern medicine.

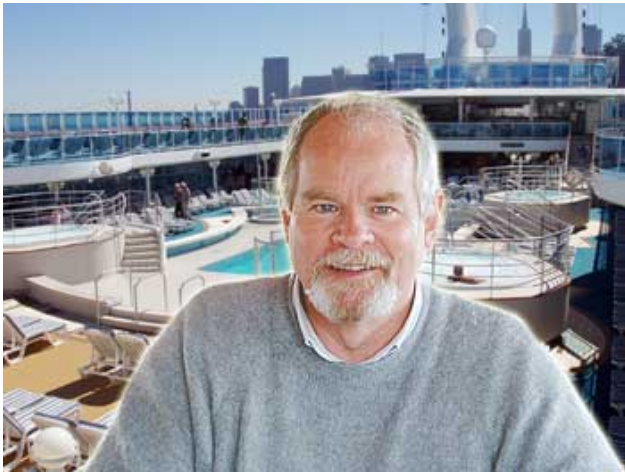
Tuberculosis, an airborne infection that mainly affects the lungs, is classified as a world health emergency by the World Health Organisation. Globally, it is the most deadly and widespread major infectious disease, claiming the lives of two to three million people a year.

New Zealand has one of the highest rates of Tb in the developed world, twice that of Australia. About 400 new cases are reported each year with the highest number in Auckland, followed by Manukau City and Wellington.

Date: 15/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - HEALTH



Professor Cluny Macpherson.

Cruise ships good for small Pacific states

Cruise ships bringing older, educated, and wealthy passengers ashore for day trips are an ideal form of tourism for smaller Pacific nations, according to a Professor Cluny Macpherson from the School of Social and Cultural Studies.

That's because they do not require large infrastructure or service costs, can be readily controlled and bring good economic returns without disrupting island life or the environment, he says.

In a paper based on a decade's worth of research, interviews and observations from his own regular, work-oriented Pacific cruises, Professor Macpherson aims to make his findings available to Pacific governments as well as tourism agencies in the region. He has longstanding teaching and research interests in cultural, political and economic developments in Oceania.

With the Pacific region becoming more attractive to international cruise ship companies because of its relative immunity from security risks such as terrorist attacks that have occurred in the Mediterranean region he felt it was timely to consider the impact of cruise ship tourism.

While the image of a colossal, clunky white cruise ship oozing affluence, opulence and round-the-clock hedonism might seem strangely incongruous alongside the simple, often much poorer style of Pacific Island life, Professor Macpherson believes the reality is different.

He identifies an ideal scenario for both passenger and tourist as that of Christmas Island, population 500, where a cruise ship will typically anchor offshore because there are no port or wharf facilities. Groups of tourists are taken ashore in lifeboats for a day, during which time they can purchase authentic handmade crafts and food from locals at simple seaside stalls, be entertained by performing school groups to whom they gave money, or go on fishing trips.

In such settings the economic benefits go directly to the local people, unlike bigger Pacific destinations such as Fiji or Hawaii, which rely more on land-based tourist accommodation and where profits tend to go to large hotel companies usually owned by offshore interests, says Professor Macpherson.

The beauty of cruise ships is that they provide all their own services, energy, sewage treatment, food, water. They take all their rubbish with them and deal with any passengers' medical problems, he says.

The other positive aspect is that islands can decide how many, or few, cruise ships they are willing to accept through scheduling.

They can also control the movement of cruise ship passengers on land by offering tours to specific places of interest, as well as planning visits to villages so that each village has a turn at hosting tourists and sharing in the economic returns. This is easily achieved, as most cruise ship passengers were risk-averse, do not want to stray too far from their ship and thus are willingly directed by local tourism operators, he explains.

According to Professor Macpherson not all cruise ship passengers are welcomed by Pacific states. Older Pacific Islanders resent the disruption that can arise from the arrival of younger, rowdy passengers on a booze

cruise who come ashore to party. And young, low-budget backpackers who tend to accept the generosity of islanders' hospitality without reciprocating as is expected are not always popular.

Pacific Islanders prefer the older, well-educated, wealthy visitors who are generally respectful and appreciative of their hosts, and keen to spend money on indigenous souvenirs and to see local life and performance.

A specialist in Pacific history, economics, social and political development, Professor Macpherson says he accidentally became interested in the impact of cruise ship tourism on the Pacific after he and his wife La'avasa were offered a cruise on a ship in 1991 in return for some lectures on contemporary Pacific issues so that they could get together to complete a book they were working on.

He has been lecturing on Pacific issues to cruise ship passengers each year since.

Date: 15/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business



Dr Rosemary Stockdale, Professor Tony Norris, and Dr David Parsons.

Medical records to your mobile

Patients may soon be able to check their own medical records and other health related data using mobile phones. Massey researchers say this is one of many possible applications of mobile computing likely to become a reality in the very near future.

It is a step forward with existing technology that would significantly empower patients, according to a research group exploring new opportunities in mobile computing. They say being able to conduct business, find data and communicate anywhere, anytime and with speed is the promise of mobile computing.

The University's m-health project could revolutionise the delivery of health care and allow patients far more involvement in their own care through new applications of mobile telephones.

The capability of the information systems research group at the campus has grown with the arrival of Professor Tony Norris and Senior Lecturer in Information Systems Dr Rosemary Stockdale. They have come to Massey within the past year but the pioneering work in mobile computing had already been done by Dr David Parsons. While the group is working on many aspects of mobile computing, Professor Norris has a special interest in the application of new technology to the planning and delivery of healthcare. Dr Stockdale's interest is in realising the benefits of electronic and mobile commerce.

Although the technology exists to use mobile phones to get data stored elsewhere, there are many considerations in making this m-health proposal a reality. Because personal health information is so sensitive, information privacy and security are crucial to the acceptance of m-health applications. Researchers are currently exploring ways to overcome security concerns and to validate the user of a phone before data can be accessed. On-screen finger printing or face recognition are two possibilities.

To understand both the opportunities and the barriers, the researchers plan to survey patients and service providers.

Professor Norris says the first steps in this m-health project to utilise mobile phones will be confirmed following survey findings, but they are likely to enable patients to receive medical test results and to access disease specific information.

The Mobile Computing Research Group presents new trends and research at a technology briefing series at the Auckland campus e-centre on 27 July.

Date: 15/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences



Designers exposed in Melbourne

Being expected to eat everything on your plate provided the inspiration for a new collection from two fashion designers. Now they are off to Australia to showcase their designs.

Design graduates Kate Hastilow and Renaya Lloyd are the only New Zealand designers accepted into the New and Emerging category of the Fashion Exposed show in Melbourne in September.

As girls we were always told to eat our broccoli and peas, because on the other side of the world there were starving children, says Ms Hastilow. That's the idea behind our Waste Not, Want Not collection.

Our patterns are designed to minimise fabric waste, and we re-incorporate cut-off material into each garment. And we had a bit of fun by printing brussel sprouts and peas on some of the fabrics.

Their day and evening women's wear collection includes t-shirts, dresses, tailored jeans and a woollen coat.

They both graduated from Massey last year with Bachelor of Design degrees. Ms Hastilow is currently studying towards her Masters degree, while Ms Lloyd works as a design assistant at a major clothing company.

Our label is called Everyone We Know, because our clothes are for people we know our mums, aunties and friends, says Ms Hastilow. We want to produce a high-end street label that is wearable, beautiful, quirky and affordable.

The creative pair is also making ranges of t-shirts and jewellery, and has signed up five stockists in the South Island and one in Wellington.

They have been working evenings and weekends to source fabrics, make patterns, cut material and sew the finished garments.

It's amazing what started one night over a glass of wine has turned into our own label. It just kind of happened. We thought it might be fun to keep our skills up. The two of us are on the same page when it comes to fashion design, so it's easy to bounce ideas back and forwards.

Fashion Exposed is Australia's largest fashion trade fair. It brings together more than 600 exhibitors for three days, to source fashion and accessories for the autumn and winter seasons.

Ms Hastilow says they plan to launch a new collection at New Zealand Fashion Week in 2007.

Date: 15/04/2006

Type: Features

Categories: College of Creative Arts; Exhibition/Show





Walking the line for art collaboration

Walk The Line brings together the work of two artists: Lee Jensen and Kate Woods. Known for his intricate, colourful vinyl wall drawings that curl across gallery walls, design lecturer Mr Jensen has developed a new work for the Michael Hirschfeld Gallery. The opposite side of the gallery features photographs by Wellington artist Kate Woods. These photographs of found images have been manipulated and feature strange floating constructions in a variety of landscapes, from the scenic to the suburban.

Mr Jensen has trawled the history of typography and design for forms and symbols to make up his work Five Treasures. He is inspired by print ephemera, what he calls the dust of design .

Ornament, like dust, is what remains, a reminder of past fancies forgotten; and not just ill-remembered, but abandoned, like a child at a fair, print ephemera, or old pornography in a cupboard, he says. My work starts in this place, a site of some friction and chafing between worlds. I want to pick up these fragments, bring this 'grammar of ornament' into a contemporary context with all its baggage vapidly, kitsch, and the sweet rot of bathos. Can ornament still resonate or suggest a new interpretative vocabulary? Is the symbolic lexicon of decoration still valid, or a site for the production of new forms?

Exhibition curator Sarah Farrar says to experience Jensen's work from beginning to end it is imperative to 'walk the line' of the room. Subtle patterns emerge from the wall, crystalline in its detail and complexity building to a powerful crescendo of pattern and colour. Mr Jensen pulls together fragments from across cultures; east meeting west in an alchemy of historical forms executed in a contemporary material: the laser-cut vinyl used by industrial sign writers.

Lee Jensen completed a Master of Fine Arts from Massey University last year. His recent exhibitions include Southern Lights at Jonathan Smart Gallery in Christchurch in 2005, as part of the Art Design Collective with Anne Noble and Sven Mehzoud; and Deliquesce with Richard Reddaway at Show gallery in Wellington in 2006. He is one of a group of New Zealand artists who will exhibit work in Shanghai next month, alongside the Shanghai Biennale. I think of it as a gift to China reflecting a rich visual palette in a new form.

Walk the Line is open at the Michael Hirschfeld Gallery, at City Gallery Wellington until 3 September.

Date: 16/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Creative Arts; Exhibition/Show



Vice-Chancellor's view from the top

The Vice-Chancellor was given an aerial view of the Palmerston North campus during a visit to the School of Aviation last month.

Professor Kinnear was taken on a flight over the campus and parts of Palmerston North city by the school's General Manager Captain Ashok Poduval. She was given a first hand experience of sitting at the wheel of the twin engined Piper Seneca PA 34, for a taste of the practical side of academic life for the University's aviation students.

Captain Poduval says the Vice-Chancellor's visit was a morale booster for staff. Professor Kinnear was particularly impressed with the facilities.

She was taken on a tour of the centre, where she inspected the operations centre, the engineering hangar, flight safety office and also spoke to students, flight instructors, and operations staff.

She appreciated the complexity of the operation, which is effectively an airline operation on a smaller scale.

Date: 16/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Explore - Aviation; Palmerston North



Old rivals to meet on and off the rugby field

Massey will next month host the second of the revived rugby matches between it and Lincoln for the LA Brooks Cup.

The rivalry between the two former agricultural colleges in the form of a rugby game between agriculture students went into hiatus for nearly 40 years after being contested from 1952 to 1966.

Last year the Massey Ag XV ventured down to Lincoln University for the resurrection of the competition but lost the game 24-7.

This year the team will be out to settle the score with the home ground advantage of the Sport and Rugby Institute on Saturday 2 September.

Apart from the LA Brooks Cup, apparently named in honour of the mother of a former Lincoln student called Harold Brooks, the winning team also receives the Mog Shield, a wooden trophy bearing a remarkable resemblance to a toilet seat.

Massey Alumni Relations Manager Leanne Fecser says as well as the rugby match between students there will be an old rivals dinner at Wharerata on the Friday night.

We've already had a lot of interest from former students and staff keen to come along and swap stories and rekindle the battles of the past, Mrs Fecser says.

No doubt some of the old players will have plenty of advice for the current crop.

All past and present students, staff and supporters would be most welcome to come along and support Massey sorry, both teams.

In fact that was the case last year at Lincoln when some of the spectators, who were alumni of both universities, found themselves with divided loyalties.

Lincoln's Vice-Chancellor Professor Roger Field and his Massey counterpart Professor Judith Kinnear plan to attend both the dinner and the match, which kicks off at 2pm.

For further information on the dinner or match please contact: Karen Greer on 06-356-9099 ext 5865 or e-mail alumni@massey.ac.nz

Date: 16/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Alumni

Success through styling design

Is styling a derogatory term or an essential part of the design process and does it contribute to the success of manufactured products?

These questions will be discussed by Professor Tony Parker, head of the Institute of Design for Industry and Environment, in his inaugural professorial lecture at the Wellington campus on 30 August.

Professor Parker says styling is a term used in industrial design to describe the aesthetic form and appearance of a manufactured product.

Unfortunately, styling as an activity has been trivialised by the industrial design community, he says.

The term 'just styling' is used in a derogatory way to describe or dismiss design work that is considered to be shallow or facile. The full meaning, relevance and significance of styling as a role of the industrial designer has been denigrated by this misuse.

Other terms more acceptable to the design profession have been created to compensate for our unwillingness to refer to styling, such as appearance design, form giving, aesthetic design and product language.

Professor Parker, argues that styling is one of the central responsibilities of the industrial designer, and that designers must take this important contribution seriously.

He says that rather than just styling, designers should be seeking to deliver styling that is just, as in appropriate, desirable, responsible and appreciated.

He says the Industrial Design programme at Massey University uses the term affective design to extend and embrace the concept of styling.

Affective design is about the appreciation, experience and desirability of products and the design of products that are appealing socially, emotionally and cognitively.

Being able to develop affective product offerings is a key aspect of international competitiveness for New Zealand industry.

Professor Parker's lecture is from 12.30 1.30pm on 30 August at the Museum Building theatre, Buckle St. Admission is free.

Date: 16/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Creative Arts





Professor Chris Cunningham and Dr Stephen Stannard from Massey, and Sally Farrington and Dr Freidoon Khavarpour from Sydney University.

Insulin resistance in Māori, Aborigines studied

A group of young Māori men have taken part in a Massey-led study aimed at understanding the predisposition for insulin resistance.

The research is a collaboration between Massey and Sydney University, where School of Indigenous Health Studies is working with a group of young Aboriginal men in a parallel study.

Parts of the study were undertaken at Sydney's Faculty of Health Sciences, where a cohort of 24 fit young Māori men were tested for aerobic fitness and body composition.

The study is part of a joint initiative between Massey's Research Centre for Māori Health and Development, Te Pūmanawa Hauora and the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health in the College of Sciences.

Te Pūmanawa Hauora Director, Professor Chris Cunningham (Ngāti Raukawa, Toa Rangatira) says that like Australian Aborigines, Māori develop type-two diabetes at rates much higher than the Pākehā population.

The study participants had their muscle triglyceride levels measured using magnetic resonance spectroscopy at a radiology laboratory in Liverpool, Sydney.

This test is a non-invasive means of determining muscle triglyceride content, a factor that has been linked to the prediabetic condition insulin resistance.

Professor Cunningham says that whilst the physiology behind the predisposition to insulin resistance may or may not be different in Māori and Aborigines, the collaboration is an opportunity for Massey health researchers to assist in the understanding of the condition and possible interventions.

In addition, the collaboration will focus on the training of indigenous researchers on both sides of the Tasman.

The two universities recently signed an agreement to engage in collaborative research, teaching and the training of indigenous scholars.

Professor Cunningham and Dr Stephen Stannard, from the Institute of Food Nutrition and Human Health in the College of Sciences undertook the initial feasibility study, which was funded by the Health Research Council.

It enabled a project to be designed that integrated Māori research methodologies with studies about muscle physiology.

The successful completion of the feasibility study has led to the development of an assessment laboratory at Te Pūmanawa Hauora in Wellington.

The relationship between the two universities was assisted by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Judith Kinnear, a former Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at Sydney University.

Date: 16/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; College of Sciences; Explore - HEALTH; Maori

Attitudes to working mothers entrenched

Most New Zealanders approve of married women working full-time but that approval drops dramatically when women have children.

The New Zealand end of an international survey on men, women and work shows that attitudes to women and paid work depend critically on whether they have children and how old they are.

Eighty-three per cent of respondents approve of married women working full-time before they have children but only 2 per cent approve of full-time work when women have children under school age.

Approval is higher (30 per cent) for mothers of young children working part-time and increases to 14 per cent for women working full-time after the youngest child starts school.

A substantial number 40 per cent believe a pre-school child is likely to suffer if the mother works and the same number believe family life suffers when a mother has a part-time job.

The survey, by the Department of Marketing, traversed attitudes to job satisfaction, job security, working conditions and to men and women and work. It is part of the International Social Survey programme which involves leading academics in 40 countries in annual surveys on economic and policy issues, in seven-year cycles.

The New Zealand survey was taken last year. Lead researcher Professor Phil Gendall says it reveals mixed attitudes on gender issues, particularly working mothers. Despite the attitudes expressed above, 50 per cent still believed that a working mother can establish just as warm and secure a relationship with her children as a mother who does not work, and 46 per cent believe working is the best way for a woman to be an independent person.

Interestingly, a significant proportion (37 per cent) agrees that being a housewife is just as fulfilling as working for pay. This suggests many do not consider paid work to be the defining characteristic of a woman's role in the family.

The survey shows that in the home, traditional gender roles are changing slowly. In most households, women still do most of the housework, cooking, shopping and caring for sick children, while men do most of the repairs, putting out the rubbish and maintaining the car. Just under 50 per cent of respondents agreed that men should do a larger share of housework and childcare.

However, in more than a third of households, couples are likely to share responsibility for looking after elderly parents, doing the gardening and shopping for groceries.

Professor Gendall says in terms of attitudes to women and work overall, New Zealand is in a group of modern countries that includes Australia, the Netherlands, Canada, Sweden, Norway and the US. This group contrasts strongly with what can be called traditional countries that include Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Russia and the Philippines.

The survey reveals that most New Zealanders care less about what they are paid than whether their jobs are satisfying and interesting. However, it also shows that 85 per cent of New Zealanders sometimes, often or always experience exhaustion when they come home from work.

This is partly attributable to the fact that half of the respondents sometimes do hard physical work but stress at work also appears to be a major contributing factor, says Professor Gendall.

All the same, most New Zealanders (80 per cent) are satisfied with their jobs and proud of the work they do and the firms and organisations they work for. A substantial number (65 per cent) said they were willing to work harder than required to help their firms succeed.

Workplace relationships are generally good and most have some flexibility in how their daily work is organised and when they start and stop. Job security is not a major worry.



Professor Gendall says by far the most important characteristic of a job is that it is interesting.

Ninety-seven per cent regarded this as important compared with 70 per cent who cited high income. The opportunity to work independently, to help other people and be useful to society also rates highly.

Date: 16/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: Any



Timata Pai members: Michelle Tito with her children Mataroria Brown, Mikaere Joe Tito-Brown, Rangatira Mai Tito-Brown, Wellsford Primary School teacher Lawrence Connelly, principal Clive Herde and Massey researcher Karen Hoare.

Project Wellsford to improve children's lot

A new approach to helping keep small children safe from neglect and abuse has been developed by health science lecturer and researcher Karen Hoare.

Ms Hoare has played a leading part in the launch of a community-based pilot project for children in Wellsford, north of Auckland.

Ms Hoare was previously the Wellsford public health nurse and says the town has many of the negative social and economic statistics that lead to child suffering. More than a year ago she told the Education Ministry of children arriving at school cold, hungry and in need of medical attention.

Two years ago 4 per cent of the Wellsford School role was referred to the Government's Child Youth and Family service because of neglect and abuse.

Ms Hoare also found that 51 per cent of the new entrants to the school in 2004 did not have the social and communication skills considered necessary to begin formal education, and required remedial tuition.

Ms Hoare comes from Britain, where she was active in the launch of a Sure Start initiative, aimed at community-based interventions to improve the well-being of young children.

Her Wellsford group is now seeking funding to establish a children's centre and a programme called Timata Pai.

The centre would be a one-stop shop for all children's services, initially focusing on newborns to seven-year-olds. It would also put staff in the community to provide services for those who are uncomfortable coming into such a centre or unable to get there.

There is a pocket of poverty in the district even though it is an area surrounded by wealth, she says.

Earlier studies show these indicators of disadvantage for children do have a long-term bearing on adult health.

To gather support from the community and the Government, she has consulted on the level of satisfaction with existing services in Wellsford, finding about 10 per cent reported that they could not afford health services for children and that some Māori families indicated they were not comfortable using the services.

There was also an expressed need for courses in parenting and child development.

The Timata Pai group wants government funding to employ a co-ordinator and two family support workers.

The group aims to have within three years 95 per cent of babies born in Wellsford enrolled in the project, 50 per cent of three-year-olds enrolled at the town library, and a 10 per cent increase in the number of children immunised.

Date: 16/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Top scholarships for Massey PhDs

Four Massey PhD students have been awarded the Government's top scholarships with a total value of more than \$357,000.

The Massey recipients of the Top Achiever Doctoral Scholarships, of 24 announced by the Minister for Tertiary Education, Dr Michael Cullen, are: Karl Shaffer: \$90,537. A PhD student in the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, Mr Shaffer will investigate the potential of proton sponges as binders for beryllium . Beryllium is an attractive metal in the aerospace, automotive, telecommunications and computer industries as it is lighter than aluminium and six times stiffer than steel when alloyed with metals such as copper.

It is, however, one of the most toxic non-radioactive elements and its inhalation can cause the often-fatal lung disease berylliosis. One solution to reduce environmental contamination by industrial beryllium is to identify molecules that can bind and separate beryllium, such as a class of molecules called proton sponges .

Susan Cunningham: \$91,212. A PhD student in the Institute of Natural Resources, Ms Cunningham will investigate how native birds, and in particular the kiwi, detect prey with their bills. She will also investigate the degree of convergent evolution (the evolution of similar characteristics among unrelated species in separate ecosystems) in prey-detection mechanisms between species, and between species that share an ecological niche.

Her PhD combines the fields of functional morphology and behavioural ecology, and aims to further researchers' understanding of the ecology of foraging and the morphology (the structure) of bird bills.

Sophie Pack: \$89,658. A PhD student in the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, Ms Pack will construct monotone, domain decomposition algorithms to solve linear and non-linear singularly perturbed convection-diffusion problems .These types of problems occur regularly in mathematical models describing processes in physics, chemical kinetics and mathematical biology. Most of these problems cannot be solved using standard analytical methods they need to be solved numerically.

Qing Wang: \$86,129. A PhD student in the Department of Information Systems, Ms Wang will investigate the logical grounds of database transformations for complex value databases in which data is represented by trees

Research over the past few years has aimed to understand the expressiveness and complexity of query languages for such databases, and Ms Wang will extend this research in two directions.

First, she will investigate general database transformations that encompass both queries and data updates. Second, she will examine the form of the trees.

For further information about the scholarships go to: <http://www.tec.govt.nz/funding/scholarships/>

Date: 16/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Scholarships





Ucol CEO Paul McElroy with Massey's Gordon Suddaby, and Professor Tom Prebble.

Consortium wins contract for new tertiary teaching centre

New Zealand's first Centre for Tertiary Teaching Excellence is to be set up at Massey as part of a \$20 million Government initiative to boost the quality of teaching in all branches of the post-school education sector.

A Massey-led consortium this month won the contract to establish the centre and run it for five years.

The consortium includes AUT University, the University of Canterbury, Christchurch College of Education, the Universal College of Learning, and Manukau Institute of Technology. It was selected ahead of a consortium led by Victoria University.

The centre will focus on supporting the development of teaching expertise across the tertiary sector. Based at Massey Wellington's campus, it will have regional hubs in Auckland, Christchurch and Palmerston North.

The decision to award the contract to the Massey consortium was announced on 16 August by the Minister for Tertiary Education Dr Michael Cullen.

Dr Cullen said it would assist tertiary education organisations and educators to deliver the best possible learning outcomes for students.

The centre will also support and challenge tertiary education organisations to enhance the effectiveness of teaching and learning practices.

This will undoubtedly have a positive impact on the quality of teaching and will result in students achieving their full potential.

The role of the centre is to:

- Establish benchmarks to improve teaching practice.
- Support the development of subject expertise in tertiary teaching.
- Research, identify and share effective teaching and learning practices.
- Explore the need for professional standards including entry requirements to the tertiary teaching profession.
- Administer the Tertiary Teaching Excellence awards.

Encouraging excellence in teaching will reinforce our reforms of the tertiary sector funding framework as we strive to lift quality across the sector Dr Cullen said.

High quality teachers producing high quality, work-ready students where the economy needs them most, is vital for economic transformation.

Gordon Suddaby, Director of Massey's Training and Development Unit, who is leading the project for Massey, says the centre will have a strongly collaborative approach. Its establishment board includes representatives from wananga, polytechnics, private training establishments and other tertiary education providers.

He says about half the \$4 million annual budget will be spent on projects, while some of the money will be

spent on research, and monitoring and evaluation of effective teaching.

The centre will have a director, and that appointment will be one of the first tasks of the establishment group, while each of the hubs will have just over one full-time equivalent staff member.

Centre functions will include building the teaching capabilities of all tertiary institutions, providing advice to the tertiary education sector and government agencies.

It could be simple things but it could be more intensive, something like how to address student issues or Industry Training Organisations might want to do surveys to establish what are the needs or particular industries, Mr Suddaby says. Its a really exciting initiative. I see it as an opportunity to provide the support and some direction and coherence to the sector that hasn't always been there.

Australia has a similar organisation called the Carrick Institute while Britain's Higher Education Academy has a much bigger brief that crosses into what the Tertiary Education Commission does here. We will build our model ourselves, says Mr Suddaby.

That process started a fortnight ago, with the centre establishment group holding its first meeting in Wellington. Massey Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear congratulated the group on the successful bid.

Professor Kinnear says it is important that the centre be relevant, linked to practitioners and outcome-driven but, at the same time, research-informed.

This is a far-sighted initiative by the Government that overseas experience suggests will quickly reap rewards for New Zealand across all spheres of tertiary education.

She had called on her own contacts among staff involved in the Carrick Institute and the Higher Education Academy to help to support the bid and says the centre will utilise those links in future, including for collaborative research.

Mr Suddaby is delighted that Massey gave such strong support to the project, with Professor Kinnear taking an active role, including in the selection interviews conducted by the Tertiary Education Commission.

He says it was good to work collegially with such a wide range of partners and acknowledged particularly the contribution of Alison Holmes from Canterbury and Associate Professor Neil Haigh from AUT.

All the collaborative partners and their vice-chancellors have been very supportive. In our bid we tried to make it practitioner-driven and practitioner-based. The people involved in it were all involved in staff development activities.

The establishment group is now looking forward to developing a wide range of collaborative engagements with the whole sector to realise the vision of best learning outcomes for all students.

Professor Tom Prebble from Massey, a former Director of Extramural Studies and Professor of Higher Education, has been given the role of interim director and project manager.

Date: 16/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Funding; Teaching



The Shining Cuckoo

Nest invaders under scrutiny

This breeding season, when shining cuckoos carry out their furtive practice of laying their eggs in the nests of grey warblers, a Massey researcher will be following developments closely.

While grey warblers have always accepted the eggs of shining cuckoos, and raised the young, very little is known about the dynamics of the relationship between the shining cuckoo (pipiwharauoa) and the grey warbler (riroriro).

Michael Anderson is a PhD student at the Institute of Natural Resources' Auckland-based Ecology and Conservation Group and his study of the grey warbler is thought to be the first significant study in the past 30 years, of this widespread, tiny native bird.

He is carrying out the research at Tawharanui Regional Park, an open sanctuary east of Warkworth, and will study the song of the grey warbler to contribute to the well-established song bird research led by Associate Professor Dianne Brunton at the centre.

As part of the wider evolutionary project, he will also study the relationship known as brood parasitism, between the two species, research in association with Dr Mark Hauber of the University of Auckland.

The grey warbler lays twice in the breeding season in a pear shaped nest with a small opening while migratory shining cuckoos return to New Zealand around September or early October and lay a single egg in the nests of grey warblers at the time of the second laying.

The grey warbler is New Zealand's smallest bird by weight, just 6.5g at maturity, while the shining cuckoo grows to 25g, about the same as a sparrow.

The cuckoo chick hatches first, grows more quickly and pushes the grey warbler nestlings and any unhatched eggs out of the nest but despite this aggression is then fed to maturity by the adult grey warblers.

In some examples of brood parasitism the eggs may be of similar size or appearance but that is not the case in this relationship. The shining cuckoo egg is slightly larger and a different colour, olive green.

The shining cuckoo and the long-tailed cuckoo are the only New Zealand land-based birds that migrate regularly, spending the winter from about April to August in the Solomon Islands and the Bismark Archipelago.

Mr Anderson says he will be recording the calls of the nestlings to see if the young cuckoos mimic the calls of the grey warbler chicks. He also intends to place nestlings of another species probably house sparrow into the nests to establish whether or not the adult grey warbler will in fact accept any other young to raise as their own.

The song dialect research is funded by a Marsden Grant awarded to Dr Brunton and the brood parasitism research is funded by a fast-start Marsden Grant awarded to Dr Hauber. Mr Anderson's funding is from a Top Achievers Scholarship awarded by the Tertiary Education Committee as part of the Bright Futures Scheme.



Date: 16/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Enviromental issues



Kathryn Park, Mark Dittmer and Rebecca Culver.

First Comms graduates aim for stars

Three students at the Palmerston North graduation ceremonies now have what it takes for star roles in the media.

They are the first students to achieve the University's new Bachelor of Communication qualification, introduced three years ago. The programme is available on all three campuses, as well as extramurally.

The first graduates are Mark Dittmer and Rebecca Culver, both majoring in Communication Management, and Kathryn Park who majored in Media Studies. Mr Dittmer and Ms Culver both studied internally at the Palmerston North campus, while Ms Park made the most of the University's flexible delivery by studying at both the Wellington and Palmerston North campuses and also doing some papers extramurally.

The new programme has proved popular in the three years since its introduction, reflecting the growth of the communication industry and the need for skilled writers, speakers and presenters in any organisation.

The degree programme breaks new ground by offering four majors, two from the College of Business and two from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Students are required to complete a major from one College and a minor from the other.

Communication and Journalism Department head Dr Frank Sligo says this ensures that students encounter the differing but complementary perspectives on communication and media offered by each discipline.

The majors available are Expressive Arts and Media Studies from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Journalism Studies and Communication Management from the College of Business.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: College of Business; Graduation; Graduation (Palmerston North)

Ads, lies and regulations

Australian researcher Jeremy Tustin is out to ensure taxpayers get value from bodies like the Commerce Commission.

Mr Tustin, from the University of South Australia, visited the Palmerston North campus last month. He held a seminar for students and liaised with Marketing Professor Janet Hoek with whom he collaborated on a recent research project on the effect of cigarette descriptors.

His current research addresses the priorities of agencies set up to enforce legislation that prohibits sellers making false claims about their products and services.

Mr Tustin previously worked for the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC), which is similar to our Commerce Commission.

Both agencies are also responsible for enforcing anti-competitive laws and Mr Tustin is interested in whether these two bodies of law can have common goals.

For example, he says, what can false advertising do to harm the competitive process, and what, therefore, can false advertising law do to help the competitive process?

He is also looking at whether taxpayer funded enforcement agencies choose cases that matter, based on the effect of the claims on the consumer and the greatest possible return to the community at large.

His research aims to identify a method that could inform the ACCC and other regulators in considering these cases. So when the decision needs to be made about whether to take legal action against Telstra for an ad where they claim that broadband is free but omit to mention that it actually costs money, it would help the ACCC to know whether people are actually taken in it or whether they know the truth, notwithstanding the falsity of the ad.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business



Workplace injuries top \$20 billion a year

A new report quantifies the economic and social costs of workplace-related diseases and injuries in New Zealand and indicates they are up to four times higher than previous estimates.

Commissioned by the National Occupational Health and Safety Advisory Committee, the report considers a number of previous studies and analyses all new cases of occupational disease and injury between March 2004 and March 2005.

It estimates that the full economic and social costs of occupational diseases and injury total \$20.9 billion a year, comprising \$4.9 billion in financial costs and \$16 billion in the costs of suffering and premature death. It also estimates that only 2 per cent of the total costs are compensated by organisations such as ACC and the Ministry of Social Development.

Reports like these are powerful tools for shaping the future of our efforts to reduce workplace diseases and injuries, says committee Chairman Professor Neil Pearce. Professor Pearce is director of the Centre for Public Health Research.

By looking at the whole costs rather than those covered by compensation alone and where they are incurred, we can make informed policy and practice decisions and deliver appropriate programmes and long-term benefits to the people of New Zealand.

The report categorises financial costs into six groups, with the most important being human capital costs (the lost productive capacity of a worker until retirement age), which are valued at \$3.05 billion a year.

Next are health and rehabilitation costs at \$694 million, production disturbance costs at \$573 million, transfer costs at \$238 million and administration costs at \$55 million. Other costs (such as those for carers and aides, equipment and home modifications) total \$293 million.

These huge financial costs are being borne by and impacting upon employers, employees and society, says Professor Pearce. And of course the effects are much more than financial there are often significant and long-term social consequences for the injured and sick people and for their families, workplaces and communities and further down the track, the health system, the Government and the economy.

We must address these costs, and soon. Every year between 700 and 1000 people die from occupational disease and 100 people die from occupational injury. We also see up to 20,000 cases of new work-related diseases, and about 200,000 work-related injuries that result in claims to ACC. This is a huge and unacceptable burden for New Zealand to bear.

The report is an excellent snapshot of the current state of play, says Professor Pearce. We intend using it to work with others to develop strategies aimed at keeping our workers and our workplaces safe, healthy and productive. I urge policy analysts, researchers and health and safety professionals to read it not only does it provide insights into the huge costs of workplace diseases and injuries, it provides some clear directions for action.

The report is available at www.nohsac.govt.nz

Created: 8 May, 2006

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Scholarships to study puffery

Marketing postgraduate student Jennette Thorne has received two awards recognising her excellent undergraduate record and her potential for further success.

Earlier this year she learned that she had been awarded a Massey Scholarship. This was wonderful news and really helped convince me that I should return for postgraduate work.

Ms Thorne has also just received a Freemasons' Scholarship, to support her Honours programme in marketing. Competed for by students throughout New Zealand, Freemasons' Scholarships are awarded to outstanding students who demonstrate good citizenship and show leadership potential.

She will study puffery in advertising with Professor Janet Hoek from the Department of Marketing.

Although it is commonly assumed that consumers discount hyperbolic claims, there is very little evidence to support this belief, says Ms Thorne. My work will test whether the use of exaggerated claims affects consumers' beliefs and behaviour, and whether these claims may actually be misleading consumers.

I'm lucky that the department I'm studying in has considerable expertise in this area and I'm excited that I can contribute to a timely debate over consumer protection.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business; Scholarships



US politics and the marketplace

A study on how the United States financial markets perform under the Republicans as opposed to the Democrats has brought unexpected acclaim for finance researcher Jeffrey Stangl.

His paper Political Cycles in US Industry Returns took the award for the most innovative paper at an international convention in Mexico recently.

Albany-based Mr Stangl faced stiff competition, with more than 70 other entries from mostly US-based researchers for the award. The award is presented by the National Business and Economics Society, a multi-disciplinary academic and professional organisation, which focuses on promoting interdisciplinary research of both a theoretical and practical nature.

Mr Stangl says he and co-author, Professor Ben Jacobsen found against some conventional thinking on the impact of political cycles on equity markets and industry sectors.

Conventional Wall Street lore holds that financial markets prefer Republican control of the White House because the political Right is known to sympathise more with the business community and to encourage stock market-friendly policies, while the Democrats have a greater tendency to regulate and intervene in financial markets, say Mr Stangl and Professor Jacobsen.

The researchers say historical equity returns from 1926 to 2004 suggest otherwise.

Republican presidents were in control of the White House during the stock market crashes of 1929 and 1987. Republican Richard Nixon was president during the 1969-1974 bear market.

The bull markets of the 1960s and the 1990s occurred under the Democratic stewardship.

They say that while political cycles in equity markets are well documented, no acceptable explanation of the systematic relationship between asset returns and politics has been provided.

They also say their results contradict conventional market wisdom that certain industries experience preferential returns under either Democrats or Republicans.

They say political effects are neither significant nor consistent in the US and suggest an explanation of political cycles should be sought at a macro-economic level.

Other researchers have already suggested that in fact the performance of equities themselves could determine political outcomes rather than the converse.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business



Award for research on cigarette descriptors

A paper by Professor Janet Hoek from the College of Business and Associate Professor Rachel Kennedy and Jeremy Tustin from the University of South Australia has won a Best in Track award at the recent Australian and New Zealand Marketing Academy conference.

Their research involved telephone interviews with 788 respondents from South Australia and New South Wales. It coincided with both countries' ratification of the World Health Organisation Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, which calls on signatories to review the descriptors used on cigarette packets.

Australia has recently entered into voluntary undertakings with several tobacco companies that will see the elimination of the words 'light' and 'mild' on cigarette packets. Australian regulators have argued these words imply health benefits the products do not deliver, and so may mislead and deceive.

The new survey shows that a substantial proportion of respondents, both smokers and non-smokers, were confused about what the term 'light' means. However, smokers of light cigarettes were much more likely to associate incorrect attributes with them, including that they deliver less tar.

Professor Hoek says although the findings are preliminary, they have important policy implications because they highlight misconceptions among all groups, especially those at greatest risk of being harmed by confusion.

She says it is of particular concern that smokers are more likely to associate healthier attributes with light cigarettes.

Smokers often view light variants as a means of maintaining a smoking habit while minimising the harm they believe will result from this.

The report says the tobacco industry has indicated that it intends to replace light and mild with terms such as fresh, fine and smooth.

Professor Hoek says there is an urgent need for more research, particularly into the attributes smokers might associate with these new terms.

There is little point in replacing one misleading term with another.

She says further research needs to examine the effect cigarette descriptors have on young people at risk of developing a smoking habit. If the alternative words proposed have a particular appeal to young people, there is a danger they may make smoking more attractive, not less so.

Created: 3 April, 2008

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Any





School of Journalism staff on the steps of the Museum Building in Wellington.

Journo reunion draws international alumni

Flying in from Seoul, Korea the day before the School of Journalism's big 40th anniversary bash on 4 June, will be Star Alliance corporate affairs director Alastair Carthew.

Keep up the good work, the former Television New Zealand political editor said in an email registering for the Queen's Birthday reunion event at the University's Wellington campus.

When the school began its search for more than 2000 former students to invite, the first to respond was founding lecturer Chris Cole Catley.

What fun! I will certainly be there, she wrote from her Devonport home.

Organiser and journalism lecturer Alan Samson says Ms Cole Catley's presence at the celebrations will be welcomed by her former students, many of whom remember her as an inspirational teacher.

She joined the school, then part of Wellington Polytechnic in 1967 and headed it from 1968-72.

She later set up the Cape Catley Publishing company, launched The Picton Paper. More recently she established the Michael King Writers' Centre in Devonport in honour of the late historian who was also a former lecturer in the school.

Finding alumni of the course has uncovered numerous stars, Mr Samson says, including former BBC war correspondent Diana Goodman, former Evening Post editor and now APN (NZ) publishing boss Rick Neville, Fairfax head in Victoria, Don Churchill, former Evening Post and Waikato Times editor Sue Carty, famed television anchor Judy Bailey, and many past and present stars of the small screen and other branches of the news media, including Kerre Woodham, Hillary Barry, Kevin Milne, Ian Wishart, Sean Plunket, Melanie Read, Corinne Ambler, Mark Sainsbury, Jane Young and Fran O'Sullivan.

Alison McCulloch, part of a Denver Post Pulitzer prize-winning team for its coverage of the Columbine massacre, was also a graduate, as was the Dominion-Post's investigative reporter who sparked the Louise Nicholas rape trial and the Donna Awatere Huata dismissal from Parliament, Phil Kitchin.

Two former MPs, Fran Wilde and Deborah Coddington, are also graduates, as are Listener Pamela Stirling and her predecessors Findlay McDonald and Geoffrey Baylis.

Mr Baylis, who is also a former editor of The Dominion, will be awarded an honorary Doctor of Literature by the University this month for services to journalism.

He had a big hand in advising on training at the school, including writing its investigative reporting paper.

Mr Samson reports that many of those signing up for the event are already telling their 'war' stories.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Business



Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear and her counterpart Professor Sylvie Faucheux from Versailles University toast the signing a memorandum of understanding for future academic co-operation.

Massey's treaty with Versailles

The University has signed a memorandum of understanding with the University of Versailles regarding ongoing collaboration and co-operation in the area of ecological economics and sustainability sciences.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear and her counterpart Professor Sylvie Faucheux toasted the agreement in the Council Room last month with New Zealand bubbly at a table adorned with the French tricolor flag.

It will involve the exchange of staff and students, joint research and teaching activities, participation in seminars and academic meetings, and joint quality assurance benchmarking.

Professor Kinnear described it as a wonderful opportunity to establish a partnership of mutual benefit and one which focused on the University's core business.

Professor Faucheux said she was confident the good relationship formed would lead to co-operation in other academic areas.

I'm sure it is better to start with a short profile but to be active on that front, she said, before inviting Professor Kinnear to visit her in Versailles and improve your French .

Established in the 1980s on the western side of Paris, Université De Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines is a multi-faculty university with about 18,000 students.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any

Good news for cats and carpets

New research has provided strong evidence that children exposed to dust and micro-organisms from an early age are less likely to develop asthma.

Massey University and Utrecht University in the Netherlands have been conducting research over the past 10 years involving the study of about 700 Dutch children since before birth.

Massey epidemiologist Associate Professor Jeroen Douwes says the more children are exposed to dust, dirt and microbials, such as bacteria and fungi, as well as pets and farm animals, the greater the odds they will not develop asthma.

The children who were highly exposed to microbials were 60 per cent less likely to develop asthma in the first four years of life, says Dr Douwes.

The children were watched for the development of asthma symptoms such as wheezing or atopic sensitization. Atopic sensitization can develop into allergies and may be inherited from one of their parents. If a child develops this allergy the reaction is instant when coming into contact with the allergen.

Dr Douwes says the researchers measured the amount of dust found in the children's living room floors and on their mattresses.

We compared the use of mite-impermeable mattress and pillow covers with a control group using a regular cotton mattress and pillow cases. We also assessed whether children had allergies, by measuring antibodies in their blood.

Different beddings did not seem to be significant. The measurements between the mite-impermeable and regular bedding was not much different. It did not seem to affect the levels of children developing asthma.

What did make the difference in whether the children developed asthma was how clean the living room floor was. The children that were the most exposed to microbials on the floor had a lower risk for developing asthma or a wheeze.

This longitudinal study is strong evidence that removing carpets and pets in an effort to reduce the risk of children developing asthma is not effective. It may make things worse. However if a child has developed asthma as a reaction to indoor allergens, removing carpets and pets is likely to help.

Created: 8 May, 2006

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - HEALTH

More antibiotics could cut elderly death rate

Older people who suffer from chronic chest infections could benefit dramatically if treated with antibiotics. Massey researchers have found that antibiotics cut the risk of dying by 77 per cent when people suffering from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease get infections.

To date there has been conflicting evidence as to whether antibiotic therapy should be used on the frequent occasions when disease sufferers have their symptoms exacerbated by coughs and infections.

Although most patients with exacerbated symptoms are treated with antibiotics, there has been uncertainty about the value of their use. Debate has been fuelled by the growing desire to minimise antibiotic use.

Data from 11 trials, involving more than 900 patients over the age of 50, was reviewed by an international team lead by Massey's Dr Felix Ram, who is a senior lecturer in Respiratory Medicine and Clinical Pharmacology in the School of Health Sciences.

Dr Ram worked with four associates in respiratory medicine and research from London and Spain, using data from the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials.

The researchers found that as well as reducing to the risk of death, antibiotic therapy decreased the risk of treatment failure by 53 per cent and the risk of developing infected sputum by 44 per cent.

The findings are now being circulated in medical publications internationally.

The review showed that antibiotic therapy, regardless of the antibiotic used, reduces the risks involved with exacerbation, and as might be expected, the effect is greatest in patients with more severe diseases, says Dr Ram.

The controversy over whether antibiotics should be prescribed to patients with acute exacerbations of [the disease] has been very highly-debated and unresolved for many years ...and this review will help to finally resolve this long outstanding issue.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences





NZ School of Music board members: Paul Baines, Professor Andrea McIlroy, Professor David Mackay, Alick Shaw, Dr Greer Garden, and John Maasland. Associate Professor Matthew Marshall entertains.

New head for School of Music

The New Zealand School of Music is forging ahead, with the Massey University and Victoria University joint venture appointing its inaugural director and its board holding its first meeting.

The NZSM board, chaired by Alick Shaw, Deputy Mayor of Wellington, has appointed Dr Elizabeth Hudson, currently an Associate Professor at the University of Virginia in the United States, as its first director. Dr Hudson has a PhD and MA in musicology from Cornell University in New York State.

The School, which has more than 500 students studying at Victoria's Kelburn campus and Massey's Wellington and Auckland campuses, has been fully operational from 1 January this year. Both universities, in partnership with the Wellington City Council, remain in negotiations with the Government about funding for a purpose-built home for the School to be built on land adjacent to Wellington's Civic Square.

Mr Shaw said Dr Hudson's appointment was a major coup for the School.

Dr Hudson combines excellence in both research and teaching with a strength in university administration. In her time at the University of Virginia she headed its Music Department for three years and played a principal role in the design and planning of the University's new performing arts centre. That experience will be vital when funding is secured for the NZSM's new home.

Dr Hudson said she was looking forward to taking up her appointment in New Zealand in June.

The New Zealand School of Music is an innovative initiative by Victoria and Massey universities. I'm passionate about music education and I was impressed with the high value the new School places on blending music education with composition, performance and musicology and by building the strengths of the two universities in both classical and jazz music.

In line with the School's establishment, its board held its first formal meeting in April. As well as Mr Shaw, it includes Professor David Mackay, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Victoria, and Professor Andrea McIlroy, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Massey Wellington, John Maasland, Chairman of Carter Holt Harvey, and Paul Baines, a Director of Telecom New Zealand and the Reserve Bank. A sixth director has yet to be appointed with the option of appointing a further two in the future.

Professor Mackay said the makeup of the board set the tone for the School's strong future.

The calibre of directors augurs well for the School's future. Mr Shaw has been a strong supporter of the arts in Wellington and has played a significant role in gaining the Council's support for the School proposal.

Both Mr Maasland and Mr Baines have significant commercial experience as well as a passion for the arts that will be vital in the School's establishment phase and in supporting Dr Hudson in her new role.

Professor McIlroy says Dr Hudson's appointment is very good news for the School.

Combining the strengths of Victoria's School of Music and Massey's Conservatorium of Music gives us the opportunity to be the top music school in New Zealand.

We are thrilled to have someone of Dr Hudson's calibre lead the School towards becoming a world-class music teaching and research institution.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Creative Arts; Wellington

Double success for Social Work graduates

Success came twice to social work graduates Deb Mulcahy and Mthulisi Sibanda at graduation. The pair are the inaugural recipients of the Christine Taylor Award, a new award established to recognize excellence in the field of social work and the mental health area in particular.

Ms Sibanda came to New Zealand in 2002 as a refugee from Zimbabwe and has since completed a Master of Social Work (Applied). She's also worked with mental health services for older people and their families. She's now working to help find employment for people who have a mental illness.

Ms Mulcahy has completed her bachelors degree and is working towards upskilling as a social worker in mental health.

The awards honour the life and work in mental health of the late Christine Taylor. The awards are administered by the Richmond Foundation, a charitable trust supporting those who work in mental health.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Graduation; Graduation (Palmerston North); Palmerston North



Whānau take the stage together

The Wehi whānau are no strangers to the stage and the bright lights but graduation week brought five of them together for a celebration of their own achievements.

Two brothers and one sister all graduated as Bachelors of Māori Performing Arts. The trio have grown up in a home where performance is a way of life with their parents Ngapo and Pimia establishing a reputation as the leading lights of kapa haka.

Twenty years ago the Wehi whānau established Pounamu Ventures, a Māori performing arts company based in Auckland. Their company performs at national and international conferences, promotions and private functions and has toured the world. They are widely credited for their initiatives in providing training and employment opportunities for Māori.

They're pictured together at the Māori graduation ceremony at Albany campus. From rear left Pimia, Tapeta and Richard Wehi with their parents Ngapo and Pimia.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: Auckland; College of Creative Arts; Graduation; Graduation (Auckland); Maori



Business student remembered with award

Aviation student James Catty has a very good reason to remember a Massey business studies student who died almost 20 years ago.

Craig Merryweather was murdered while hitchhiking in the South Island in 1987. His body was found two years later in bush near the Lindis Pass. His three killers were jailed for life.

Craig's parents, Beth and David Merryweather decided to use the life insurance money paid out after his death to establish a scholarship for a student at the then newly established Massey University School of Aviation.

Craig loved flying passionately, says Mr Merryweather. He had flown solo at the Walsh Memorial Flying School in Matamata and talked about it constantly. We have a feeling that once Massey had established an aviation school, he would have switched from studying business to studying aviation.

We also didn't want the money it was blood money. We felt we would rather it was used constructively to help a young student succeed in an aviation career.

James Catty was awarded the Craig Merryweather Memorial Scholarship at the school's Wings graduation ceremony at the Palmerston North campus on Tuesday. The Wings ceremony acknowledges a landmark point in study towards a Bachelor of Aviation, including the achievement of a commercial pilots' licence.

Mr and Mrs Merryweather live in Auckland. This is the first time since the scholarship was established that they have come to Palmerston North to award the scholarship and meet the successful recipient.

Twelve students graduated at the Wings ceremony which was held at Wharerata. The ceremony was attended by Air Commodore Stuart McIntyre RNZAF (Ret'd) who had close associations with the School of Aviation and helped establish the Craig Merryweather scholarship. Air Commodore McIntyre was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the University in 2000.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business; Explore - Aviation; Palmerston North; Scholarships





Pasifika scholarships awarded

The Pacific Island Polynesian Education Foundation, with two corporate sponsors, awarded scholarships to four Pasifika students this month.

The foundation sets aside \$46,000 of its government funding each year for dollar-for-dollar scholarships within tertiary institutions around New Zealand. The financial help enables students to take courses that might not usually be popular with Pasifika people.

This year the four scholarships were again co-funded by the National Bank and Nova Gas Ltd. The scholarships are each worth \$1000.

National Bank scholarships were awarded to Chris Ulutupu, who is in his second year of a Bachelor of Performance Design, and first year communications student Fetu-Ole-Moana Tamapeau. She says she enrolled at Massey because after working for a year after leaving school, she wanted to use her brain more.

National Bank regional manager Duane Kale says development of people and community involvement are two of the bank's core values.

Nova Gas awarded two scholarships one to nursing student Pelenise O'Brien, and another to Bachelor of Construction (Quantity Surveying) student Enoka Jessop.

Nova Gas account manager Fraser Clark says that as a new entrant in the gas market, Nova Gas knows what it is like to be a new player, and was delighted to offer its support.

Massey communications student Fetu-Ole-Moana Tamapeau receives a National Bank scholarship from Wellington regional manager Duane Kale.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business; College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Pasifika; Scholarships

Traditional printing inspires today's students

Old-school printing techniques are proving as popular among graphic design students as the latest digital technology.

Contemporary Letterpress is a new paper for fourth-year design students, and is unique in New Zealand universities for its use of old-fashioned printing machines together with modern technology.

Design student George Connor says it is great to learn traditional methods. Using these machines is really tactile. You end up feeling much more connected to the work than you do when using a computer.

Printmaking lecturer John Clemens agrees. If it's a good print or a bad print, it's up to you, not the computer.

The University has created a new printing workshop in the College of Creative Arts to house a range of machinery dating back to more than 100 years ago. The machines are leased from the Bedplate Press Printing Museum in the Hutt Valley, which collects and restores old printing machinery.

According to Mr Clemens, one press used at the workshop is the little brother of the press used to print the Evening Post more than 100 years ago.

Typography lecturer Annette O'Sullivan says the students enjoy using traditional printing techniques to experiment in ways not possible on computers.

In an assignment named The Typographic City, students had to choose an urban space, observe its inhabitants and respond to the physicality of the space by using a variety of printing techniques.

Design student Brian Lammas says his task was to reinvent the space as a print. He made a grid of wooden blocks and type (blocks used to print letters) to represent how people are packed into an apartment building. He says his prints are a graphic interpretation of how people are forced into spaces by building design. I could have achieved a similar effect using a computer, but it would lack the texture and subtlety of the manual print.

If I apply too much ink to the block, or apply too much pressure to the press, I get a different effect, he says.

He loves typography and its traditions. The cool thing about it is that it's one of the last great crafts. You learn in the master and apprentice style, not from a book or in a lecture. We learned that the editing terms upper case and lower case originally referred to the cases that type was kept in, and that leading (line spacing) refers to strips of lead used to separate lines of text.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Features

Categories: College of Creative Arts; Wellington





Massey Musos' Manhattan Transfer

Music students are among the first to take advantage of a new videoconferencing facility at the Wellington Campus.

Professor David Leisner, Chair of the Guitar Department at the Manhattan School of Music in New York conducted a class with New Zealand School of Music students via a video link.

Three classical guitar students performed for Professor Leisner and received guidance and advice on their performances in front of audiences at the University and the Manhattan School of Music.

Fourth-year student Murray Sergeant says it felt natural to receive the real-time tuition at a distance. He was able to use the camera to zoom in and observe Professor Leisner's guitar fingerwork.

Associate Professor Matthew Marshall is Director of the Centre for Guitar Studies, a research unit at the New Zealand School of Music. He says he was delighted with how the class went. This is an exciting new development in the teaching of performance music. We will be collaborating with staff at leading music schools to bring world-class teaching to our students.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Andrea McIlroy says that as New Zealand's leading distance educator, it is a natural extension for Massey to take advantage of video technology and the Internet to offer tuition.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Wellington

New funding model welcomed

The Vice-Chancellor has welcomed signals by the Government that it intends to reward tertiary institutions on the quality of their programmes, teaching and outcomes.

Professor Judith Kinnear says the latest announcement is positive for Massey.

Professor Kinnear says it is pleasing to note that the issues raised by Tertiary Education Minister Michael Cullen echo the concerns of the university sector, and the University in particular.

Our strategies of focused excellence and research training and research-led teaching sit very comfortably with Dr Cullen's goals of quality outcomes.

Dr Cullen's 'way forward' is entirely consistent with what we have been doing. For example, for the past 12 months we have been working on a project across our campuses to define the distinctive contribution each makes to its community. This fits with the Government's indication that institutions must meet the needs of their communities. This is particularly important to Massey as it has campuses in Wellington, Palmerston North and Auckland that are committed to meeting the research and learning requirements of the unique communities in which they are located.

The repositioning of the Wellington campus and the discontinuation of sub-degree programmes are further differentiating the University from others in the sector. Partnerships such as the New Zealand School of Music with Victoria University, and with Lincoln University in the Partnerships for Excellence meet the Government's need for more collaboration within the sector.

The suggestion that programmes incurring higher provision costs and that are in the national interest or of strategic importance will be funded appropriately is also welcome, she says.

Professor Kinnear says while the details of any future funding model are still to be worked through, Massey will support any moves from volume-driven revenue to a greater focus on quality outcomes in learning and teaching. She says she does not believe there will be more money for tertiary education but there may be redistribution of the available funding to get better value and a focus on programmes of value to students and that contribute to the national good.

We look forward to taking the opportunity offered by Dr Cullen to contribute to the consultation process. It will be very interesting to see how the goals he has outlined are translated into policy. However, it should be noted that any new system would not take effect until after 2008.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any



History on the high seas

Seasickness pills, tramping boots and binoculars were essential tools on a real-life history course on the high seas off the New Zealand coast for History Professor Kerry Howe as he lectured a boat-load of foreign history buffs recently.

On what he describes as a busman's holiday, Professor Howe lectured aboard a rolling deck instead of the Auckland campus where he usually teaches. He helped guide the mini cruise ship into bays and coves of particular historic interest and escorted his students on visits to off-beat, often rugged sites such as Pickersgill Harbour in Dusky Sound where Captain James Cook set up an observatory, and Cannibal Cove in Queen Charlotte Sound where the first Western record of alleged Polynesian cannibalism took place.

The trip enabled Professor Howe to check out how much or how little these and other significant historic sites have changed since Cook first saw them, as he compared scenes from famous 18th century William Hodges' paintings of historically significant places with their modern-day aspect.

He was particularly fascinated by Hodges' painting of Cook's ship *Resolution*, that features a rata tree as a gangway. Howe returned from his journey with a photograph showing a rata tree similarly protruding from the shore, although he can't be sure it is the same one in the painting.

He was able to show his students mostly well-educated, retired professional people from Britain and Australia the remains of tree stumps from Cook's clearing in the forest for his camp where the observatory was set up. Not far away is Cascade Cove, where Hodges depicted Māori as Noble Savages in another famous painting. Again, a photograph reveals the landscape virtually unchanged from the time it was painted by Hodges.

Professor Howe, who has studied the history and historiography of the Pacific for more than 30 years and published numerous acclaimed books on the subject, says it was the first time he'd shared his knowledge of New Zealand's history on a so-called soft expedition. His journey spanned a month during February and March, covering around 1000 nautical miles between Auckland and the Milford Sound via the East Coast.

His unconventional classroom was an Australian-registered mini cruise ship called the *Oceanic Princess*, a 63m vessel carrying about 40 passengers.

Although the ship came without luxuries such as casinos and fancy restaurants that are usually associated with the notion of a cruise, it had an extensive library, lecture theatre and comfortable accommodation.

And while the voyage was rough much of the time, he and the passengers appreciated seeing the abundance of wildlife along New Zealand's coast, such as seals, gannets, albatross and dolphins, including the rare Hector's Dolphin near Akaroa.

The cruise gave people from other countries an opportunity to discover New Zealand's nature and Māori heritage at close range, with stop-offs at White Island an active volcano in the Bay of Plenty and Whangara, the remote Māori village where the hit movie *Whale Rider* was filmed. They also experienced first-hand a sense of Cook's astounding navigational exploration of pre-European New Zealand, he says.

At Motuara Island now a protected native bird sanctuary where Cook claimed sovereignty over the South Island we went ashore to hear the dawn chorus, just as it would have sounded in Cook's day. We could hear the bellbirds, then a 747 flew overhead, he recalls.

Professor Howe is currently co-curating a major exhibition titled Vaka Moana Voyagers of the Sunrise, and editing the large book to accompany it. The exhibition due to open at the Auckland War Memorial Museum at the end of the year will bring to the world the little known story of the exploration and settlement of the vast Pacific basin. It will tour internationally.

Created: 3 April, 2008

Date: 20/04/2006

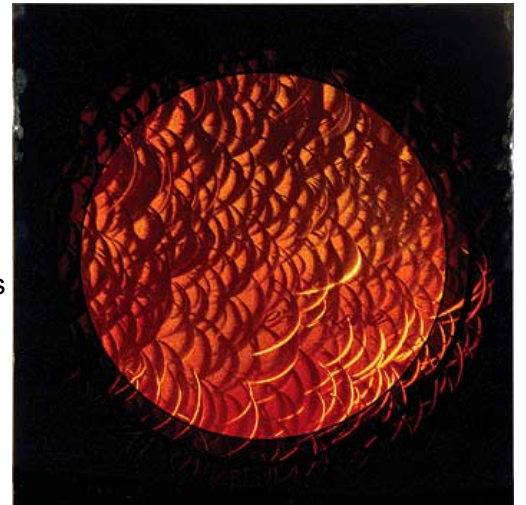
Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Norsewear art award for Masters student

Masters student Israel Birch, Ngā Puhi, is the joint winner of the two-dimensional category of the 2006 Norsewear Art Awards.

His two-metre by two-metre winning artwork, titled *The Golden Oriori*, is a tribute to his baby daughter Cyan Waipuri-Birch. Centred on the canvas, the glowing sphere of fiery red and orange ink is heavily layered and lacquered and text is embedded between layers. Mr Birch is inspired by the spiritual and scientific elements of sound and music, and this latest piece is shaped round an oriori a lullaby.



In his final year of the Māori Visual Arts Masters programme under the leadership of Professor Robert Jahnke, Mr Birch has developed and fine-tuned a distinctive style of ink and lacquer painting on stainless steel in the past two years.

He has begun work on convex steel canvases, in an exploration of the three-dimensional, and will take his final Masters show to his hometown for an exhibition at the Hawkes Bay Museum in October.

He is the joint winner alongside Richard Lewer and both artists share the major prize of \$20,000. The Norsewear Art Awards exhibition continues at the Hawke's Bay Exhibition Centre in Hastings until 14 May.

The winning entries can be viewed at: www.norsewearart.co.nz

Created: 3 April, 2008

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Creative Arts

Aviation to extend its international reach

The School of Aviation is extending its international reach, as well as introducing a new postgraduate qualification for the aviation industry.

By offering the Masters of Management (Aviation), the school joins an elite group of international providers that offer such qualifications.

From July this year the Palmerston North-based school, will offer the Masters of Management (Aviation) in Singapore, in partnership with the Singapore Aviation Academy, and in Thailand under a new agreement with the Civil Aviation Training Centre in Bangkok.

In New Zealand, the new postgraduate programme was introduced by the school at the beginning of this year. School General Manager Captain Ashok Poduval says the programme is research-oriented, as opposed to thesis-based.

It is likely to appeal more to aviation professionals and to the industry in general. We find that an increasing number of airline pilots, operations and engineering staff, air traffic controllers, and airport personnel are expressing greater interest in obtaining higher level qualifications.

By studying for this qualification, they have the opportunity to embark upon research projects that are relevant to their profession while enabling them to meet the requirements for their academic pursuits.

In accordance with industry demands, the post-graduate degree focuses on a broad spectrum of aviation subjects such as aviation strategic management, airport design and management, aviation logistics.

Captain Poduval says the school is one of only a handful worldwide four in the Asia-Pacific region to offer a Masters level qualification in aviation.

It's also strategically important that we will be offering the higher qualification in Singapore. We already offer the Bachelor of Aviation through the Singapore Aviation Agency and our Masters degree offers a logical path to academic progression for students.

A delegation from Thailand, recently visited the Palmerston North campus to finalise the introduction of the Masters programme.

Captain Poduval says Bangkok and Singapore are important steps for the international ventures of the School as they offer the opportunity for extramural students to attend block courses rather than to travel all to New Zealand.

The School now offers four postgraduate programmes has five PhD students.

Created: 21 April, 2006

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business; Explore - Aviation

Staying smart and sharp in the dairy shed

Water heating is the main source of energy consumption in the dairy farm milking shed, closely followed by the chilling of milk.

Presented at the recent Dairy3 conference in Hamilton, these findings are from the first stage of a two-phase study funded by Dairy Insight and conducted by Professor Ralph Sims and PhD student Karl Hartman.

Mr Hartman presented the results at the conference, a combined Massey, Dexcel and dairy farmer event, and offered practical information on ways to reduce electricity consumption, lower costs, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

He says most farms could save up to 20 per cent of their current electricity consumption, to reduce the peak load and also reduce climate change impacts the biggest threat to New Zealand agriculture.

On a national level, energy reductions on dairy farms can be achieved through:

- The development of a set of benchmarks for on-farm energy consumption and costs to enable farmers to decide which aspects of their farm enterprises are good candidates to invest in energy efficiency measures.
- The provision of a detailed end-use breakdown of electricity and time-of-use profiles that will enable energy supply and end-use options to be analysed (for example, solar water heating installations).
- The evaluation of commercially available energy-saving systems, technologies and equipment and promoting those with practical energy-saving potential.
- The development of methods of diesel fuel reduction in tractors and machinery.
- The dissemination of a set of user-friendly energy efficiency recommendations that farmers can implement at low cost, based on the monitoring of demonstrated case studies.
- The provision of training seminars for farm advisers and consultants to up-skill them in energy efficiency techniques that they can then pass on to their clients.

The three-day conference brought together researchers, industry representatives, and leading farmers to provide a forum for the latest ideas and discussion of plans that shape the future.

Dr Ian Yule from the Institute of Natural Resource, with Verne Attmore from Farmworks, gave an interactive workshop on technologies to assess pasture.

From the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, Nicola Shadbolt presented a paper on how farming compares to other investments, and how success through investment can be measured.

Created: 21 April, 2006

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Enviromental issues

Hollywood vs history in The Da Vinci Code

During his time in the United States as the Fulbright Visiting Lecturer in New Zealand Studies at Georgetown University, Washington D.C. Dr Adam Claasen has been an avid, first-hand observer of the hype and hysteria surrounding the bestselling book *The Da Vinci Code*.

The murder-mystery thriller is now at number two after a record-breaking weeks on the New York Times' fiction hardback bestseller list.

Published in 2003, the book has not only sold about 40 million copies world-wide and spawned a Hollywood movie starring Tom Hanks, to be released 19 May, it has stirred up an all-out theological storm.



Millions of readers now believe the author's controversial thesis that Jesus and Mary Magdalene were husband and wife, and Mary was the Holy Grail.

In places, *The Da Vinci Code* reads like a comedy of historical errors of *Fawlty Towers*' proportions, Dr Claasen said from Washington, five weeks before the movie release.

Experts from such diverse fields as classics, church history and art history are dismissive of most of author Dan Brown's claims regarding the Emperor Constantine, early Christian beliefs, and Leonardo's paintings.

Distorting or reinterpreting history for the sake of a good story shouldn't matter as long as it is clear to readers that the work in question is indeed fiction, right?

But the fact/fiction boundary has been blurred, because Brown states at the outset of the book that all descriptions of artwork, architecture, documents, and secret rituals in the novel are accurate. And while the news media has largely depicted the ensuing spat as *The Da Vinci Code* versus the Church, Dr Claasen says the more relevant debate is the one between *The Da Vinci Code* and historians.

However, in the popular mind, the former has all the drama and excitement of Christians being thrown to the lions, while the latter has all the drama and excitement of watching paint dry. Thus, the media gives the public what it wants, which is 'theological wars', not apparently boring and sometimes complicated nuanced historical facts presented by tweed-jacket-wearing, pipe-smoking historians, he says.

And although the book has made popular a set of ideas that is largely dismissed by academia, he argues that this doesn't make the claims any more truthful...it simply means that erroneous beliefs about Jesus and Mary Magdalene, Constantine, the Knights Templar, and *Da Vinci*, are more widespread.

But that isn't necessarily a bad thing for history, because it can serve as a useful springboard to good history, something we hope to do with our newest paper being offered in semester two of this year: 148.120 Blockbusters and Biopics: History at the Movies.

Many cinematic portrayals legitimately raise issues surrounding the reinterpretation of historical subjects for a contemporary audience, says Dr Claasen.

His course will not only point out discrepancies between films and the narrative record but attempt to answer more profound questions: What rationale lies behind altering the past? Who is served by Hollywood mythmaking? Should we care that history has been tampered with and what do the changes tell us about the audiences' preferences, the director's aims and the movie-making industry's motives?

To this end the new paper in 2006 will look at *Gladiator*, *The Passion of the Christ*, *The Bounty*, *Saving Private Ryan* and *The Da Vinci Code*, with other films such as *Troy*, *Braveheart*, *Titanic* and *Elizabeth* up for consideration in subsequent years.

As for *The Da Vinci Code*, Dr Claasen observes that in the past Hollywood has tended to be dismissive of the faith-based sector of the ticket-buying public, but due to the huge success of Mel Gibson's *The Passion of the Christ* and the recent adaptation of C. S. Lewis' *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* it is impossible to completely disregard this segment of society.

And while Christian groups, especially Catholics, have been vociferous in rejecting Dan Brown's ideas, Dr Claasen can't see director Ron Howard wiping these from the movie because they have been central to the success of the book.

Perhaps the best that faith-based groups can hope for is that the director will present a more ambiguous set of claims than the book makes, he adds.

Will Dr Claasen be off to see the movie as soon as it is released? Most definitely, I'll be the first in the door.

Created: 3 April, 2008

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Fellowships for scientists

Professors Peter Xu and Harjinder Singh have been awarded fellowships in honour of their exceptional contributions to science.

Professor Xu has been elected a Fellow of the Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand for his contribution to the advancement of engineering knowledge. The fellowship especially recognises his role in the development of mechatronics expertise.

The Institution chief executive, Dr Andrew Cleland, says the prestige of a fellowship recognises the input of outstanding individuals rather than a reward for long service or seniority.

He says Professor Xu's research on robotics is characterised by an analytical rigour which has enabled him to publish frequently in international journals.

A pioneer in his field in New Zealand, Professor Xu has built an international reputation and has formed strong industry relationships. He was also praised for his support of the professional development of engineering graduates and his promotion of engineering careers.

Professor Harjinder Singh, a co-director of the Riddet Centre, has been elected a Fellow of the International Academy of Food Science and Technology for his outstanding contributions to food science and technology. The second New Zealander to join the fellowship of distinguished food scientists and technologists, Professor Singh will be formally inducted at the 13th World Food Congress in Nantes, France in September.

Dr Cleland, also a fellow of the academy, says Professor Singh has demonstrated distinguished scholarship and intellectual leadership of the highest order in the field of dairy science and technology.

Dr Cleland and Professor Paul Moughan, co-director of the Riddet Centre, say Professor Singh's work has been characterised by innovation, novelty and creativity, as well as the ability to translate laboratory-based findings to the food industry. His research findings and insights have allowed the industry worldwide to solve many fundamental problems.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences

Champion of free speech

The contribution of distinguished journalist, editor and educator Geoffrey Baylis is to be recognised with an Honorary Doctorate.

Mr Baylis will be awarded Doctor of Literature (honoris causa) at the graduation ceremony for College of Business graduands in Wellington in May.

A former editor of the Dominion and the Listener, Mr Bayliss also played a significant role in the development of programmes for the University's School of Journalism, which celebrates its 40th anniversary this year.

His career began in Britain, working successively as a sports reporter, general reporter, crime reporter, industrial correspondent and university correspondent, before assuming various executive positions on British dailies.

He worked on newspapers in Fleet Street as well as in Croydon, Sheffield, Birmingham, Liverpool, Luton, Newcastle and Middlesbrough, editing three different dailies before becoming Assistant Editor of London's Daily Mail.

In 1982 he was appointed editor of the Dominion newspaper in Wellington from a large field of applicants. He quickly became known as a guardian of free speech.

In 1982 the paper published material from a leaked wage talks document and then Prime Minister Robert Muldoon retaliated by announcing a ban on the release of any ministerial information to the newspaper. With the support of the Parliamentary Press Gallery, Mr Baylis took the unprecedented step for a newspaper editor of making a complaint to the Press Council about a prime minister.

The council found in his favour: the paper had the right to publish a leaked document not obtained by improper means. The ban was unjustified in a democratic society. The decision is still cited as a landmark vindication of free speech.

In 1987, when British newspapers were enjoined from printing excerpts from Peter Wright's book Spycatcher, Mr Baylis arranged for the Dominion to do so. Again he was vindicated. When Britain's Attorney General took action against Wellington Newspapers, the Court of Appeal found that public interest lay in the publication of information about malpractice in a security service.

Under his leadership, the Dominion lent its support to the campaign for universal childhood vaccination against measles and to the fight against AIDS. The paper's willingness to crusade and its shift to a greater focus on politics, business and serious investigative reporting helped revive its flagging circulation and attracted a new wave of leading journalists.

Mr Baylis left the Dominion in 1989 to become the Chief Executive and Editor-in-Chief of the Listener, at the start of negotiations for the sale of the publication to Wilson and Horton. He also oversaw the introduction of computerisation, the magazine's change in format to A4 and an emphasis on investigative journalism

Mr Baylis has also been influential in journalism education. He advised on the creation of the School of Journalism's Graduate Diploma in Applied Journalism (now Journalism Studies) papers. A paper he developed, Investigative Reporting, drawing on his experiences in an actual investigation in Britain, is still taught.

After 'retiring' Mr Baylis founded the journalism programme at Whitireia Community Polytechnic in Porirua. He was awarded the New Zealand Medal in 1990.

Journalism lecturer Alan Samson says Mr Baylis is one of the few journalism luminaries to emerge in recent memory. He remains one of the few New Zealand editors to risk all for the ideal of freedom of speech democracy.



Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Champion of the Humanities

The pre-eminent researcher on the exploration of the Pacific by the French is to receive an Honorary Doctorate from the University at the May graduation ceremonies in Palmerston North.

Professor John Dunmore was the University's Foundation Dean of Humanities and is a University Emeritus Professor.

Professor Dunmore was born in France, and educated there and in the Britain. After a period teaching in New Zealand he studied for a PhD at Victoria University of Wellington, then became a lecturer at Palmerston North University College, an antecedent of Massey University.

He became the University's first Professor of French in 1966 and was Dean of Humanities from 1968-81. He was a strong supporter of the Humanities, a tireless advocate of the importance of language learning in schools as well as at tertiary level and set up teaching programmes in European and Asian languages, linguistics and second language teaching.

Professor John Beaglehole of Victoria University had suggested to him that little had been written on French explorers of the Pacific and, as a result, Professor Dunmore made it his life's work, breaking new ground and stimulating further research by others.

Since the 1950s he has studied the original logs and journals of the voyages of the three great French navigators, Bougainville, Surville and La Pérouse, and these studies have resulted in 10 major academic books.

The two-volume French Explorers in the Pacific is the foundation work. His editions of the journals of the three explorers appeared under the imprint of the Hakluyt Society in London, and he has also published a detailed biography of each.

A further achievement was locating and editing the journal of La Pérouse, which had been misfiled in the French National Archives. The *Fateful Voyage of the St Jean-Baptiste*, (1969) a study of Surville's journey across the Pacific in 1769-70, gained the Wattie Book of the Year award in 1970.

He has also produced a steady stream of books written for general readers, including the wide-ranging survey *Visions and Realities: France in the Pacific 1695-1995* (Heritage Press, 1997) and useful reference works, as well as some 50 scholarly papers and reviews.

His most recent publications are *Bougainville's journal* (2002), a biography of Bougainville, *Storms and Dreams* (2004), and a biography of La Pérouse, *Where Fate Beckons* (2006).

In 1980 he was a founder of the *New Zealand Journal of French Studies*. His dedication to French culture and language has earned him special recognition from the French government. He was made a Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur in 1976, and an Officier de l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques 1986.

His other interests and publications include drama, political writing (for example, a life of Norman Kirk), stories set in the Pacific for school children learning French, study manuals and political thrillers, under a pseudonym. He also served two terms on the University Council.

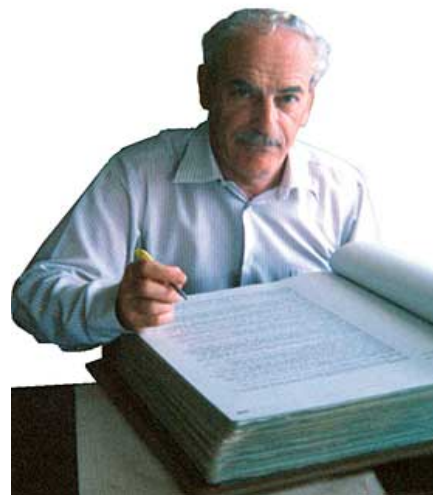
His retirement in 1984 he became an Emeritus Professor, and was awarded a Massey Medal in 1993. National recognition has included a 1990 New Zealand Medal, and in 2001 he was made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit.

Created: 3 April, 2008

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Graduation; Graduation (Palmerston North); Palmerston





Understanding Samoan overstayers

Talking to former Samoan overstayers about the impact on their lives of living through the dawn raids of the 1970s is at the heart of Tafa Mulitalo's doctoral thesis.

The Samoan-born lecturer in Social Work in the School of Social and Cultural Studies says there is scarce literature internationally that directly records the painful, traumatic memories and experiences of overstayers and illegal immigrants.

He hopes his work will help shed light on the realities of how overstayers survived within the Samoan community, so that policy makers today will have a better understanding of the implications of overstayer status when recommending law changes.

This lack of knowledge encouraged me to record the impact of overstaying on Samoans directly from their own perspectives, says Mr Mulitalo.

It's estimated there are currently between 3900 and 5500 Samoan overstayers in New Zealand, the highest number of overstayers of any nation, with the number of Tongan overstayers close behind.

While he is researching the experiences of Samoan overstayers across several decades from the 1970s to 2000 it is the recollections of those who were targeted during the infamous dawn raids that offer poignant material that he hopes will inform and shape future immigration policy.

He is also doing comparative study on other illegal migrant groups from Mexicans in the United States to Jews in war-time Germany.

Part of my reading to understand the culture of fear was to search for narratives from victims in other cultures, such as the experience of the Jews when they hid in cupboards, wardrobes, under the house, in the basement when the German police used dogs to hunt them down during the World War II.

The New Zealand police used the same tactics using dogs to track down overstayers in the 1970s, he says.

Although more commonly known today as a trendy South Auckland-based hip-hop entertainment and clothing brand, the 'dawn raids' of the 1970s were a different matter.

During the mid to late 1960s many Pacific Islanders came to New Zealand on three-month work visas for plentiful jobs in manufacturing and agriculture.

While the labour market was thriving regulations were not rigidly enforced.

When the economy declined in the early 1970s, a clamp-down on immigration resulted in many suspected Pacific Island overstayers especially Samoans and Tongans being targeted in their homes by police and immigration officials carrying out random Identity checks during the dawn raids.

Mr Mulitalo is also interested in finding out to what extent the role of families, kinship, and the church played in overstayers' lives.

It is important that these perspectives be built into an understanding of how Samoan communities and the

overstayers within them function so that immigration policy will be more empathetic in addressing the plight of overstayers, he says.

The idea is to listen to people's stories to find out whether the system, or the government institutions have contributed to the overstayer situation. We still need to address it, he says.

Pressure on the Government has mounted in recent years from Pacific Island lobby groups to repeal the Citizenship (Western Samoa) 1982 Act, which was rushed through Parliament after the Privy Council granted citizenship to all Samoans born between 1924 and 1948 (and their children) when Samoa was under New Zealand administration.

The Act blocked an estimated 100,000 Samoans from the right to seek New Zealand citizenship.

A 100,000-signature petition calling for the Act to be repealed was rejected in 2004.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: Pasifika



Life in the white for Antarctic researchers

It's easy to anthropomorphise the characteristics of the cuddly-looking Emperor penguin, says Antarctic researcher Dr John Cockrem.

He is referring to the one-liner wooing viewers to the Academy Award-winning documentary *March of the Penguins*: In the harshest place on earth, love finds a way.

The penguins are at this time of year returning to rookeries to start the breeding season which is as much about death as it is about life, says Dr Cockrem. The transfer of an egg from the feet and protective folds of fat from one parent to the feet and fat of another is a crucial moment, and the Antarctic ice is littered with the frozen eggs of failed transfers. Parents who have lost an egg will often fight another for their chick, which can be killed in the conflict.

With Dr Murray Potter and Paul Barrett from the Institute of Natural Resources, Dr Cockrem has spent several weeks in Antarctica each November for the past four years.

In a habitat to which more people are venturing, the researchers study the biology and behaviour of the species. Their results provide objective information for organisations such as Antarctica New Zealand, who shape guidelines for tourist operators and other visitors.

The team's most recent visit was to measure the responses of the penguins to various stressors, such as being followed and being held or caged for short periods of time. Stress can be measured by the amount of corticosterone in the blood, and the team also made the most of their close contact with the penguins to gather biological measurements of height and weight.

The penguins breed and raise their young on sea-ice that which forms not far from shore and eventually breaks off and is re-formed. Camp was set up 1km from the penguins' rookery on the same plain of comparatively thin sea-ice. At night, Dr Cockrem says they could hear the eerie calls of Weddell seals echo-locating as they swam beneath the sea-ice and beneath their tents.



Safely delivered to Cape Washington in a Twin Otter aircraft hired by an Italian research team for the season, the researchers could see penguins in the distance from their landing site. Within an hour, the specks on the horizon had made their way over to check out the campsite under construction. Dr Cockrem says a moat was quickly dug, to keep the inquisitive birds and their pungent guano back from the campsite and supply of ice for drinking water.

Emperor penguins spend much of their time standing side-by-side and preening, and continued to do so unperturbed by the researchers' campsite, says Dr Cockrem. Up close, the birds' plumage is incredibly dense with shades of yellow and pink.



Polar tents and gas stoves used by the researchers do not differ much from those used by early Antarctic explorers led by Robert Scott. Cape Washington can be seen in the background on a clear summer's day where temperatures reached a negative five degrees Celsius in the day and dropped a further 10 degrees at night.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Mary Mallon, 1957-2006

Massey colleagues and former colleagues at other New Zealand and British universities mourned the death of Professor Mary Mallon on Sunday 19 March. Until her illness, Professor Mallon had been Acting Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at the University.

Professor Mallon graduated with a PhD from Sheffield Hallam University. Her PhD covered permanent employment versus contract employment and portfolio careers and she contributed to a significant number of papers on this topic.

In 1998 she emigrated to New Zealand with her husband John Howells and took up a senior lectureship at the University of Otago. She joined Massey University as a full professor in the College of Business in 2002. Colleague Professor Kerr Inkson says her achievement in going from graduating PhD in 1998 to a full professorship a mere four years later was an astonishing one.

She was active in the European Group for Organization Studies, the Academy of Management, and the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management. Her funeral in Palmerston North was attended by colleagues and friends from universities throughout the country.

Created: 3 April, 2008

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Alumni; College of Business





From left: Associate Professor Trevor Kitson, Dr Juliana Mansvelt, and Dr Mark Brown. Pictured below is Dr Chris Scogings who was unavailable for the photo.

Teaching excellence recognised

Returning to work part-time after parental leave proved no barrier to geographer Dr Juliana Mansvelt's continued teaching or the recognition of her performance as one of the University's best.

Dr Mansvelt and Dr Mark Brown will represent the University in the national Tertiary Teaching Excellence awards after being selected as winners of the Massey Vice-Chancellor's awards.

Dr Mansvelt, a senior lecturer in geography, was absolutely thrilled at her selection as the award winner for sustained excellence in teaching.

She put her application forward about a month ago after taking parental leave in September to have her third child.

Educationalist Dr Brown, from the College of Education's School of Curriculum and Pedagogy, was awarded the Darrylin O'Dea Award for electronic learning.

Two other winners of the Vice-Chancellor's awards were Associate Professor Trevor Kitson, from the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, and Dr Chris Scogings, from the Institute of Information and Mathematical Sciences at Auckland, both for excellence in first-year teaching.

All four award winners receive \$10,000, which may be used for teaching-related research or training.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Judith Kinnear, says teaching at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels is one of the core activities of a university and complements its research training role.

The awards are one tangible way in which Massey's outstanding teachers are honoured annually and I am delighted to acknowledge the 2006 awardees, two of whom will go forward to the national teaching excellence awards.

Since their introduction, our local awards have developed from generic awards to more focused awards that now recognise teaching excellence in domains including sustained excellence, first-year teaching and creative use of IT in teaching.

Professor Janet Hoek, who chaired the selection committee, says committee members, who represent each of the University colleges, were very impressed by the applicants. We were thrilled to see such a commitment to research-informed teaching.

The committee said it was impressed with Dr Kitson's portfolio and story of chemistry. The portfolio provided clear evidence of sustained commitment to teaching excellence. The innovative activities you use to develop interest in chemistry and to sustain this within the classroom are a striking feature of your approach.

Your portfolio has a wonderful sense of enthusiasm and passion and clearly highlights your emphasis on high standards. Your extensive involvement with students and your approachability and accessibility were also



clearly evident, the committee said.

Dr Scogings was also praised for his commitment and enthusiasm for teaching students, particularly first-years. He uses a variety of techniques and his effectiveness is widely recognised by his colleagues.

We were particularly impressed by the way you addressed the diverse needs of your group, especially the large number of students for whom English is not the first language.

Dr Brown was praised for his innovative use of technology, high level of interaction with students and creative approach to assessment.

Your portfolio reflected your deep knowledge of the research literature underpinning teaching, and the links between your teaching and research were made explicit. We noted that you made strong efforts to discover or extract material to advance the relevance of key issues and criteria.

Dr Mansvelt's application was described as extremely impressive , containing wonderful student comments.

You are clearly a skilful, accessible, well-liked and highly respected teacher. The panel was also impressed with the evidence of the way you linked your publications to teaching, your very innovative resource materials, and your responsive assessment processes.

Gordon Suddaby, Director of the University's Training and Development Unit, says this year's award applicants and winners continued the high standards of previous years.

Massey has had considerable success in the national awards since their inception four years ago.

In 2002 Dr Tony Wright was a recipient, followed by Dr Terry Stewart in 2003 and Dr Richard Shaw in 2004. Last year Massey had two winners, Associate Professor Alex Davies and Dr Regina Scheyvens.

The national awards this year offer nine awards of \$20,000 each and the Prime Minister's Award of \$30,000

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business; College of Creative Arts; College of Education; College of Humanities & Social Sciences; College of Sciences; Teaching

Relay for Life raises cancer awareness and cash

Massey staff joined thousands of runners and walkers to raise money and cancer awareness at the Relay for Life events recently.

In Wellington 15 team members and their supporters took turns at walking and running laps around a circuit at Frank Kitts Park. At least one member of the team was on the track at all times over the 20 hours of the event.



Staff paid their own entry fees and raised more than \$100 each, with the University providing sponsorship of \$1000.

In Auckland 27 team members walked and ran a total of 1586 laps (634km) of the North Shore Millennium Institute track. The team raised \$4000 from donations and fundraising events.

This was a great event to be associated with, as most of us have been touched by cancer in some way during our lives, says Recreation Services Manager, Rod Grove. As a result people were extremely willing to assist us with raising money for research and helping fund the programmes of the Cancer Society.

The Palmerston North event took place at the College of Education athletics track. Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health team member Tim Wester says about 50 staff took part, raising money through a quilt raffle and collecting donations on campus.

The Relay for Life is an event designed to celebrate survivorship and raise money for research and programmes of the Cancer Society. Cancer is one of the major causes of death in New Zealand. One in three New Zealanders die of cancer. However research indicates that more than 50 per cent of cancers can be prevented.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Palmerston North



Supporting future dairy leaders

Scholarships worth \$4000 were presented to 24 students enrolled in agricultural Bachelor programmes by Dexcel Ltd.

A commercial trust owned by New Zealand dairy farmers, Dexcel Ltd offers 50 scholarships annually to undergraduate student at Massey and Lincoln Universities.

The scholarships aim to build capability in the dairy industry by supporting top students who are likely to become industry leaders.

This year's scholars are:

Year 1: Greg Buhler, Glenn Chambers, Paul Edwards, Emma Field and Charis Rigler.

Year 2: Rose Algie, Andrew Bouton, Chelsea Miller, Ross Neal, Sophie Stanley, Duncan Wait, Simeon Ward and Sam Werder.

Year 3: James Barbour, Andrew Beijeman, Kendall Hepple, Paul Hopkins, Ryan Luscombe, Leon Power and Louise Robinson.

Year 4: Anna Adlam, Ryan Higgs, Kirsty McLeod and Fiona Tijssen.

Information on the scholarship scheme can be found at: <http://www.dexcel.co.nz/main.cfm?id=151>

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences; Palmerston North; Scholarships

Playcentre benefits not just for kids

The benefits to communities from having play centres go well beyond the years in which children and their parents are involved, new research has found.

Play centres help adults reach their full potential both as parents and members of communities by increasing their skills and confidence, and awareness and understanding of other families from a range of cultural and socio-economic backgrounds.

Results of a two-year project carried out by a team of researchers from the College of Education were announced at Palmerston North's Park Road Playcentre recently.

Commissioned by the national Playcentre Federation, the project aimed to determine the extent to which adults who participate in play centres contribute to so-called social capital, or benefits to the community.

Play centres, unlike kindergartens and child care centres, rely almost entirely on parents to operate rather than paid teachers. Of the 519 play centres, 31 per cent do not use paid supervisors at all.

Project Director Dr Kimberley Powell says the findings were emphatic.

Playcentre has a personal impact on adults who participate and allows them to perpetuate resources in their local community by contributing their special talents and ideas, Dr Powell says.

It appears to shape their identities as parents, but it also gives them the opportunity to explore new experiences such as learning about play, participating in children's learning, and being an active contributor in an organisation that depends on collaboration and idea-sharing.

If we regard social capital as resources social, cultural and economic and that participation creates further networks and access to resources as parents and as adults, then play centres definitely do contribute.

The research involved four play centre case studies, two each in Manawatu and Otago.

Dr Powell says the challenges faced by play centres were also reported from participating adults from across the country. Many play centres are now teacher-led, with high demands placed on these teachers when compared to some of their colleagues in other early-childhood programmes.

There are issues about attracting more potential teachers to the qualification training courses and how to encourage teachers to take on the complex job of teacher, parent, counsellor, centre manager and play centre advocate.

Taking up the qualifications is even more important where centres are dependent on a parent collective to run programmes.

Dr Powell says that the real indication of social capital generation, through participating in play centres, is the fact that most adults who had participated for several years and who contributed to the study reported that their experience has had long-term effects.

They could see where Playcentre had assisted their skills as parents and as adults and have learned about other families and parents from a wide range of backgrounds.

An adult or parent's full potential may not even be realised at Playcentre, but well past the time when parents have left and their children are older. To potentially contribute to the life span development of a parent is therefore quite an achievement.

Other members of the research team were Professor Joy Cullen, Paul Adams and Philippa Butler from the College of Education, while the Otago case studies were done by staff from Otago University's Children's Issues Centre.

The executive summary of the report, The effect of adult Playcentre participation on the creation of social capital in local communities, can be read at:

http://masseynews.massey.ac.nz/2006/Massey_News/issue-05/stories/NZPF-Playcentre-report-2006.doc

Created: 31 March, 2006

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Education

College of Business prize recipients Auckland 2006

Department of Commerce.

ANZMAC 2001 Conference Committee Prize in Postgraduate Marketing: Lin Chen, Chenggang Zhang; First-Year Prize in Marketing: Kirstine Marie Dyet; Third Year Prize in Marketing: Nicola Joanna Jolly.

ACNielsen Prize in Marketing: Rubakaya Abrahams; Air New Zealand Prize in Economics: Philip Davies; ASB Bank Prize in Finance: Jinkun Tang; Association of NZ Advertisers Inc. Prize in Marketing: Dana Russell Lowe; Financial Services Institute of Australasia Prize in Finance: Nanda Kishora Purushothman; New Zealand Association of Credit Unions Prize in Finance: Xian Zhang; 3M New Zealand First Year Prize in Finance: Luke Angus; Association of NZ Advertisers Inc Postgraduate Marketing Research Grant: Tarryn Pamela Geach; McGraw-Hill Prize for Principles of Macroeconomics: Zhenquiang Zhong (Semester One), Weihua Ye (Semester Two); Pearson Education First Prize for Investment Analysis: Jingmin Jia, Jason Panji Bligh (Second Prize), Matthew Neil Williams (Third Prize); Pearson Education Prize for Analysis of Money, Banking and Financial Markets: Kim Geraldine Pienaar; Thomson Learning Prize for Managerial Finance: Kaw Chong (Semester One), Guohui Wu (Semester Two); Department of Commerce Postgraduate Research Award: Nanda Kishora Purushothman, Nicola Joanna Jolly, Tarryn Pamela Geach, Robert John de Jeu.

Department of Finance, Banking and Property.

Buildcorp Management Ltd Prize: Carol Leslie Guise; Auckland Property Investors Association Prize: Kathleen Joanna Brown; Real Estate Institute of New Zealand Prize: Ou Lu.

School of Accountancy.

Price Waterhouse Coopers Prize in Auditing: Natalie Ann Chrystall; Price Waterhouse Prize in Taxation: Natalie Ann Chrystall; Price Waterhouse Prize in Integrative Accounting: Craig Ian Getz; Deloitte Prize in Accounting: Marie Louise Stewart; Chartered Institute of Management Accountants Prize in Management Accounting: Natalie Ann Chrystall; Deloitte Scholarship for Most Outstanding Second-Year Student Majoring in Accountancy: Natalie Ann Chrystall; CCH Prize Law of Business Organisation: Natalie Ann Chrystall; New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants for Second Year Accountancy (110.209 Financial Accounting): Marie Louise Stewart; Fitzherbert Rowe Prize (155.210 Commercial Law): Anna Louise Cahill.

Department of Management and International Business.

Real Sports International Prize in the Sport Management Practicum: Anoushka Holly Dallow; Real Sports International Prize in Sports Facility and Event Management: Sarah Anne Macky; Strategic Sports Prize in Sport Business: James Might Coote.

Created: 31 March, 2006

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Auckland; College of Business

Record number of PhD graduates at Albany

A record 15 PhDs will be awarded during graduation ceremonies at the Auckland campus this year four more than last year.

Five of the PhD group are from the College of Business and between them, the 15 postgraduate students have completed a wide body of research in health, psychology, business, education and science.

The Albany ceremonies mark the beginning of the University's 2006 graduation season.

Mei Qiu - Doctor of Philosophy in Finance

This research shows that the direction of future exchange rate movement can be predicted by cumulative exchange rate deviation from Purchasing Power Parity. The results of the research enrich current knowledge of exchange rate dynamics and explain the frequent failure of current theory to predict short-run exchange rate movements.

Martie-Louise Verreyne - Doctor of Philosophy in Management

Dr Verreyne examined the strategy-making processes of SMEs in New Zealand and their impact on firm performance. She argued that contrary to common wisdom, strategy making does take place in SMEs, using a variety of processes. She also found that successful firms tend to stick to the processes that brought them success, often to their detriment.

Nithiyaluxmy Tharmaseelan - Doctor of Philosophy in Management

This study focused on Sri Lankan immigrants to New Zealand, their adjustment to a new culture and their career development in New Zealand. Two hundred and twenty one immigrants from Sri Lanka participated

Peggy Pik Yee Chiu Doctor of Philosophy in Management

Dr Chiu's thesis investigated the personal values of New Zealand small shareholders and their attitudes to the qualities of company directors and corporate responsibility. Her key finding was that a desire to make money was not the only concern among small shareholders when making investment decisions.

Rachel Lopes Morrison Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

Dr Morrison's research investigated the role of informal relationships in the workplace, in particular the role of friendships. Her research found that workplace friendships have a significant effect both on the financial bottom line and through improving experiences of work for employees.

Nicola Susan Jane Gaston Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry

Dr Gaston calculated the structures and properties of mercury clusters, ranging from the dimmer to the solid state. As a result of this thesis, experimental data was compared with theoretical predictions and interpreted to improve understanding of the complex interactions in mercury clusters.

Ian Reginald Roy Shinton Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry

Dr Shinton's work focused on the development of a plasma accelerator for application in a recently proposed Magnetised Target Fusion scheme. This scheme comprised an array of high velocity plasma accelerators which would be used to create a miniature sun for energy generation.

Stephen John Neville Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing

Dr Neville undertook a critical gerontological study to investigate delirium in older adults. His thesis demonstrates that older people with delirium need individualised health services and care with a holistic approach.

Rarawa Dudley Kohere Doctor of Philosophy in Māori Studies

This thesis is a study of Ngāti Ruawaipu decision-making protocols and pathways. Dr Kohere used a case study of the historical and contemporary challenges faced by Ngāti Ruawaipu to examine the significance of the intergenerational transmission of knowledge and the ways in which hapū and whānau issues of power can be resolved.

Yvonne Julie Carleton Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

Dr Carleton's thesis was an initiative within the New Zealand Police to introduce mentoring as part of a supported induction process. Her aim was to evaluate the use of mentoring as a psychological support for new police constables entering the organisation.

Jennifer Mary Collins Doctor of Philosophy in Education

Dr Collins examined the complex historical and political processes that helped to forge, shape and renew the Catholic Education mission in New Zealand during the years 1934 to 1964, a period of significant change in education. The research illuminates processes of educational leadership and policy making and the significance of cultural, religious and educational values in post-war New Zealand education.

Jean Annan Doctor of Philosophy in Education

Dr Annan's research addressed the need for an alternative conceptual framework for professional supervision in educational psychology. Results of this study showed that supervision was a complex practice that differed markedly from the traditional one-to-one notion of supervision.

Kevin Moran Doctor of Philosophy in Education

This research proposes a rethinking on drowning risk for New Zealand youth. Dr Moran investigated what young people know, think and do about their safety during aquatic recreation by conducting a comprehensive, nationwide survey of year 11 youth. He sought to add to knowledge about the underlying influences that shape drowning risk.

Chez Maree Leggat-Cook Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology

This research explored organisational identity. Dr Leggat-Cook conducted research with the Women's Resource Centre, a not-for-profit organisation originally established to provide feminist theology resources to women doing theological education.

Paul Anthony Pickering Doctor of Philosophy in Marketing

Dr Pickering investigated the internationalisation of small businesses, using a multi-case study approach. Ninety per cent of New Zealand businesses fall into the category of micro enterprise. Before this study was undertaken the category had not been recognised as an important participant in the foreign market.

**The graduation season begins this week with Auckland graduation ceremonies taking place 5 - 7 April.
Palmerston North graduation ceremonies will be held 8-12 May.
Wellington graduation ceremonies happen on 25 and 26 May.**

Created: 31 March, 2006

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: Auckland; Graduation; Graduation (Auckland)

Greater role for horticulture in the Third World

An increasing global interest in fruits and vegetables that are indigenous to developing countries is one aspect of a greater role for horticulture in the Third World, says the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Ian Warrington.

Professor Warrington spoke at the launch of the Global Horticultural Initiative in Montpellier, southern France.

He says the role of horticulture is vital to healthy communities, to increasing wealth creation and to improving employment in developing nations, as recognised by the initiative.

The initiative aims to make the most of advances in biological science and in information and communication technologies to facilitate a global network of horticultural development that will increase economic opportunities for developing countries.

Professor Warrington is the vice-president of the International Society for Horticultural Sciences.

He chaired the first session of the initiative's programme, with presentations by the Food and Agriculture Organisation, the United States' Agency for International Development and European development agencies, among other organisations.

More information about the initiative can be found at: <http://www.globalhort.org>

Created: 31 March, 2006

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: Horticulture

HIV warnings needed on Internet chat rooms

Health messages about reducing the risk of HIV infection are needed, particularly in Asian languages on Internet chat rooms, say researchers, whose data shows a relatively high proportion of Asian immigrants use cyberspace to find sexual partners.

The recommendation is among the conclusions from some of the data gathered during the Lavender Islands study a comprehensive survey of New Zealand's gay, lesbian and bisexual communities.

Launched in 2004, the survey is headed by Dr Mark Henrickson, a senior lecturer in social work at the Auckland campus. He describes the survey as the first strengths-based research of lesbian, gays and bisexual people in this country.

The focus is on creating a profile of those communities based on questions about health, economics, education, employment, leisure, politics, families, immigration status, relationships, identity and spirituality, rather than problem-focused issues of HIV/Aids, drugs and alcohol, and suicide, which have already been widely studied.

In a new paper entitled Reaching Out, Hooking Up Lavender Netlife in a New Zealand study, researchers examined to what extent gays and lesbians use the Internet to find sexual partners or relationships.

Dr Henrickson says just over 43 per cent of the 2251 respondents claimed to use the Internet to meet a remarkable number in his view.

And it was those who had the greatest number of partners who were most likely to have used the Internet to find a sexual partner or relationship.

More men than women used the Internet to find sexual partners, with more respondents under 40 years of age in both sexes hooking up via cyberspace.

Although Asian-born people made up only a small number of the total respondents, they were two or three times more likely than New Zealand-born respondents to have used the Internet to find sexual partners.

While the reason for this might be to do with unfamiliarity with real-life meeting places in their adopted country, it could also be the result of resistance to Westernised models of gay and lesbian sexual identity and behaviour, says Dr Henrickson.

His findings suggested a clear opportunity to present robust health risk reduction messages to both men and women , with messages in languages used by all relevant populations .

Most of those who responded to the survey of 133 lifestyle-oriented questions did so through a website.

Other findings revealed that 90 per cent of women in relationships said they were with that partner exclusively, compared with 56 per cent of men.

Dr Henrickson says the study was developed by an inter-disciplinary team of academics in close consultation with lesbian and gay communities.

At the launch, he described it as the most comprehensive study of this group done to date in New Zealand... We expect it to be of international significance . The work is ongoing, with further results and analysis expected during the year.

Created: 31 March, 2006

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Eight-word essays give students a book boost



Three students have won the eight-word essay competition.

The contest arose from a postgraduate communications assignment. Tell us, succinctly, why you took the course.

Eight words was the assignment's maximum length.

Joint winner Katherine Richards cited practical benefits: The challenge, and student prices at the movies.

Ailsa Mannell took the irresistible flattery approach: Great papers, great timetable, great location, great uni!

Amanda Kent clearly wants to walk the talk: To compete with my partner at dinner parties.

The trio each won a \$250 book voucher.

Ms Kent, a human resources consultant, says: My friends all seem to have postgraduate qualifications. At times I feel like I need one too just to keep up at dinner parties.

I knew communication studies would help me enormously with my work, she says.

We have clients across the spectrum and I've seen how many organisations are not communicating well.

I chose Massey because it had the papers that were of interest to me. I'll go on and do my Masters and see where that takes me.

Created: 3 April, 2008

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Book; College of Business



Robert Fisk, British journalist

Award-winning journalist challenges students

Journalism students had a rare opportunity last month to meet with the foreign correspondent who has won more international journalism awards than any other reporter.

Robert Fisk, the Middle East correspondent for Britain's Independent newspaper, gave 40 students insights into the craft they are learning.

Journalism lecturer James Hollings spent weeks negotiating the session, the only one of its kind that Mr Fisk conducted during his visit to New Zealand. He was here on a speaking tour to promote his new book, *The Great War for Civilisation: The Conquest of the Middle East*.

He berates the United States and Britain for moving into countries, such as Iraq, because he says they have no right to be there. He says it is vital for journalists to challenge the centres of power.

If we had asked the question 'why?' after September 11th then we wouldn't be in Iraq now, he says.

As well as being aware of the history of a country and its people, Mr Fisk is adamant that journalists need to record first hand the impact of war on the lives of ordinary people.

He described how he goes out on to the streets to report his story even though it endangers his life.

In a country where 62 journalists have died, he says he employs the mouse style of journalism, where he reports quickly and scurries away.

Twenty seconds of eye witness reporting, then 50 Iraqis pound on the roof of my car, so I jump in and drive away really quickly like a mouse, he says.

Mr Fisk has spent 30 years reporting on the history, the wars, and the people of the Middle East.

Why does he continue to do it?

It's like reading this great tragic book that you can't put down.

Head of the journalism school, Dr Grant Hannis says Robert Fisk is one of the top journalists in the world, and it was a great privilege to have him at the University.

While his views are controversial, no one would deny his conviction and sincerity. I think the students will remember Fisk's visit for the rest of their lives. I know I will.



Type: Research

Categories: College of Business; Conference/Seminar



PALMERSTON NORTH Green Party MP Nandor Tanczos and Dr Andy Shilton discuss student projects developed in the Centre for Environmental Technology and Engineering. As the party's spokesperson for Environment, Waste and Sustainable Land Management, Mr Tanczos visited the Centre to learn more about research under way to facilitate the production of resources, such as biodegradable plastics, from waste products such as dairy effluent.

Scholarship winners

Nineteen students from the Wairarapa have been awarded Sydney Campbell Scholarships this year.

The scholarships, worth \$1000 each, are awarded annually to students from the region who are studying degree or diploma programmes.

The Sydney Campbell Trust owns the Riverside Farm property near Masterton, which is leased by the University for farm research, particularly research seen as of specific benefit to the Wairarapa.

Recipients are: Sullivan Alsop (BAppIsc), Haydn Ashby (BAppIsc), Jessica Davies (BAppIsc), Hamish Dunn (BAppIsc), Jonathan Forrest (BAppIsc), Christopher Gribben (BAppIsc), Nicole Haworth (BAppIsc), Sarah McKenzie (BAppIsc), Amanda Owen-Manley (BAppIsc), Victoria Pederson (BAppIsc), Kiri Symonds (BAppIsc), Stuart Wyeth (BAppIsc), Anne Ashby (BVSc), Stephanie Atkinson (BVSc), Clementine Barton (BVSc), Tristram Bennett (BVSc), Christina Stewart (BVSc), Amy Smith (BSc/BBS), Andrew Ashby (BBS).

Information about available scholarships and awards can be viewed at: <http://awards.massey.ac.nz>

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences; Scholarships

Top aviation specialist briefs students

Students at the School of Aviation have had a briefing from the world's top aviation safety specialists.

Captain Haile Belai, who heads the International Civil Aviation Organisation's universal safety oversight programme, visited the campus on March 22 and spoke to students about his role and that of the programme, which he has headed since its inception seven years ago.



Captain Belai was responsible for its evolution to a comprehensive safety audit programme.

He joined the organisation in 1993 and prior to that was a captain with Ethiopian Airlines for about 20 years.

He is visiting New Zealand with a team from the organisation to conduct an audit of the Civil Aviation Authority.

The invitation to visit Massey came from School of Aviation general manager Captain Ashok Poduval, also a former airline pilot whose previous role was as Director of Flight Operations and Safety Services with the International Air Transport Association.

One of the school's papers includes study of the organisation and the association.

The organisation was established in 1944 by 52 nations with the aim of assuring the safe, orderly and economic development of international air transport.

The objective of its safety oversight audit programme is to enhance aviation safety by identifying shortcomings and resolving them.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Business; Explore - Aviation



University psychologist Dr Dave Clarke

Why problem gamblers won't seek help

Growing awareness of gambling addiction has sparked a call for help by the Ministry of Health. It wants to know why so few problem gamblers seek professional assistance.

University psychologist Dr Dave Clarke is part of a team contracted by the ministry to find out.

Dr Clarke is an investigator for a multidisciplinary team from several institutions that has been researching problem gambling. Now the team will help the Ministry identify the barriers to gamblers and their families seeking help.

As many as 30,000 people are estimated to have gambling problems. Up to a further 20,000 are considered pathological gamblers.

Research shows that these individuals spend a great deal more than others on gambling. Dr Clarke says while there is some international research on the subject of barriers to seeking help, the cultural context of New Zealand brings up unique issues that call for local research.

The study will look at the experiences of Māori, Pasifika, Asian and Pakeha/European cultural groups and of different genders.

Researchers have established that most people with gambling problems do not seek specialist help because they do not consider they have a problem.

Of those who do admit it, many are not ready to change. And of those who do want to change, most prefer to cope with their problems privately or through informal channels.

Dr Clarke says of those who do seek specialist or professional help, few are going to counsellors who specialise in working with problem gamblers. Instead, many approach social, mental health or addictions services.

Major factors relating to access to help may include availability, accessibility, organisation of services, affordability and acceptability, he says.

Created: 2 April, 2008

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Meeting nutrition needs of ageing population

Nutrition in older people is under the scrutiny of a team of researchers from the University's Institute of Food Nutrition and Human Health.

With the number of older people steadily increasing, there is recognition that little is understood about the factors that could lead to nutrition risk in the future.

The study is part of the Institute's wider project, entitled Foods for the Future Throughout the Lifecycle, and researchers have identified food and nutrition needs in the aged as a pressing issue. Working with Age Concern, they will recruit 80 to 85-year-olds living in North Shore for a pilot study.



It's estimated that in 20 years 20 per cent of the population will be 65 and over and the fastest-growing group is forecast to be those over the age of 85.

This shift to a much larger elderly population will bring new health and social issues, say researchers.

Foods for the Future team leader Dr Carol Wham says to assist with appropriate strategy development and service delivery, there is a real need now to understand what older people are eating and drinking and how health and social factors are related to nutrition risk.

There is little known about how older people procure, prepare or consume healthful food, says Dr Wham. This study aims to identify factors that may put them at nutritional risk.

There are nutrition requirements and risks to good nutrition that are specific to the older age group, she says.

Poor nutrition in older people increases their risk of loss of functional ability and therefore reduces their ability to carry out the activities of daily life and to maintain independence.

With ageing there is a physiological decline in food intake and the regulation of appetite is fundamentally different.

The researchers want about 60 people who are receiving some form of nutritional care at home, for their study. The pilot study will help determine the methodology to be applied for future research in this project.

Dr Wham says the findings will enable the development of more effective resources and policies for service groups.

Created: 2 April, 2008

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Westpac partnership for Asia Finance Conference

Westpac will be the major sponsor of the most prestigious finance conference held in New Zealand.

The Asia Finance Conference will be held at the Carlton Hotel in Auckland from 9-12 July this year. It will be hosted by the University and is being held in partnership with the influential Financial Management Association, the largest finance practitioner and academic group in the United States.

The conference also marks the annual meeting of the Asian Finance Association, which represents academic researchers with an interest in Asian finance.

The head of Westpac Institutional Bank New Zealand David Mclean, says Westpac's support of the conference, hosted by such a well-respected institution as Massey University, presents a natural and exciting synergy for the bank.

Westpac provides a range of financial services to New Zealand and Australian businesses operating in the corporate, institutional, government and semi-government markets. Business in the Asian region is becoming ever more important for our clients.

The organisers, Professor Lawrence Rose from the Department of Commerce and Associate Professor Martin Young from the Department of Finance, Banking and Property, have also announced a second international keynote speaker for the conference.

The organisers have already scored a coup by securing Nobel Prize winner William F. Sharpe as the first keynote speaker. Professor Sharpe was one of the architects of the model that financial markets now use to value shares and other financial assets.

The second keynote speaker will be Professor Mark Flannery, who teaches corporate finance and financial management of financial institutions in the graduate finance programme at the University of Florida.

Professor Flannery's research interests include government regulation of the financial sector and asset pricing. His current research focuses on the information content of security prices.

Yale and Princeton educated, he is also a visiting professor at a number of universities, including the London Business School.

Professor Rose and Dr Young have confirmed that academics and practitioners from 27 countries will contribute to the conference, in the form of research papers or speakers.

The conference content is tailored to match the interests of both researchers and practitioners. Dr Young says the first day will be of particular value to practitioners.

In the run up to the conference, the organisers say they have been greatly helped by the Institute of Finance Professionals New Zealand, the pre-eminent professional industry body for the financial and capital markets in New Zealand.

More information on the conference can be found at: <http://www.asianfa.com>



Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business; Conference/Seminar

Award for book that challenges the textbooks

A new book co-edited by Professor Roger Openshaw in the College of Education has been named by the American Education Research Association as one of four outstanding new books of the year on the school curriculum.

Struggles Over Difference curriculum, texts, and pedagogy in the Asia-Pacific is an international collaboration of essays that claims to disrupt popular myths about education in this part of the world.

Professor Openshaw says it contains examples of how a textbook writer's subjectivity can be used to shape the knowledge of others.

The holder of a personal chair in education history, he says he found it fascinating to research not just the information that went into a textbook, but also content that was left out.

For instance, In the earlier versions of *The Story of New Zealand*, Māori were portrayed as a war-like race.

Originally published during World War II, this was considered to demonstrate for the benefit of both allies and enemy states, that New Zealanders possessed superior military virtues, he says.

Later, the description was dropped, as the United Nations was established and the term 'war-like' was considered to be undesirable in peaceful times.

Professor Openshaw believes the book's strengths lie in the diversity of knowledge drawn from its many contributors from the Asia-Pacific region.

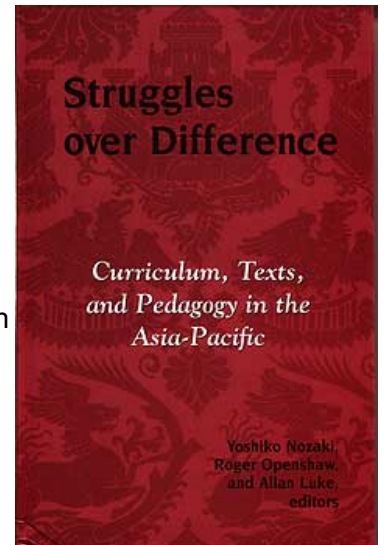
Many textbooks tended to present an 'ideal society' and in South Korea, for example, lower-class social problems, such as poverty and crime, were completely ignored in many school texts.

Professor Openshaw will travel to San Francisco this month to receive the award and join his co-editors, Yoshiko Nozaki from the University of Buffalo, New York, and Professor Allan Luke from Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, to speak at the association's 2006 Annual Meeting: Education Research in the Public Interest.

It is recognition of a work that Professor Openshaw is pleased to have been a part of.

Scholarship in the book was outstandingly high and the finished product provides some valuable insights into how the curriculum is shaped globally, he says.

Whether or not we take for granted what is read in textbooks can actually make a great deal of difference to our understanding of the world around us.



Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: Book; College of Education



Getting to know what's beneath your feet

A fast-moving beetle with an ultra-reflective shell makes for a tricky photographic subject, as does the semi-transparent body of a native slug.



Dr Masha Minor and Dr Alastair Robertson have for the past few years been finding and photographing soil invertebrates some formally described as known species, and others yet to be classified by taxonomists.

Their digital photographs illustrate beautifully the unknown (to most) world of the invertebrates, and can be viewed in the image gallery of a new website compiled by Dr Minor. Supported by the government-funded Terrestrial and Freshwater Biodiversity Information System Programme, the site - <http://soilbugs.massey.ac.nz/> - also features a comprehensive do-it-yourself identification key to New Zealand soil and leaf-litter invertebrates.

Dr Minor has adapted the key from those she has used for students of New Zealand fauna using a more general and descriptive vocabulary. The simple algorithmic chart takes its user through the characteristics enabling classification (Are there legs present? Are the antennae branched?) and provides clear black and white line drawings.

Dr Minor says identification charts and image galleries typically feature dead and pinned-out insects and invertebrates. She says the trouble with this is that a dead invertebrate is quite a different creature - in terms of colour, form and character - from a living one.



So when she and Dr Robertson collect their images they aim to photograph the animal where they find it, and to capture its particular habitat in the process. Some invertebrates, however, are shifted to a makeshift 'studio' set up with lighting and diffusers, not far from where they are found.

She says many of the species are undescribed, and the website is one way of registering their existence in a huge bio-diversity of soil and leaf-litter life. Many species have been identified by the photographs for the website.

The website features chapter-style sections of groups of invertebrates with information on each group's biological and behavioural characteristics. Readers are also pointed to an image gallery, other bibliographic resources, and readings on NZ fauna dating from the 19th century.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences



Women value workplace friendships

Women value workplace friendships far higher than men, new research indicates.

Men regard having good friends at work as a bonus, but for women it can influence whether they stay or leave.

Researcher Rachel Morrison looked at informal relationships both negative and positive for her postgraduate research at the University's School of Psychology.

Her study of friendships at work, in organisational psychology terms, found they impact on our overall happiness and performance. They also have the potential to affect the financial bottom line of the business.

To women, friendships at work are so significant that they have an influence on commitment to the job and intention to leave.

Dr Morrison conducted two studies of workplace friendships. The first in a large Auckland hospital. The second over the Internet.

Respondents were mainly from Western countries from a range of age groups and occupations.

She says friendships developed within the workplace represent a key element in the informal structure of an organisation, potentially either hindering or facilitating organisational effectiveness.

She found friendship issues played a bigger role with women at work. Those with no friends at work were more prepared to leave their job than men were.

For men, she found, friendships at work were regarded as a great added bonus but not a factor that influenced their commitment to that job.

Her study has been published in the New Zealand Journal of Psychology. She notes it is important that management acknowledges the importance of these relationships both to workers and to the organisation.

She was also investigating an existing workplace friendship scale but notes that further research needs to be done to give more understanding of workplace friendships.

Dr Morrison, one of 15 PhDs to graduate from the University's Albany campus this week, is now teaching organisational behaviour at the Auckland University of Technology business school.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Council Report - March 2006

In the Vice-Chancellor's report to the University Council meeting held on 3 March, Professor Judith Kinnear announced the appointment of a Director: Pasifika @ Massey. Professor Sitaleki Finau, a Professor of Public Health at the Fiji School of Medicine, will take up the position in June 2006.

Professor Finau has previously been on staff at the universities of Auckland and Otago and his original qualification is from the University of Queensland.

Professor Kinnear commented on the recent death of two aviation students in a mid-air collision and said while the loss of life had been felt across the university community, she was pleased with the way the unfortunate situation was handled by all those involved.

She also noted that the Civil Aviation Authority had stated already that it was satisfied the University had appropriate procedures in place.

Professor Kinnear highlighted the success the University has achieved in the E-Learning and Collaborative Development Fund round.

Two Massey projects have been funded, led by Dr Eva Heinrich from the Institute of Information Sciences and Technology and by Mark Nichols from the College of Education.

An external consultant from the University of Sydney has undertaken a review of E-Learning and Distance Education.

Areas considered by Dr Anne Forster, Director Innovation and Technology in Education Ventures included evaluating Massey's current position, identification of areas of strategic importance, strength and weakness, as well as strategies for engagement of academic staff in a university position on e-learning.

Professor Kinnear also highlighted to Council that four PhD students had been selected to receive Top Achiever Doctoral Scholarships an increase on the number received last year.

Professor Kinnear recommended to Council that three appointments be made to the Massey University Human Ethics Committee, being Dr John O'Neill (a reappointment) Cordelia Thomas and Virginia Warriner.

Professor Kinnear gave an update on recent international exchanges including a visit by a delegation from the University of Montana, Missoula as part of the sister-university relationship Massey has with them.

A senior delegation from China Agricultural University visited on 9 February and a formal articulation agreement was signed, while a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Tokyo was renewed during a visit on 7 and 8 February.

While this relationship focuses on the animal health area, members of the delegation were interested in possible linkages in engineering and these will be explored further, she said.

Created: 2 April, 2008

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: University Council

Examining the British novel

Literary critiques of the work of more than 20 major British novelists from 1980 comprise a recently published book of essays co-edited by Dr Sarah Ross.

From the School of English and Media Studies, Dr Ross worked with author and former Canterbury University lecturer Dr James Acheson to edit *The Contemporary British Novel*.

Dr Ross is also the author of a contributing essay on the literature of Pat Barker, titled *Regeneration, Redemption, Resurrection: Pat Barker and the Problem of Evil*.

She says the book of essays is ideal for students, teachers and researchers, as well as for general readers looking for supplementary information to accompany the often baffling novels of the recent past .

All essays are previously unpublished and examine the literature of popular authors such as Salman Rushdie, Zadie Smith, Irvine Welsh, Iain Banks, A.S.Byatt, and Jeanette Winterson.

The novelists are some of the most widely taught at educational institutions in Great Britain and elsewhere in the English-speaking world, as well as being some of the most widely read by members of the public interested in 'serious' contemporary fiction.

In their introduction the editors describe contemporary British literature: An increasingly complex contemporary world has given rise to increasingly complex contemporary novels that students in schools, colleges, polytechnics and universities around the world often find daunting.

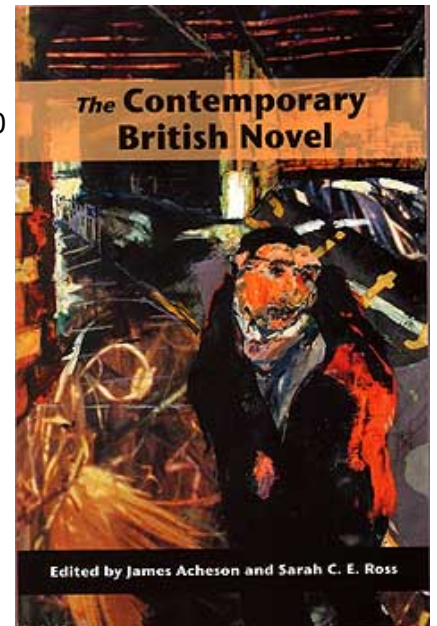
The novels themselves, as well as the reviewers, scholars and others who discuss them, frequently invoke views of the world, ideologies and theories that can baffle.

The book is published by the Edinburgh University Press, and details of its distribution can be found at www.eup.ed.ac.uk.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: Book; College of Humanities & Social Sciences



The adhesive bra look no back, no straps

Liberation comes in many forms, including a no back, no strap, self-adhesive reusable bra.

Called Abracadabra, the bra was designed and is being successfully marketed by businesswoman and Massey alumna Vivian Zhong.

Ms Zhong, who graduated with a Masters in Business Administration in 2002, developed the product after her own disappointment at not being able to wear low-cut, strapless or backless clothing.

She also wanted to free up women from the annoyance of straps and hooks. "I had many strapless or backless clothes that I hardly ever wore, she says. I was disappointed at the time at the lower quality backless bras that were not reusable. So, seeing a gap in the market place, I developed my own adhesive bras.

"I visited many trade shows in NZ and overseas and went to many fashion boutiques to see what was hot, that was also trendy. I felt there was a strong need for a reusable self-adhesive bra. I then visited textile suppliers, a number of manufacturers, I saw a local seamstress to discuss the best fabric to use and consulted with a bra specialist who lectured at Auckland University of Technology."

Ms Zhong learned how to make the bra to fit, to stay on and also provide support for women. She then started to get into the design and development of the product which has been lab-tested and approved for safe, skin-friendly usage.

She says there was a silicone bra in the market but she felt that the product could be improved by using lighter materials but still look discreet under clothing. She also subsequently designed her own silicone bra.

The Abracadabra bra was launched in March last year and has been snapped up by high-end department stores, including Farmers and Smith and Caughey.

The company will also launch silicone push-up pads and silicone nipple covers, and will feature the Abracadabra bra, at Auckland's Girls' Day Out this month,

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; College of Creative Arts



Maths, knots and molecules

Knot theory, the mathematical study of knots whose ends are joined to form a single twisted loop, is one of the fields for which Professor Vaughan Jones is famous.

This year's guest lecturer in the Sir Neil Waters Distinguished Lecture Series, Professor Jones will share insights into the research that has earned him the mathematics equivalent of the Nobel Prize.

New Zealand-born Professor Jones was awarded the Fields Medal in 1990 and is the only person from the Southern Hemisphere ever to have won the medal.

He is best known for his contributions to knot theory, which has maintained the fascination of mathematicians for centuries, with the central challenge to classify and distinguish between various knots.

Currently Professor of Mathematics of the University of California, Berkeley, Professor Jones gained international acclaim in 1984 when he discovered the Jones polynomials.

Polynomials are mathematical expressions that have more than two terms, and the Jones polynomials provide a list of numbers that help characterise a given knot.

His discovery is the best method to date for determining whether two complex knots that look very different are really the same, and has had major implications for molecular biologists analysing the twists and turns of DNA. The Jones polynomials have also been invaluable to physicists studying string theories of quantum mechanics, and to the intricate mathematics of statistical mechanics.

Professor Jones' most recent work focuses around operator algebras and their applications.

Algebras such as von Neumann algebras were developed to handle quantum mechanical factors such as energy, position and momentum.

Although based at the University of California, Professor Jones continues to engage with and stimulate the mathematical sciences community in New Zealand.

He is principal founder and the Director of the NZ Mathematics Research Institute and has been instrumental in attracting some of the world's best mathematicians to New Zealand.

Established in 2004, the Sir Neil Waters Distinguished Lecture Series recognises the role of former Vice-Chancellor Sir Neil Waters in developing the University's research profile.

The theme of the series rotates between the disciplines of chemistry, mathematics and physics.

Professor Jones, DCNZM DSc FRS FRSNZ, is the second to guest in the series, and was selected for both his research excellence and his ability to communicate science.

Sir Neil Waters Distinguished Lecture Series 2006:

27 March, public lecture: Auckland campus, 6pm, LT300

28 March, research lecture: Auckland campus, 4pm, venue TBC

29 March, research lecture: Palmerston North campus, 4pm, SSLB1

30 March, public lecture: Palmerston North Boys' High School Hall, 2pm.

For more information and to contact the event organiser, visit the Massey events website:

<http://events.massey.ac.nz>

Created: 17 March, 2006

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: Any

Project at the cutting edge of education

Education Minister, Steve Maharey has paid tribute to Project Activate a cutting edge project in which Massey's College of Education has played a leading role.

The project is exploring the opportunities for using interactive electronic whiteboards to support teaching and learning in New Zealand classrooms.

Albany-based Dr Ken Ryba has been working in partnership with 10 schools across New Zealand. Massey's role has been to provide professional development for teachers-as-researchers and to assist teachers in systematically studying the effects of their projects.

Project Activate is funded by the Ministry of Education and it is part of the Digital Opportunities Initiative set up by the Ministry.

Mr Maharey says that Massey University is well regarded both nationally and internationally for its innovative work in the ICT field.

Dr Ryba recently edited a special edition of the Journal Computers in New Zealand School for Project Activate.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Education



Young graduate now a PhD at 21

Massey alumnus Chan Yao-ban has become the youngest person to receive a PhD from the University of Melbourne.

Dr Yao-ban first graduated in 2001, aged 16, with a Bachelor of Information Sciences from Massey University. He studied extramurally, enrolling at age 10. After his family moved to Australia, he did his honours studies at the University of Melbourne.

He graduated again last week, now aged 21, with a PhD in Mathematics and Statistics from the University of Melbourne.

His PhD investigated the mathematics of DNA entanglement, including the properties of magnets and polymers. Among his supervisors was the Director of the University of Melbourne's ARC Centre of Excellence for Mathematics and Statistics of Complex Systems, Professor Tony Guttman.

Professor Guttman describes Dr Yao-ban as an extremely talented and modest student. He took on some very tough problems and made significant inroads in solving them. In particular his work on the time it takes for unravelling knots in DNA has come up with new results.

At Massey, he is remembered by former lecturers and others who took an interest in one of the University's youngest and brightest students.

Professor Mike Hendy, from the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution, says We have had quite a raft of these very young students, mostly Asian living in New Zealand, who enrol in our papers extramurally from secondary school and in some cases even primary school, to give themselves extra challenges. At least five have gone on to PhD level.

Professor Hendy is unsure whether Dr Yao-ban is the youngest Massey alumnus to go on to graduate with a PhD. He notes that another former Massey student, Shona Yu, now 19-years-old, is set to graduate soon from the University of Sydney.

Ms Yu's father, Dr Pak-Lam Yu, confirms that she will submit her PhD thesis this year at the University of Sydney. She graduated from Massey with a Bachelor of Sciences in 2001 and at age 14 was described at the time as New Zealand's youngest university graduate.

She started full-time study at Massey in the Institute of Fundamental Sciences at the age of 11 and went on to do honours at the University.

Her father is a lecturer in the Institute of Technology and Engineering.

Dr Yao-ban, meanwhile, is staying on at the University of Melbourne as a postdoctoral fellow on a joint project with the Australian National University to develop a statistical method to identify protein anomalies in the brain, with a view to diagnosing schizophrenia and bipolar disorder.

He says although his education was unique, he does not consider himself unusual.

I love doing maths because it is fun. When you do maths you always know when you are correct, he says.

Created: 17 March, 2006

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: College of Sciences

Putting equestrian excellence to the test

Students will compete with the country's top equestrians at the New Zealand Young Rider Championships in the Manawatu on 25 and 26 March.

The premier two-day event at Pukemarama is sponsored by the University's equine studies programme, and is an essential competition for young riders training for the upcoming FEI World Cup Championships.

Dr Chris Rogers, a research officer in the equine programme, says the University's sponsorship is part of its commitment to the development of future international riders. Massey alumni currently competing at an international level include Olympian Heelan Tompkins and Olympic gold medallist Andrew Scott.



Current students Todd Gloyn, Hannah Gloyn and Sam Taylor compete internationally and Mr Taylor won the Pukemarama championships last year.

A guest lecturer in the equine studies programme, Mr Scott maintains a strong connection to the University, and has again designed a challenging cross-country course for the Pukemarama event. Also an alumnus, Phillip Smith will build the five levels of jumps on the course. Massey veterinary students will assist on the day, and Professor Elwyn Firth will present the prizes after the show-jumping round on 26 March.

Dr Rogers says there is now a critical mass of top riders established in the international circuit who can mentor and advise the University's young equestrians.

This expertise and community has been built up through graduates, who knew that if they wanted to succeed internationally and to make a career out of their riding, would have to have the right skills, Dr Rogers says.

Shrewd business decisions have to be made when buying, training and selling horses, and the development of coaches and managers is as important in the industry as the development of riders.

Staff in the equine studies programme currently work with the New Zealand Equestrian Federation on the young rider development programme and the Equine major in the Bachelor of Applied Sciences is structured to encourage strong industry links.

Opened in 2003, the University's Equine Centre provides an Olympic-sized arena and grazing facilities, enabling students to combine their academic and sporting pursuits. The close proximity of facilities means students can keep themselves and their horses fit throughout the year.

Seven student riders have been awarded Prime Minister scholarships for elite athletes this year. They are: Marcus Wild, Mark Hamilton, Hannah Gloyn, Natalie Page, Sam Taylor, Sophie Wigley and Lisa Coupe.

Created: 2 April, 2008

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Palmerston North

How do young adults choose food?

Cost and availability are the most important barriers to university students eating the right amount of fruit and vegetables, according to new research.

Health education researcher Hilde Hartman (pictured) studied how university students make choices about fruit and vegetables. She says the eating behaviours of young adults are determined by an interaction of various factors.

The purpose of my study was to analyse the psychosocial determinants that influence food choices among university students, she says. Fruit and vegetables are an important component of a healthy diet and could help prevent several diseases, if consumed daily in sufficient amounts.

However, most people are not meeting the recommended intake of at least five servings of 80 grams of vegetables and fruit. A low consumption of fruit and vegetables among young adults is reported in comparison with older adults. An adequate intake of fruit and vegetables at this age is likely to have maximum preventive potential of developing diseases at a later stage of life.

Ms Hartman undertook a research internship with Suzi Penny and Wilma Tielemans at the University's Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health last year. She has now returned to Maastricht University in the Netherlands.

In her qualitative study, Ms Hartman ran focus groups to discuss topics regarding food choices.

I used a range of categories for analysing the results, including attitude, social influence, self-efficacy, intention, barriers, abilities, awareness of the risk behaviour, habit, and promotion of fruit and vegetables among young adults, she says.

I found that convenience, lack of time, shared cooking with flatmates preparation time of vegetables, and lack of cooking skills were important factors in limiting fruit and vegetable intake.

Participants said they intended to eat more fruit and vegetables once they had a permanent job. The most important reason was that they would be able to spend more on fruit and vegetables, which they could not afford now.

The results of the study give us more insight into motivations, attitudes and barriers that determine food choices for people aged 18-24. The results are useful for tailoring health education messages aimed at young adults.

Promotional strategies recommended include:

- Holding cook and taste sessions where quick, easy and cheap recipes are provided.
- Providing more nutritional information about fruit and vegetables.
- Making students more aware of places where cheap fruit and vegetables are available.
- Ensuring appealing and reasonably priced choices in campus food outlets.

Created: 2 April, 2008

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences



Hydro-electricity and eco-efficiency

For thousands of years running water has been used to drive machinery, and today, almost 20 per cent of the world's electricity is provided by hydro-electric power stations.

A Fulbright scholar in the Institute of Natural Resources, Anne Jakle will study New Zealand's hydro-electric stations. Her research will contribute to an international reassessment, in terms of eco-efficiency, of a mature technology that has provided power to New Zealand since the 1930s.

Under the supervision of Professor Ralph Sims, Dr John Holland and Dr Nigel Jollands, Ms Jakle will study stations built on some of the country's most scenic rivers and lakes.

She will examine the larger impact of the dams and stations, taking into account factors such as the ecology of the area, the recreational uses of rivers and lakes, the effects on nearby farms, and the potential impact that climate change will have on the future of these projects.

Ms Jakle's master's thesis follows an undergraduate degree in environmental science from Dartmouth University, New Hampshire, United States. Her interest in New Zealand's hydro-electric stations was triggered as an employee of Rocky Mountain Institute in Colorado, an organisation that fosters the efficient and restorative use of resources.

It was at the Rocky Mountain Institute where she met Professor Sims, a member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and a leading researcher of renewable energy systems. Professor Sims says the question of the efficiency of hydro-electricity gained international attention at the 2002 World Summit of Sustainable Development in Johannesburg.

He says the enormity of the Three Gorges Dam under construction in China attracted international media coverage, and highlighted some of the issues of hydro-electricity.

Built to help meet the developing country's increased need for electricity, the dam has displaced 1.2 million people and drastically altered the ecology of the Yangtze River.

Ms Jakle says the Project Aqua proposal by Meridian Energy to further develop 540 MW of power on the braided Waitaki River in the South Island was to be the largest hydro project built in New Zealand in more than 30 years.

It was stopped in its tracks after public opposition to the plan to develop the watershed by putting in a run-of-river scheme that would divert water through channels and turbines and then put it back in the river.

Ms Jakle says Project Aqua had used sustainable practices such as the use of biodiesel in the construction of canals in an effort to reduce its ecological footprint.

Because large hydro projects are up for questioning, companies and groups need to know more about the impact and cost-effectiveness of construction. They are keen to incorporate best-practice guidelines into plans, and to meet the ethical expectations of investors, Ms Jakle says.

She will meet with employees of Meridian Energy later this year, and Hydro Tasmania in Australia has also invited her to discuss sustainability and best-practice.

The benefits of hydro-electricity include:

- Minimisation of carbon dioxide and airborne pollutants, which helps mitigate the impacts of global warming and acid rain.
- It is more reliable than wind or solar power and also has been developed on a large scale with proven, readily-accessible technologies worldwide.
- Water can be stored above the dam ready to cope with fluctuations and peaks in demand.
- Side benefits for irrigation and flood control from dams.

The disadvantages of hydro-electricity include:



- Construction costs and time to build large-scale projects usually run over predictions.
- Building a large dam will flood a large area upstream, altering the ecology of the area and often flooding some of the best farmland or sites of cultural importance.
- Finding a suitable site can be difficult the impact on residents who need to be resettled and the environment may be unacceptable.
- Water quality and quantity downstream can be affected, impacting upon the ecology.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences



Nithya Tharmaseelan, eldest daughter Sweta, Seelan Tharmaseelan and triplets Surabhi, Swathi, and Surithi will celebrate graduation at the Auckland campus next month.

A doctorate, master's degree and family

The Tharmaseelan family have juggled an extraordinary load since they migrated just the two of them from Sri Lanka five years ago.

The hard-working couple can expect a big cheer when they take their places at the Auckland campus graduation in the first week of April.

At graduation Nithya gets her PhD from the College of Business. Her husband, Seelan, graduates with his Master of Management.

What is likely to be the busiest saga in their lives, began when the couple decided to come to New Zealand in search of educational opportunity but for themselves and a family they were then yet to have. In Sri Lanka Mrs Tharmaseelan was a senior lecturer in business administration at the University of Jaffna. Mr Tharmaseelan was a science graduate working in the promotion and development of industry.

We came here for opportunity but we never expected to have triplets, says Mrs Tharmaseelan. She says the support of the staff in the Department of Management and International Business and a scholarship have been invaluable. Her thesis title was: Careers in Cross-Cultural Context: A Study of Sri Lankan Immigrants in New Zealand.

Mrs Tharmaseelan started on her PhD three months after she arrived in New Zealand. Soon after, she became pregnant with Sweta, now three-and-a-half years old and a regular attendee at the Early Childhood Centre. Just one month after the triplets were born last June, she had her oral examination.

The graduation season begins with the Auckland Graduation ceremonies, 5-7 April.

Created: 1 April, 2008

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: College of Business; Graduation; Graduation (Auckland)



School of Journalism staff on the steps of the Museum Building in Wellington.

Oldest journalism school turns 40

New Zealand's oldest school of journalism turns 40 this year and to celebrate, the University is planning a dinner and celebrity debate at the Wellington campus on Sunday 4 June, Queen's Birthday weekend.

Lecturer Alan Samson says the event is shaping up as the largest ever get-together of New Zealand journalists and one of the year's key media events.

Over the past 40 years, the school has built up an impressive network of alumni and former staff members. We already have several hundred enrolments, just on word of mouth.

The School's alumni list includes many of New Zealand's most respected working journalists and media managers as well as up-and-coming stars, he says.

Former students include broadcasters Judy Bailey, Kevin Milne and Kerre Woodham, senior journalism executives Don Churchill and Rick Neville, radio reporter Sean Plunket, television reporter Melanie Reid, investigative reporter Ian Wishart and comedienne Michelle A'Court.

They also include New York Times copy editor Alison McCulloch, part of a Denver Post team awarded a Pulitzer prize for its coverage of the Columbine massacre.

An impressive array of lecturers over the years includes Noel Harrison, effectively the School's founder, journalist and publisher Christine Cole-Catley, historian the late Michael King, and a younger brigade who have returned to the school from the industry, from Alistair Campbell to David Venables.

The School of Journalism opened in 1966 as part of the former Wellington Polytechnic. It became part of the University, after the merger of the two institutions in 1999.

Mr Samson says the reunion will be an unparalleled opportunity for alumni from both institutions to renew contact with former fellow students and colleagues.

It's also a wonderful opportunity to debate important issues affecting the media in 2006 such as privacy and freedom of speech. He says these and other key topics will be aired in the debate featuring media experts and others with a keen interest in these areas.

Alumni and former staff members can visit the reunion web page at <http://j40.massey.ac.nz> which will include links to a gallery of memories, and a forum for debate.

Date: 20/04/2006

Type: University News





Songlines

Editor Malcolm Wood visits Tiritiri Matangi Island

I hate boats, I love boats, mouths Associate Professor Dianne Brunton as she clings to a metal pillar on the pitching upper deck, spray raining around her and the ship's bell ringing of its own accord whenever there is a particularly violent lurch.

Behind us the suburbia of Auckland falls away; ahead rises the green profile of Tiritiri Matangi Island. The 4-km Tiri Channel crossing is feeling longer; today the northeasterly is making the seas particularly rough.

I feel for her. I too am beginning to feel queasy, and Dianne, not a natural sailor, carries another disadvantage a late night hosting a meal for her postgraduate students and then working on the same funding application she will return to tonight.

So we are grateful to come into the lee of the island where, on the narrow jetty, a guard of honour awaits the ferry's arrival. At its head are longtime caretakers Ray and Barbara Walter, followed by other Department of Conservation staff. Then the representatives of Supporters of Tiritiri Matangi, whose volunteers act as guides. Then the tractor and trailer that will take baggage up the hill to the visitors centre. And, at the last, Greg, resplendent in his green-blue plumage, and shiftily on the lookout for a handout. For the ferry's passengers sensibly clad and -shod types carrying day packs, cameras and trekking poles Greg the takahe is the first representative of the wildlife they have come to see.

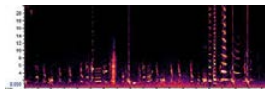


Tiritiri Matangi Island is unrivalled as a place to get close to a number of the must-sees of New Zealand birdlife in the wild, the ones every bird spotter wants to add to a life list: the stitchbird or hihi, the black-and-chestnutplumaged saddleback or tieke, and the kokako with its blue wattles and haunting song.

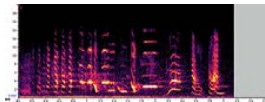
Tiri's birds have little fear of people and obligingly appear at water troughs and sugarwater feeders before a battery of cameras wielded by birding's paparazzi. We, on the other hand Dianne, Royal Society Fellow Barbara Evans, master's student Taneal Cope and I are here to meet a commoner, a bird many visitors won't give so much as a second glance: Anthornis melanura, the New Zealand bellbird or korimako.

 Listen to bellbird song

[Male bellbird MP3](#)



[Female Bellbird MP3](#)



When botanist Joseph Banks marvelled at the sound of the dawn chorus in Queen Charlotte Sound in 1770, the principal vocalist was almost certainly the bellbird. Today, for many New Zealanders the call of bellbirds remains the essence of the soundtrack of the bush.

We are fortunate the bird has lasted the distance. In 1873 ornithologist Walter Buller prophesied the bird's extinction, and with good grounds. In the wake of European settlement with land clearance, the arrival of predators like rats, weasels, stoats and cats, and possibly as the consequence of new diseases the number of bellbirds had fallen steeply, particularly in the North Island (South Island numbers began falling from around 1900.) By the end of the nineteenth century the species had vanished entirely from parts of the North Island.

In regions such as Northland it has yet to return. For its part, while Tiri managed to escape the predator invasion (though kiore or Polynesian rat were present until eliminated in 1993), it was temptingly fertile land. By the time of Buller's prophecy the island had been farmed for decades, and by the 1940s just 6 percent of the island's land area persisted in bush. In 1969 the Ornithological Society found just 24 bellbirds there. Today on the reforested island there are more than 1500.

A little way up the track at a feeding station tucked into the bush we meet our first: a half dozen small, drab birds emitting peep, peep, calls. Juveniles, says Dianne, probably from the last brood of the breeding season; the peeps are a 'feed me' cry.

The peeps are unmistakable, but it is fast becoming apparent to me how lacking my powers of discrimination are. My companions are constantly identifying birds through the foliage while I catch occasional flashes of plumage and little more. Where I hear a hubbub of birdsong and struggle to remember which call belongs to which species, Dianne is picking out the voices of individual birds the way you might focus on a single conversation at a noisy party.

Beyond identifying the birds by ear, she is also managing the Doctor Dolittle feat of interpreting the content of the calls. In the case of the bellbirds she can say whether it is male or female, a get-off-my land call, an assertion of status, or a be-my-mate come-hither.

In the case of the Tiri saddlebacks she can even pick out the differences in dialect that announce which end of the island the bird hails from.

Not all birds are songbirds and not all song bird vocalisations count as singing.

The parakeets chattering in Tiri's tree tops do not count as songbirds, nor do the little blue penguins nesting on the water's edge with their nightly Hammer-Horror cries. No romantic poet has ever penned a much-loved ode to a duck.

The songbirds, phylogenetically speaking, are members of the Oscine suborder of the order Passeriformes. They include to name some obvious suspects the nightingale, starling, thrush and mockingbird of the old world, and the tui, kokako and bellbird, and lyrebird of the new.

In fact, among the world's 30 orders of bird the Passeriformes (small land-based birds with feet adapted for perching) are by far the most diverse, making up around 5500 of the world's 9000-plus bird species, and all bar around 1000 of these belong to the Oscine suborder.



So what is it that defines birdsong? The peep, peep of the adolescent bellbirds is not birdsong: it is a 'cry', an unvarying genetically encoded vocalisation which will elicit a genetically-encoded response. Birdsongs, by contrast, are as much learned as they are innate.

While in the nest these bellbird adolescents have been busily memorising the sounds of their own kind and shortly they will begin tuning up, testing the possibilities, and rehearsing and self-correcting like any student musician. Their instrument is an extraordinary organ called the syrinx, which has two chambers where the human larynx has only one, effectively allowing songbirds to duet with themselves. You'll hear them going doodle-oodle, just practising away, says Dianne.

Whales, dolphins, humans and songbirds are the only creatures known to pass on learned vocalisations.

As a child growing up in urban Henderson in Auckland's Waitakere District, Dianne Brunton had no great interest in birds. But for the future field researcher there was a creek to play in at the back of the family house and she acquired an interest in animals early on: I wanted to be a vet and I had a pet everything turtles, skinks, cats, dogs, sparrows and goodness knows what else.

Birds weren't her first choice of topic either for her MSc at the University of Auckland: she would have liked to work with freshwater invertebrates. Only when the funding failed to come through did Dianne turn to birds as a default, and her thesis topic became the calls of southern black-backed gulls.

For her proposed PhD thesis at the University of Michigan, Dianne again turned to invertebrates, proposing to study the social behaviour of semi-social wasps. The University of Michigan, where Dianne would study, had a colony of semi-social wasps that had been studied for decades and had become something of an institution. Then they had the coldest winter in 50 years. The whole colony died.

Again her fall-back was avian the killdeer plover (the name of which approximates the call) and this time Dianne found she was hooked. After her PhD she went on to a twoyear postdoctoral fellowship at Yale University, teaching ornithology and

The Ecology and Conservation Group

Associate Professor Dianne Brunton joined Massey University and set up the Auckland based Ecology and Conservation Group in December 2004, spending her first months working out of temporary accommodation while a laboratory was built to her specifications. The group shares accommodation with Dr Mark Oram's marine research group and the Sir Peter Blake Trust.

Currently the group includes Dr Weihong Ji (Research Officer), Ms Marleen Baling (technical support), Dr Rosemary Barraclough and Dr Nathalie Patenaude (postdoctoral fellows), and postgraduate students from New Zealand, Mexico, Malaysia, South Africa and Germany.

Among the birds that are the subject of postgraduate theses in progress are bellbirds, kiwi, kakariki, saddlebacks, penguins, tomtits, brown quail, and grey warblers and their parasites the shining cuckoos.

Among the non-avian wildlife are geckos, invertebrates, and avian blood parasites. Students are also working on conservation policy.

So successful has the group been in attracting postgraduate students that further laboratory space has had to be sought.

Whenever she can, Brunton tries to bring the group together socially and in the field. Most recently the group set out to capture, band and blood-sample paradise ducks arguably the most successful and least studied of New Zealand's endemic birds at Tawharanui Regional Park.

occupying the office in the Peabody Museum of the recently retired and world-renowned ornithologist and molecular biologist Charles Sibley.

But it wasn't birds that gave her break. Michigan had also given her a good grounding as a biostatistician, and in 1991 that was what she returned as to the University of Auckland.

We begin to make our way up to the path towards the crest of the island, heading, according to Taneal Cope, towards the municipality of Upper Wireweed. Now in the second year of her masterate, Taneal, a lively woman in her early twenties, spent part of 2005 tracking the movement of bellbirds to identify nest sites, and she has designated districts for the researchers' convenience.

Upper Wireweed (there is also a downmarket Lower Wireweed) turns out to be a sunny plot of thick grass and low trees. Stopping at one isolated tree, Taneal delves into the thick foliage to reveal a bellbird nest, a haphazard mass of twigs deserted now the breeding season is done.

Over the past year Taneal has bonded completely with her topic of study. I always make a pitch for them, she says. Bellbirds are one of the most important pollinators in the bush, she says. They are also very loyal to their chicks. In one instance where a nest had fallen from a tree, the parents continued to come to feed the chicks on the ground.

And they are feisty. An attempt at monitoring the activity in the nest foundered when the female took an aversion to the camera and vandalised it. The last shot on record is a full-face view of an angry female through a cockeyed lens.

Banding the chicks always felt like an intrusion, Taneal says. The female lets loose with an alarm call or mimes having a broken wing to lure you away, the chicks freeze, and the male looks on going 'bop, bop, bop'. It gets to you; just the way it's meant to, she says, taking on the movements of an agitated bellbird as she speaks.

Knowing where the nests were and having the birds banded was a precondition to investigating how female bellbirds employ song. In most temperate northern hemisphere birds it is the male that sings. (In fact the one way to reliably induce the female to sing is to dose her with testosterone.) But in the southern hemisphere and the tropics there are many species where both males and females sing. The bellbird is one.

The questions surrounding female bellbird song are one of Dianne's many interests. Certain things she knows already: that the females sing shorter, simpler songs than the males, that they sing discrete songs rather than continuously, and that during the breeding season they sing more than the males.

But why do they sing? Does female song serve to ward off other birds from territory, with its food, space and nest sites; to communicate with the male; or



From top: forest gecko; little blue penguin; banding paradise shelducks.

to hold family together? Or might it be about keeping other females from gaining access to her mate?

The way to find out was to gauge the females' reaction to female bellbird song, venturing first to the edge and then inside the bounds of a bellbird's territory and, at each stopping place, playing back variously the female bellbird's own call, her female neighbour's and a female stranger's.

Dianne, Barbara, Taneal and Weihong Ji (a research officer) worked as a team, one of them playing back the recordings while the others observed, noting the bird bands and the female's behaviour did she hop, fly, sing or do nothing at all. Then the team would hasten to some other non-adjointing territory.

You want to maximise the time between playbacks at neighbouring territories, explains Dianne. You don't want them all wound up in response to what you played before.

Why bellbirds matter

It is an environmental snuff movie. In a grainy matchbox-sized video on Alastair Robertson's computer screen, a stoat takes the chicks from a bellbird nest with economical efficiency, returning to the nest repeatedly over the course of ten minutes to take the chicks one by one.

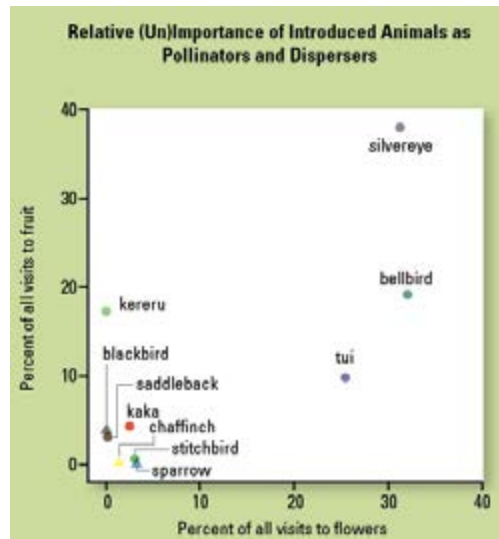
We had expected most of the predation to happen at night, says Robertson, a senior lecturer in ecology with Massey's Institute of Natural Resources, but most of what we saw happened during the day.

The birds, he says, are easy meat. The chick's clamour of 'feed me' calls, which continues after the parents have left to forage, alerts the passing stoat. The stoat takes what is offered and carries on the hunt.

How great an impact is the presence of introduced predators having on New Zealand's bellbird population? Between late 1999 and early 2001 Robertson and researchers from the University of Canterbury took a 400-hectare plot of beech forest in the Craigieburn Conservation Area and embarked on a trapping programme, catching 33 stoats in two successive breeding seasons. The difference was dramatic: the number of bellbirds present increased by 80 percent.

A similar catchment left untouched showed no change in bellbird numbers; all four of the nests under video surveillance there were raided by stoats. In the trapped catchment bellbird nests were four times more likely to succeed.

The absence - or near absence - of bellbirds has larger consequences. A number of New Zealand's native plants are highly reliant on native birds for pollination (red mistletoe and climbing



Overall mean contribution by different bird species to flower visits and fruit visits on native plants throughout New Zealand. Introduced birds are marked with triangles, native birds with circles. Kereru are marked as doing zero pollination, but actually have a negative effect on pollination by eating flowers. Courtesy of Dave Kelly, University of Canterbury



fuchsia) or seed dispersal (nikau, kotukutuku and karo). Introduced birds, though much more widespread, seem to be no substitute.

Understandably, much of New Zealand's conservation effort has gone into birds that are endangered or threatened birds 'on the brink'. Birds that, like the bellbird, have remained relatively widespread have commanded less attention. Yet their populations are a fraction of what they might be without predation on the Poor Knights Islands there are 71 bellbirds per hectare, or 54 times the average mainland density and their decline is affecting the health of our forests, says Robertson.

Can something be done? The good news is that it can. Rats can be poisoned, ferrets and stoats can be caught using fenn traps, and this is happening in a number of private and public ventures around New Zealand.



A male bellbird on a stem of flowering flax sports a cap of pollen. Photo by Peter Reese

The results? The female, they found, responded strongly to her own call, very strongly to her neighbour's call, and hardly at all to the call of a stranger. Earlier work had shown that females hardly respond to male calls at all.

Until now, bellbirds have been thought to be monogamous (most birds are at least socially). But on the evidence of her bird-call studies Dianne is willing to hazard that while the species is socially monogamous, when it comes to its mating habits there is an amount of polygyny: some males are mating with more than one female.

She suspects that the female's defence of her territory against incursions by other females is her way of keeping rivals away from her mate, making sure that his parental efforts are devoted to her own chicks.

Of course there is a corollary to the polygyny hypothesis. Sometimes the

female's defence of her male must slip up, so some males must have sired chicks by a number of females. This extra-pair paternity will be one of the things Taneal will test for over the next year when she arranges DNA tests of the blood samples from the parents and chicks, tests that should also help identify just where the bellbird fits phylogenetically within the Australasian honeyeater family.

Associate Professor Dianne Brunton at the Cornell Ornithology Lab's workshop carrying a shotgun microphone. The locals favour parabolic microphones which enable them capture birdsongs at a greater distance. Many of the birds of the Sierra Nevada keep to the treetops or are highly wary. Dianne first visited Tiri in 1991, shortly after beginning work as a biostatistician, spirited there by a colleague John Craig (along with Neil Mitchell, he first put forward the idea of an open sanctuary), who offered her an impromptu helicopter ride. Her visit came midway through the decade of planting that re-established Tiri's bush cover, and many of the birds and animals Tiri is known for had yet to be reintroduced.

The kakariki, the first of the reintroductions, had arrived in 1974, and at the time of Dianne's first visit the first two takahe, Mr Blue and Stormy, had just arrived. Still to come were robins, kokako, fernbirds and tuatara.

At the University of Auckland Dianne had begun by advising graduate students on how to resolve their statistical problems, a role that had its frustrations: If the students haven't come to see you when they started their projects and then come to you because they need help, it can be nasty. Soon, however, she found herself teaching undergraduate students and then supervising postgraduates. She also started a family. A memory she has from the time is of lumbering through the Mamaku Ranges in pursuit of North Island robins (acting as part of Doug Armstrong's catching team) while heavily pregnant with her second child.

And she and her postgraduates became deeply involved in the translocation of species to Tiri. Each brought its peculiar difficulties.

The fiercely territorial robins captured in the Mamakus had to be kept rigorously apart while in transit to Tiri or they would have torn each other to pieces.

The fernbird, rescued at the eleventh hour from the path of motorway development, went to ground once it arrived on the island; only months later was the characteristic 'Geiger counter' call heard.

The tuatara arrived, ignored the artificial burrows constructed for their pleasure, and wandered off to settle where they liked. One was found in a distant seabird colony. At least with birds you can find them afterward, read the bands and see if they survived, sighs Dianne.

A population of tomtits brought across from the mainland promptly took themselves back to the Hunua ranges.

As we drop away from Upper Wireweed and down into one of the relict patches of bush, the island begins to take on another aspect. It feels almost wild. The noise of cicadas becomes near deafening; on the forest floor are patches of humus disturbed by kiwi probing; and in the top of a tree fern deep in a gully roost a pair of morepork, one of which flies about us as silent as a moth.

Tiri tiri Matangi has been a triumph both for the conservation movement and for the idea of an open sanctuary. It is the ideal place to conduct scientific research into New Zealand's native wildlife and to arrive at effective forms of conservation management. But then offshore islands are easy. The real challenge for New Zealand conservation is to take back the mainland.

In places this is happening. A few kilometres north of Tiri on the end of

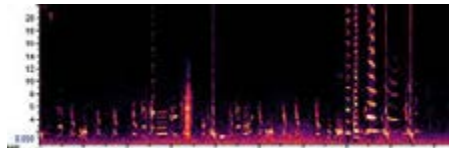
Tawharanui Peninsula, a fenced predator-free headland, a stepping-stone for native species has been established. Here, too, Dianne and her students have begun an involvement in species translocation. The most recent arrival was a consignment of endangered Auckland green geckos as well as the more common grey and brown forest geckos rescued from the footprint of a planned motorway extension.

The lizards were released at a dawn service attended by members of the Nga-ti Wha-tua and Nga-ti Manuhiri iwi. My younger daughter got to release the first gecko, says Dianne.

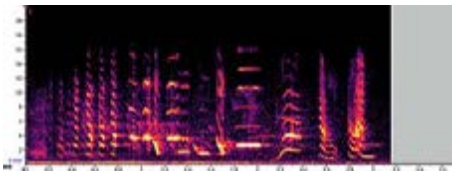
And yes, there are bellbirds at Tawharanui now, singing on a peninsula that last heard their melody over a century ago. A planned translocation was pre-empted by the birds themselves, which probably crossed to the mainland from Little Barrier Island.

In recent times a population of tomtits has manifested itself in the bush close by Dianne's own home. She and some of her neighbours had begun trapping pests and predators.

Bellbird song 101



Spectrograms of male bellbird song types.
[Listen to the male bellbird song: MP3](#)



Spectrograms of female song types. These are less varied than those of the male and are composed of song units,
[Listen to the female Bellbird song: MP3](#)

The males sing regularly whatever the time of day or year. Sometimes they sing continuously with no intervals between songs; sometimes they sing discrete songs with large intervals between them.

The continuous song can, in turn, be one of two types: either a single song type repeated, or a variety of song types. The repetition of a single song often happens when the males have gathered by a food source such as a sugar-water feeder or flowering plant. Once one male begins singing he will often be joined by others. These choruses can last up to five minutes.

Seasonally the males sing most often in August, at the start of the breeding season, and in March, at its close when the birds separate into flocks of males and flocks of females and juveniles.

Singing most often has to do with attracting mates, and then with establishing a place in the flock hierarchy. Often it's the male that is literally and figuratively at the top of the tree that initiates the singing, says Dianne.

The females sing simple songs, which all exhibit similar structures. The songs are discrete, with intervals of at least three seconds between them. During the breeding season the females sing more frequently

than the males.

Counter-singing among females is common. Often, says Dianne, you will hear a female's song from one territory set off the female in the next, in a chain of musical pass-the-parcel.

How large is the species song repertoire? Based on 26 days of recording of bellbirds carried out on Tiri between March and December 2000, Dianne and researcher Xiaoling Li of the University of Auckland arrived at 10 frequently used song types for male bellbirds and up to five for females.

Although this is almost certainly an underestimate no one has yet tracked individual females to tally their entire song repertoires this is a small repertoire when put alongside that of the tui or, for that matter, the North American brown thrasher, which has over 2,000 song types.

Which only goes to show that given the right conditions the New Zealand natural environment can rebound.

Back on the grassy summit of the island the day trippers have gathered for the return trip home. Dianne chats with researchers and volunteers in residence at the island's hut. I wonder how Barbara is feeling with her yearlong Royal Society Fellowship coming to an end and the prospect of returning to teaching at Rangitoto College looming.

Around us, takahe are placidly wandering, some grazing, others hanging expectantly about the feet of the picnickers. I have never come so close to takahe before, nor to the saddlebacks or kokako we will see on the path going down to the jetty.

Yet these will not be my strongest memories of Tiritiri Matangi Island. On the way back down the hill we stop to catch and band a female bellbird a simple matter of triggering the trapdoor on one of the wire-enclosed bird feeders. The image I carry is of the gaze of the bird held carefully in Taneal's hand. I never realised how red the eyes of a bellbird can be. They glow like hot coals.

- For the history of Tiritiri Matangi Island, the open sanctuary: *Tiritiri Matangi: A Model of Conservation*. Anne Rimmer. Tandem Press, 2004.
- For a well-written and accessible account of the science of birdsong: *Birdsong: A Natural History*. Don Stapp. Scribner, 2005.
- Author Donald Kroodsma, an emeritus professor at the University of Massachusetts has spent three decades recording and analysing birdsong. The title of his book describes it exactly. *The Singing Life of Birds : The Art and Science of Listening to Birdsong*. Donald Kroodsma. Houghton Mifflin, 2005.

- If you would like to join the Supporters of Tiritiri Matangi check out www.tiritirimatangi.org.nz.
- The 2.5 km coast-to-coast predator-proof fence at Tawharanui was completed in August 2004. If you are interested in membership of the Tawharanui Open Sanctuary Society point your cursor at www.tossi.org.nz.
- Wellingtonians have the Karori Wildlife Sanctuary close to hand. As well as species such as kiwi, kaka and hihi, the sanctuary has a thriving population of bellbirds, the species being reintroduced between 2001 and 2003. To learn more go to www.sanctuary.org.nz.
- [Cornell Lab of Ornithology](#).
- [Associate Professor Dianne Brunton](#)

Date: 28/04/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Research; Video Multimedia

Sales jobs linked to bladder cancer risk

New research adds to evidence that people who work in sales, particularly women, may have a higher risk of bladder cancer.

Studies have found higher bladder cancer rates among people in various occupations, including hairdressers, textile workers, truck drivers and workers in the rubber, leather and chemical industries. In most cases it is thought that long-term chemical exposures are to blame.

Several studies over the past 20 years have also found sales workers to be at higher-than-average risk of bladder cancer.

For their study, Dr Andrea Mannetje and Dr Neil Pearce of Massey University's Centre for Public Health Research analysed 18 studies on occupation and bladder cancer risk.

They found that when other factors were considered including smoking, a major risk for bladder cancer women in sales occupations had an 18 per cent higher risk of developing the disease than those in other jobs.

For men, there was no clear overall association between sales jobs and bladder cancer. There was, however, some suggestion that men in car sales had an elevated risk, the researchers report in the American Journal of Industrial Medicine.

It is not yet clear that there is a cause-and-effect relationship between sales jobs and bladder cancer, says Dr Mannetje.

"This review of the literature only shows that there is a small increase in bladder cancer risk for female sales workers," she says. The reason, she adds, is unknown, and it is possible that these are chance findings.

One hypothesis, Dr Mannetje says, is that sales workers have less time for bathroom breaks and take in less fluid throughout the day, which might affect their cancer risk because the bladder has a longer contact with potentially cancer-promoting substances in the urine.

However this is speculation, says Dr Mannetje. Neither bathroom habits nor fluid intake have been shown to affect bladder cancer risk, though some animal research suggests they may. Also unclear is whether sales workers visit the bathroom infrequently or limit their fluid intake compared with people in other jobs.

Regardless of whether there is a cause-and-effect relationship, Dr Mannetje says, the best way for people to reduce their risk of bladder cancer is to avoid smoking.

Date: 30/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Explore - HEALTH



Pictured: Professor Raine and Dr Cullen with Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear; Former Vice-Chancellor Sir Neil Waters, under whose leadership the plan for the Auckland campus was instigated.

Massey's vision, community commitment praised by Minister

Tertiary Education Minister Dr Michael Cullen praised Massey for its vision and commitment to the communities it serves, when he opened a new \$9 million lecture theatres building on 26 April.

The Deputy Prime Minister also laid down a challenge to the tertiary sector to find the balance between serving a much broader section of the community than in the past without becoming so homogenous that similar learning experiences are offered at every institution.

Massey has a strong reputation as an institution that engages with the community and with key businesses in its catchment areas, Dr Cullen said at the opening of the Sir Neil Waters Lecture Theatres on the Auckland campus at Albany.

This is a fine example of a tertiary institution working to meet the needs not only of its students but also of its local community. This complex puts Massey firmly at the heart of this community.

He said the logic of the investment was compelling as the population north of the Auckland Harbour Bridge continued to grow.

Those communities had their own unique identity which goes far beyond being satellites of Auckland City.

The councils in the region have long recognised the need to build key social and commercial infrastructures. The decision of Massey University some years ago to establish a campus at Albany has provided a focus for higher learning, research and collaboration with local industry.

It was Sir Neil Waters, a former Vice-Chancellor, who initiated the development of the Auckland campus and after whom the eagerly-awaited facility has been named.

With three lecture theatres and a large reception area, it has been in use since the start of the year including for the campus graduation dinner. It will be available for public lectures, conferences and distance learning classes.

Dr Cullen said his recently-announced new directions in tertiary policy were founded on the notion that each institution needed to make a distinctive contribution firmly-based on quality teaching and learning, on a commitment to measurable outcomes and on a rigorous pursuit of relevance to the community.

I have every expectation that Massey will continue its role as a multi-faculty institution, offering research-based science, social science, business, education and creative arts qualifications.

As such, I will be looking to it to provide leadership in developing networks of provision that ensure best possible use of resources and the Government's investment in the whole system.

That would require university councils to work closely with vice-chancellors and their management teams to ensure the strategic directions of their institutions were in line with Government priorities and stakeholder needs.

Massey has a long track record in applying more flexible thinking to the task of tertiary education. It has been New Zealand's main pioneer in developing extramural and distance learning options at degree level.

Each of its campuses, in Palmerston North, Albany and Wellington, has a unique flavour, responding to the economies and communities in those regions.

This sort of foresight and planning will be key to a new funding system in which Government funds tertiary education.

Massey Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear commended Dr Cullen for his decisive leadership in the tertiary education portfolio he had assumed only since the last election, saying she supported his commitment to performance-based research funding and plans to reform the tertiary funding model.

Professor Kinnear described the new lecture theatre block as stunning and said it was a special day for the University and its Auckland campus.

I am confident that this facility will be a forum for dialogue, exchange of ideas, debate, seminars lectures and conferences that will enrich the life of this campus and its local and regional community.

She also paid tribute to Sir Neil, saying she was delighted he could be present and had agreed albeit with the reluctance and modest manner typical of him to the University's request to name the block after him.

Date: 30/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Auckland; Services

New look scholarships reward top achievers

The University has reshaped the bursaries and scholarships it offers to school leavers to better recognise academic, sport and arts excellence. First-year Massey students who have not come directly from school will also be eligible, opening up the generic first year scholarships to mature students for the first time.

The new Top Achiever scholarships are divided into three categories Academic, Sports and Arts. They will recognise first-year students enrolled at one of Massey's three campuses at Auckland, Palmerston North or Wellington, who have demonstrated a high level of achievement in one of the three categories. The scholarships are worth \$3000 each.

Head of the Massey University Scholarships Committee Professor Ken Milne says the new scholarships provide a more open and fair opportunity for all high-achieving first degree entrants. We're also taking a different approach to other universities in that we will be working with schools to identify high achieving students at Year 12 level. We will then be able to work with the successful applicants in their last year at secondary school.

Professor Milne says opening up the entry criteria to include first-year students that are not straight from school recognises the diverse ages of the students who study at Massey. This means a top sports person who left school a few years ago and has been competing nationally or internationally who now wants to come to university will be eligible, for example. Many of Massey's students are mature and we want to make sure they can take advantage of this opportunity.

In making selections, the selection committee will be mindful of the University's strategies in relation to Maori and Pasifika students and to students with disabilities, he says. The scholarships are available to full- and part-time students.

The new scholarships replace the Secondary Schools bursaries, the South Island Accommodation awards and the Vice-Chancellor's bursaries.

Applications for the Top Achiever Academic scholarships close on 28 April. Applications are due for the Top Achiever Sports or Arts scholarships on 30 August. Application forms are available from the University by calling 0800 627 739 or can be downloaded from the website <http://awards.massey.ac.nz/index1.htm>

Date: 30/04/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Scholarships

Where next for the Solomon Islands?

Years of violence and conflict have left Solomon Islanders feeling disenfranchised and distrustful of state institutions, say a trio of academics who specialise in Pacific Island affairs.

Dr Bethan Greener-Barcham and Dr Manuhia Barcham at the University's Centre for Indigenous Governance and Development, along with Solomon Islander colleague Paul Roughan, say the post-election rioting reveals fundamental problems with the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands (RAMSI).

The Massey team have been working with Mr Roughan, a fellow at the Islands Knowledge Institute a Solomon Islands research institute based in Honiara, for the last year. Their research has focussed on whether or not RAMSI - a regional police-led mission backed by military force that has been in place since 2003 is delivering the best that it can within a complex situation.

Their research suggests that the current problems in the Solomons stem from several main areas:

- The first is the overall issue of nation-building.

The state has often not played much of a role in the lives of ordinary people. Church and local community groups have often been the providers of basic services such as health and education. What stake, then, do people have in the rebuilding of an institution that took taxes and became implicated in corrupt and violent acts? Moreover, this state is being rebuilt with heavy international involvement. The key issue of local ownership of this state-building process has not been central enough to RAMSI's mission. For example, the placement of an Australian in the position of Accountant General might not on itself be too overpowering. Yet combined with the fact that both the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of Police are also still posts currently held by outsiders it is difficult for Solomon Islanders to see where this process is heading in terms of the future of their own political destinies.

- The second lies in low levels of capacity within Solomon Islands.

Given the large number of people involved in previous troubles, it is difficult to rebuild essential services such as police and government without potentially needing to use people implicated in those troubles. This has been the case in terms of purging and then rebuilding the previously highly corrupt and volatile Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF), and as the latest violence shows in terms of politicians associated with or implicated in previously unsavoury activities. RAMSI personnel have not had a great enough awareness of the interests and relationships at stake.

- The third problem is the question of sustainability.

Once RAMSI leaves, what will happen? Will the Solomons' be financially and socially sustainable? There is a feeling of uncertainty about RAMSI's level and length of commitment to the Islands that leaves much room for rumour and conjecture that feeds manipulation and tension. This crisis is therefore both a tragedy and an opportunity. It has injected uncertainty into a situation that had seemed to be stabilising creating threats to lives, property and to future investment and development projects. However that uncertainty also opens up a chance for a move beyond mere crisis management. RAMSI officials need to seize the opportunity to engage more broadly with the issues and people involved in this mission if they are to salvage the aim of helping to get life back on track.

Created: 24 April, 2006

Date: 30/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Rioting reveals depth of Solomons' instability

Rioting in the Solomon Islands reveals the depth of political instability typical of Melanesian politics, says Pacific Islands and development specialist Dr Donovan Storey.

Dr Storey says the Solomons' inaugural full election was the first real test for the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands (RAMSI) set up by Australia and New Zealand after civil disorder in 2003.

Dr Storey says there were always going to be problems in the face of an established politician, Snyder Rini, running for the prime ministerial position.

In the Solomons, political candidates are always painted as representing a particular community. As the former minister for finance, Rini faced a lot of anger from land-owners and accusations of corruption of illegal logging contracts given to Asian companies.

RAMSI's roots are shallow; it is an overlaying institution but the real politics and decision-making exist in a fluid and fragile system. Stability will come from building stability and civilian capability, but animosity of this sort will run its course.

He says the attack on the Chinatown business district in Honiara is a reaction to accusations that Snyder took money from Honiara's established Taiwanese community for his campaign.

Conflict about the support for either the People's Republic of China or Taiwan frequently rears its head in the Pacific, and in this case Snyder was taking a pro-Taiwan line to gain their financial and political support.

Land-owners and Soloman Islanders fear a loss of control of natural resources, and a consequential loss of security and traditional livelihood.

Dr Storey says that although the democratic election process was observed, there will be difficulty in establishing the legitimacy of the new government.

Typical among Melanesian politics, the slim majority won by Snyder means there will be a lot of coalition and personality politics, and I would be very surprised to see this government go full term. Governments in [other Melanesian states] Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea rarely stay intact until the next election.

This disruption shows just how difficult state-building is, and the challenge the RAMSI faces. State-building takes a lot of resources and time, and it has only been three years since RAMSI stepped in to intervene and establish justice and a military presence.

Created: 21 April, 2006

Date: 30/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Swift international reaction to researchers' stock market studies.

Massey Finance Professor Ben Jacobsen, continues to attract international attention for his findings on how factors like the change of seasons or the outbreak of war, impact on the stock market.

This week research by Professor Jacobsen and a fellow researcher at Massey's College of Business

Nuttawat Visaltanachoti, features in the high profile Dow Jones business newsletter, *MarketWatch*.

United States-based Dow Jones, is a leading provider of business news, financial information and analytical tools. The MarketWatch stories on the work of the Massey duo were written by *New York Times* columnist Mark Hulbert, and back at his office in Albany, Professor Jacobsen says there has been strong interest worldwide from the business community.



The first of the papers referred to, *Sell in May and Go Away*, has become common market wisdom since it was published in the *American Economic Review* in 2002, acknowledging the strong effect of the seasons on the stock market. According to this market wisdom, stock market returns (in the northern hemisphere) should be higher in the cooler November-April period than those in the May to October period after investors have theoretically opted to 'sell in May and go away'.

The MarketWatch story also introduces the lesser-known findings of the Massey researchers entitled *Seasonal, Size and Value Anomalies*. Mark Hulbert writes that this research is the only work that comes close to answering questions from his world wide readership on how different sectors of the stock market have performed during the summer and winter months.

Hulbert points out that the findings of the Massey researchers would not gladden those hoping to find a safe haven somewhere in the US stock market during the summer months, because each sector (according to the Massey researchers) had performed significantly worse during summer than in winter.

Jacobsen, Visaltanachoti and an associate from the University of Saskatchewan, Abdullah Mamum, looked at a number of different portfolios, including ones of stocks with high price/earnings ratios as well as those with low such ratios; portfolios of large caps, mid caps and small caps; portfolios of low dividend stocks as well as high dividend yielders; portfolios with low price/book ratios as well as those with high ratios; and finally, portfolios with low price/cash flow ratios as well as those with high ones.

Created: 5 March, 2008

Date: 30/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business



Conference organiser Michael Irwin (Massey University), Australian based researcher Dr Ken Rowe and Whangarei Boys' High headmaster Al Kirk.

Successful conference issues challenge on boys' education

The three day conference on educating boys has been a highly successful event for the participants and for the education sector.

Presenter after presenter from both sides of the Tasman highlighted many issues relating to growing concern about boys underperforming and how the situation should be tackled by government, education policy makers, teacher trainers and by teachers on the classroom floor today.

The lineup of strong and well respected presenters co-ordinated by Massey's Michael Irwin generated widespread publicity on a daily basis taking the issues into the public arena more forcefully than ever before.

About 130 delegates from secondary schools, educational institutions, government departments and private consultancies came to the conference at Albany.

It's been a tremendous opportunity for many of the people concerned about this issue, says Michael Irwin, who is based at the University's College of Education at Albany and is completing PhD research on motivating boys.

It is important now that government takes some affirmative action. This should not be by reviews. We need money now to increase literacy among boys, to catch those who could drop out of school. We need the financial support and commitment for professional development and to upskill teachers.

One delegate, Whangarei Boys' High headmaster Al Kirk, considered the event so important that he attended with four senior staff. The exercise had been very valuable for the Whangarei group, he said. Mr Kirk is also a member of the Association of Boys' Schools. He says his school had introduced a number of initiatives in recognition of the need for changes in the way boys are educated.

Having the opportunity to exchange information at this conference has been very beneficial.

For further information see <http://boysconference.massey.ac.nz>

Date: 30/04/2006

Type: Audio Visual

Categories: College of Education; Conference/Seminar; Research

Links to media coverage.

View the ONE Breakfast item:

[Dial-up 56k](#) or [Broadband 128k](#)

View the ONE Close Up item:

[Dial-up 56k](#) or [Broadband 128k](#)

View The Campbell Live items:

[Getting the best out of boys and Why boys are falling behind girls?](#)



The stories behind the Victoria Cross

▶ VIDEO Watch the ONE NEWS item: [dialup 56k](#) or [Broadband 128k](#)

The latest book by military historian Associate Professor Glyn Harper has launched to a barrage of international media interest.

Co-written by Dr Harper and Colonel Colin Richardson, *In the Face of the Enemy: The complete History of the Victoria Cross*, examines the events, politics and philosophies of the highest Commonwealth military decoration for gallantry. It features the controversial stories of the New Zealand servicemen who were recommended for the Victoria Cross but who did not receive it.

In the Face of the Enemy was launched by Defence Minister Phil Goff at the Queen Elizabeth II Army Memorial Museum in Waiouru, alongside the opening of the Museum exhibition *The Highest Honour: 150 Years of the Victoria Cross*. Outside of national major media coverage, the book has been profiled in feature articles in *The Daily Telegraph* (UK) and *The Canberra Times* (Australia) and Dr Harper has been interviewed by the BBC.

The launch was attended by more than 200 people, including Chief of Army, Major General Jerry Mateparae (soon to take up the role of Defence Chief), General Don Mclver, Colonel Kevin Burnett, Major Chas Charlton and families of Victoria Cross recipients.

In his speech Mr Goff described the bronze Victoria Cross as a symbol of extraordinary courage, in the face of an enemy. He says the men awarded the Cross would likely endorse the view expressed by Dr Harper and Colonel Richardson that the award of gallantry decorations can be something of a lottery.

This is because extreme courage can go unrecognised, or not be fully recognised... the analysis of the way various factors featured in the chain of decisions that lay behind the award of each Victoria Cross is one of the areas in which *In the Face of the Enemy* breaks new ground.

Of the servicemen who were recommended for the VC but who did not receive one, the story of Māori Battalion Lance-Sergeant Haane Manahi is pertinent amid current lobbying by the Manahi VC Committee. Mr Goff says Sgt Manahi displayed outstanding courage and leadership, leading three men 500 feet up a near-sheer face of a mountain. He was awarded a Distinguished Conduct Medal.

His citation for the VC was signed by those who witnessed his exploits and supported by the entire chain of command including generals Alexander, Montgomery, Freyberg and Kippenberger.

The Ministry for Defence is working with the committee to see if the case can be reconsidered, acknowledging, however, that the consistent position of the Palace since the late 1940s has been to not revisit such decisions.

Mr Goff praised the book and the fact that Glyn Harper and Colonel Richardson have again ensured that the feats of Haane Manahi and others like him who deserved but did not get the VC will not be forgotten.

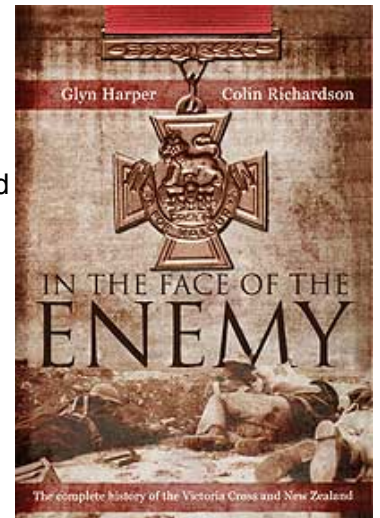
Dr Harper heads the Centre for Defence Studies at the Palmerston North campus and is the author of several military histories. He joined the Australian Army in 1988, transferring to the New Zealand Army where he held the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel until leaving in 2001.

Colin Richardson currently serves at the headquarters of the New Zealand Defence Force and has taught military history and strategy at the Australian Army Command and Staff College. He has a long interest in the history of the Victoria Cross.

Both authors started their military careers as Territorial Force soldiers in the 2nd Canterbury Nelson Marlborough West Coast Battalion in the Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment, a unit that claims five Victoria Crosses as part of its heritage.

Date: 30/04/2006

Type: Audio Visual



The key to cutting costs in the dairy shed

Dairy farmers could save up to 20 per cent of their current electricity consumption through methods identified in a recent study.

Water heating is the main source of energy consumption in the dairy farm milking shed, closely followed by the chilling of milk. These findings are the first from a two-phase study funded by Dairy Insight and conducted by Professor Ralph Sims and researcher Karl Hartman.

Mr Hartman says most farms could reduce their peak load, cutting back the bills and also contributing to the reduction of climate change impacts one of the biggest threat to New Zealand agriculture.

In the study, more than 60 North and South Island dairy farmers recorded and their energy consumption and the related milk production data. The researchers found that energy consumption was generally higher on smaller farms (size was measured by the herd size and total annual milk solid production). Larger dairy farms had lower energy inputs per hectare, a finding the researchers attribute to a higher-energy efficiency from an increased scale of operation.

From three intensive case studies of low, high and moderate energy-consuming farms, the researchers produced electricity-use profiles for each and identified opportunities for cost and energy-saving. Of all energy-consuming activities, heating hot water and maintaining the temperature, cooling milk and maintaining the temperature, and operating the vacuum and milk pumps during milking were identified as the highest consumers.

Cost-effective methods to reduce consumption include: the insulation of both hot water cylinders and milk vats; use of heat exchangers for pre-cooling milk and pre-heating water; better matching of hot water cylinder size and vacuum pump size with the respective demands; use of variable speed vacuum pumps; and just-in-time heating of the hot water.

The research paper, co-written by Mr Hartman and Professor Sims from the University's Centre for Energy Research, also makes recommendations for methods and action that will help reduce energy consumption at a national level.

These include:

- The development of a set of benchmarks for on-farm energy consumption and costs to enable farmers to decide which aspects of their farm enterprises are good candidates to invest in energy efficiency measures.
- The provision of a detailed end-use breakdown of electricity and time-of-use profiles that will enable energy supply and end-use options to be analysed (for example, solar water heating installations).
- The evaluation of commercially available energy-saving systems, technologies and equipment and promoting those with practical energy-saving potential.
- The development of methods of diesel fuel reduction in tractors and machinery.
- The dissemination of a set of user-friendly energy efficiency recommendations that farmers can implement at low cost, based on the monitoring of demonstrated case studies.
- The provision of training seminars for farm advisors and consultants to up-skill them in energy efficiency techniques that they can then pass on to their clients.

Date: 30/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Enviromental issues; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture

Teen dreams for the future

The majority of teenaged girls who participated in a Massey study of family life prioritised travel, study and home ownership above marriage and motherhood.

The two-year study led by Dr Jackie Sanders in the School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work followed three groups of teenagers between the ages of 13 and 15 - those no longer in school, those at a co-educational high school performing at an average level, and those in accelerated classes at single-sex schools. Their parents were also interviewed.

Dr Sanders says the results, especially the amount of independence showed by the teenagers, were surprising.

This study shows what is important to teenagers right now it is a slice of their lives and an insight into the way they are planning for their futures. What we found most interesting was the strength of connection they have to their parents, and the appreciation they have for their parents.

Dr Sanders says there is a social misconception that teenagers want to break away from their parents, and, conversely, that parents should 'let go'. What we found is that, yes they want to get out and experience the world, but they also want to know their parents will be there for them, as an enduring support.

The study of the 30 girls follows a similar study of teenage boys conducted by Dr Sanders and her team of researchers between 2000 and 2002. She says a greater number of the young male participants were interested in having relationships and families, unlike the young females who placed travel, car and home ownership above relationships and children. Both groups identified a need for continued parental support even they pushed their parents away.

The researchers are planning to conduct a similar study adapted for a younger aged group, following the findings that showed future pathways were set in place during primary school years.

Created: 19 April, 2006

Date: 30/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Share buyers saying getting rich not the main goal

The motivation behind economist Gareth Morgan's decision to give away the \$47 million he made from the sale of shares in his son's company TradeMe may not be that unusual.

A study of New Zealanders who buy and sell shares has discovered that only a tiny minority do so in the hope of becoming wealthy.

The majority are primarily motivated simply a desire to be comfortable or for financial security for their families.

When Mr Morgan announced he would give his investment windfall to charity, he said he did not need the money and was happy with what he already had.

Now a study by Massey PhD student Peggy Chiu suggests kiwis who "play the market" are not just bunch of yuppies with dollar signs in their eyes.

Dr Chiu found that only 1.3 per cent of shareholders were solely motivated by a desire for prosperity or wealth maximisation.

In fact, shareholders' decision are driven principally by other values, Dr Chiu says. Almost half [are] motivated by the desire to be financially secure and content and to look after loved ones.

She says when it comes to selecting companies to invest in these shareholders are guided by others-oriented values and fairness. They avoid companies they perceive as exploiting the gullible or disadvantaged.

Gambling businesses, tobacco manufacturers, fast-food companies, bio research companies and pharmaceutical businesses were cited as examples.

And a warning for the Enrons of the world: Some shareholders regarded honesty as so important that they will avoid investing in a business where they believe the honesty of a director of the board has been compromised.

The same shareholders will intentionally seek to invest in companies perceived as making a contribution to society or making the world a better place through an environmental initiative.

An unexpected finding is that shareholders place the responsibility of corporations to be accurate and honest in financial reporting ahead of their desire for long-term growth in share price and regular dividend income, Dr Chiu says.

The former is at the top and the latter two are listed eight and nineteenth respectively in a hierarchy of 31 issues of shareholders' concerns.

Dr Chiu thinks a possible reason why honesty and accuracy are regarded as of utmost importance is the awareness of the magnitude of damage possible in the event of fraudulent accounting or cover-ups because of what happened to

Enron and WorldCom in the United States, Parmalat in Italy or HIH Insurance in Australia.

She says the research demonstrates the range of factors contributing to shareholders' investment decisionmaking. It also points the way to the development of tools to enable financial advisers to analyse clients personal values and that way understand their needs rather than categorising them solely according to risk values.

Created: 7 April, 2006

Date: 30/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business



Auckland graduation week a hot event

The University's graduation celebrations for 2006 got off to a brilliant start in Auckland with a spectacular burst of late summer weather with sunshine, rain, temperatures well into the 20s and high humidity.

The Albany-based northern campus well and truly came of age this year with nearly 1000 graduates crossing the stage at the Bruce Mason Centre, six graduation processions, a record 15 PhDs, and large gatherings of supporters.

Graduation dinner this year was a sophisticated first in a new guise and marked the christening of the foyer in the new lecture block as a much needed hospitality venue for this campus. In keeping with recent tradition at the campus, there were ceremonies held for Pacific Island graduates and Māori graduates. This year there were 27 Māori graduates and 22 Pacific Island graduates.

The University's Chancellor, Nigel Gould remarked on the rich sense of presence and tradition surrounding the celebrations that take place in the North Shore's Takapuna township and on campus.

This campus is now very well established. There is a true diversity of programmes in all our colleges here, which shows in the range of graduates coming through this year. At every ceremony there has been great vitality and the excitement of success.

He noted that the campus had undergone significant development in recent times. He said the University Council was aware that rapid growth at Albany had caused pressure on facilities that would be addressed as expansion continued.



Dr Jennifer Collins and Dr Jean Annan, both PhD's in Education.



Dr Rarawa Kohere was Kaiwawao at Albany for 12 years. He returned to Auckland to receive his PhD in Māori Studies. He's catching up with friend Steve Heremaia.



The first Chemistry PhD's to graduate from Albany - Nicola Gaston and Ian Shinton. Nicola had flown in for graduation from Dresden, Germany, where she is doing post-doctoral research at the Max Planck Institute for the Physics of Complex Systems.



Mei Qui, PhD in Finance.



Kevin Moran, PhD in Education, now teaching at Auckland University.



Created: 5 March, 2008

Date: 30/04/2006

Type: Graduation

Celebration of campus growth and achievements

Chancellor Nigel Gould celebrated the growth of the Auckland campus as well as the achievements of its students in his speech to this week's graduation ceremonies.

Mr Gould told graduands and their families that the campus at Albany has undergone significant development in the past year, noting in particular the continued development of the recreation centre and the completion of the new lecture block.

Academic achievements of the past year included the Government's recognition of the social sciences programme on the campus with the awarding of the leadership of the Building Research Capability in the Social Sciences initiative to the Auckland staff.

Mr Gould said the rapid growth of the campus has at times caused pressure on facilities, something the University Council recognised and planned to address.

Commenting on the current tertiary funding policies, he expressed disappointment in the decision not to allow the University bring its fees in line with other providers.

Although encouraged by the announcement by Tertiary Education Minister Dr Michael Cullen this week that the tertiary funding system was to be reviewed, he noted any initiatives were not likely to be put in place until 2009 after the next general election.

Any funding system that allocates similar funding to a university and a nail polish academy must be changed, he said.

The chancellor's final message to the graduands was to encourage them to continue to set goals, push themselves to pursue their ambitions and to be always looking for ways to improve their skills.

Created: 5 March, 2008

Date: 30/04/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: Auckland; Graduation; Graduation (Auckland)



Nurses workforce study launched

Worldwide shortages of nurses and the ageing population are putting increasing pressure on health services, but there is no reliable information about the nursing workforce.

Claims of 2000 nursing vacancies have never been confirmed, says Dr Annette Huntington from the School of Health Sciences.

All this is about to change. Researchers from Massey University School of Health Sciences are tracking nurses' health, wellbeing and patterns of workforce participation using on-line questionnaires.

This week 12,000 New Zealand nurses are being invited to participate in an innovative on-line study which will collect comprehensive data on nurses' health, wellbeing and workforce participation.

Nurses will receive an invitation to take part in the study when they renew their annual practising certificates. The first 12,000 invitations are being mailed this week.

This coincides with the launch on April 7 of the WHO Health Workforce Decade, which highlights the importance of health workers as the most important resource for producing good health.

In New Zealand most health workers are nurses, says Dr Huntington. However there is no reliable information about the nursing workforce to assist the recruitment and retention of staff.

The Nurses' E-Cohort Study will provide an up-to-date database to improve workforce policy and planning, with the aim of encouraging the recruitment and retention of New Zealand nurses.

Accurate data is essential for the planning and management of the nursing workforce if this pressure is not to overwhelm our health services. For the best possible data we want all nurses to participate. The more nurses the stronger the study, she says.

The Nurses' E-Cohort Study is a collaborative venture between the University of Queensland and Massey University's School of Health Sciences.

Photo caption: Alison Keyworth, Clinical Nurse Lecturer at Capital and Coast Health District Health Board, receives an invitation to the he Nurses' E-Cohort Study.

Created: 5 March, 2008

Date: 30/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Explore - HEALTH



Tertiary funding heading in right direction

Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear welcomes today's announcement by Tertiary Education Minister Dr Michael Cullen and agrees with the proposal for a new funding model for tertiary education.

"We very much welcome the direction the Minister has signalled, Professor Kinnear says.

It is pleasing to note that the issues he identifies echo the concerns of the university sector, and Massey in particular.

Dr Cullen's 'way forward' is entirely consistent with what we have been doing. For example, for the past 12 months we have been working on a project across our campuses to define the distinctive contribution each makes to its community.

Other examples are the collaboration Massey has formed with Victoria University in the New Zealand School of Music, and with Lincoln University in the Partnerships for Excellence.

We have been advocating the need for a more appropriate funding model for some time. It is gratifying to see these calls are finally being addressed."

Professor Kinnear says while the details of any future funding model are still to be worked through, Massey will support any moves from volume-driven revenue to a greater focus on quality outcomes in learning and teaching. She says this, coupled with a linking of funding to the profiles of tertiary providers and their contribution toward national goals, is a sensible way forward.

Professor Kinnear is also pleased to note the Government indicating that institutions must meet the needs of their communities. This is particularly important to Massey as it has campuses in Wellington, Palmerston North and Auckland that are committed to meeting the research and learning requirements of the unique communities in which they are located.

The suggestion that programmes incurring higher provision costs and that are in the national interest or of strategic importance will be funded appropriately is also welcome, she says.

"We look forward to taking the opportunity offered by Dr Cullen to contribute to the consultation process. It will be very interesting to see how the goals he outlined today are translated into policy."

Created: 6 April, 2006

Date: 30/04/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Funding; Government Policy commentators; Uni News

Balancing gender in academia

Massey tops all New Zealand universities in increasing the number of women appointed to senior academic positions over the past two years.

The latest New Zealand Census of Women's Participation 2006 reports an increase of 5.72 per cent in the number of women who are professors or associate professors at Massey, the biggest improvements among the eight universities. The increase places Massey in fourth place for the proportion of women in senior positions, compared with total academic staff.

With increases in appointments to both associate and full professorships, the proportion has reached 19.31 per cent: The University now has 21 women professors and 24 women associate professors.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear says it is pleasing to receive confirmation that the University is increasing the number of women in senior academic roles and that, in this, it is moving faster than other New Zealand universities. However, there is still an imbalance and the University will be working to further close that gap, where possible.

Of the eight universities, the Auckland University of Technology retains top ranking for the employment of senior women, followed by Victoria, Waikato and Massey.

The University of Auckland lost ground, moving from third to fifth place, and the southern universities, Otago, Lincoln and Canterbury, are in sixth, seventh and eighth places, respectively.

The women's census is a bench-marking tool produced every two years by the Human Rights Commission and Massey's Centre for Women and Leadership.

The report was prepared by former Massey professor Dr Judy McGregor, now Equal Opportunity Employment Commissioner, and Dr Susan Fountaine from the centre.

The two researchers say the 2006 results show that overall there has been grindingly slow progress in the past two years for women as professors and associate professors.

Women hold 16.91 per cent of senior positions, up slightly from 15.82 per cent two years ago, says Dr Fountaine. It's disappointing that since the previous census in 2004, half of New Zealand's eight universities have lost ground in terms of their percentage of senior women academics.

The slight improvement overall is almost entirely due to gains by Massey, whereas the southern universities have made little or no progress and continue to lag well behind their northern counterparts.

The researchers say the Massey result may have been aided by an Association of University Staff survey on academic promotions, using Massey as a case study.

They say while the improved Massey results and, to a lesser extent, an improvement by Victoria, are encouraging, the phasing in of the Performance Based Research Fund creates further potential barriers. Among issues identified is a gender imbalance on PBRF panels.

The census also reports on the number of women on boards and councils. Massey is on a par or ahead of most other tertiary education institutions, with 50 per cent female membership of its Council.

The census surveys the number of women in senior positions in both the public and private sectors. Its main conclusion is that women are making only glacial progress in board appointments to top companies in New Zealand.

The majority of companies, 63 of the top 100 NZSX, have no women at governance level, which is incredibly disappointing, says Dr McGregor.

Dr Fountaine and Dr McGregor have dedicated the second Women's Census to former Massey academic Dr Sue Olsson who suffered a fatal illness while attending a conference in Hawaii last year. Dr Olsson was a coordinator of the first census.

Type: University News

Categories: Research; Uni News

Research reveals genetic damage to nuclear test veterans

A significant level of genetic damage in the DNA of New Zealand nuclear test veterans has been found in a study by Massey molecular scientists led by Dr Al Rowland.

The Nuclear Test Veterans Association has released the results of the study, which confirm those found in preliminary results of a previous study released last year by the Department for Veteran Affairs. Dr Rowland led both studies, and says the results of the Government-funded study (still underway) are likely to be released in November.

The larger Government-funded research involves the comparison of genetic findings from a group of Navy veterans with those from a control group of other veterans who have not been exposed to elevated levels of radiation. At the completion of the study, the scientists will have carried out five analyses, to determine factors such as the amount of translocation in chromosomes, the efficiency of DNA repairs, and the level of DNA degradation.

Dr Rowland says preliminary results show a small but significant level of genetic damage to the chromosomes of veterans who were exposed to nuclear explosions almost half a century ago. During 1957 and 1958 at Operation Grapple, 551 New Zealand naval men witnessed nine nuclear detonations at Christmas Island and in the Malden Islands in Kiribati.

Dr Rowland says the factors of smoking, alcohol consumption and the use of medical x-rays were taken into account when comparing the DNA of the two groups. He says the suggestion by university peer reviewers that the heavy smoking of the test veterans was a factor in the results is incorrect. Although the Navy veterans had smoked at a greater frequency than the other group in the past, both groups had similar levels of cigarette consumption at the time of the test. He says this is an important consideration as the test looks at what is in the blood at the time of the test, which puts both groups on a level testing ground.

Date: 30/04/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - HEALTH





Vets shed rookie tag

The University's Rookie Vets television stars were brought together again to celebrate their graduation after five years study for Bachelors of Veterinary Science.

It may be the last time for quite a while that the group have the opportunity to reunite they are well into their first jobs as vets, and as busy as ever. Maya Robinson is working for a small animal practice in Huntly, and Corinne Cooper is working with race-horses at a specialist practice in Surfer's Paradise, Australia. The young vets intend to keep in touch with each other, made easier through their professional registration, and through their class of 2005 website.

The seven students were the subject of the real-life TV2 series this summer which followed them at work and at play throughout their fifth and final year. They are (left to right): William Power, Corinne Cooper, Bart Karalus, Maya Robinson, Estelle Louarduzzi, Fraser Davidson and Liz Cowie.

Date: 03/05/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture; Graduation; Graduation (Palmerston North); School of Veterinary Science

Info about sodium: is it worth its salt?

It appears most New Zealanders have no idea how much salt they are eating.

New research, printed in the *New Zealand Medical Journal*, found the sodium information on packaged foods is not easily understood by the public and is therefore of little use.

The study's authors, psychologist Dr Andrew Gilbey of Massey University and Sarah Fifield of Airways New Zealand, say consumers tend to exceed the recommended salt intake of 6g a day. This is partly because information about sodium and salt levels is confusing and misunderstood.

Their study examined whether people were able to accurately interpret the nutritional information about salt on the packaging of food products.

Of the 226 participants answered questions about their salt intake awareness and were asked to estimate the salt content of a can of Wattie's baked beans, using the nutritional information on the packaging, most did not know how to interpret the nutritional information, and many underestimated salt content by confusing it with sodium.

More than 98 per cent were unable to identify the amount of salt in the product. More than 58 per cent believed that salt and sodium are interchangeable terms. The researchers say this is a problem because most packaging only gives the sodium content.

"Unless consumers are aware that 1000 milligrams [1g] of sodium is equivalent to approximately 2500 milligrams [2.5g] of salt... then they would underestimate the amount of salt in any given food product by a factor of approximately 2.5."

The researchers cite research showing that a high level of salt intake is harmful to humans. They strongly recommend that food labelling should include the amount of salt per serving and at least a mention of the recommended maximum salt intake for adults per day.

The study showed that 67 per cent of participants claimed they cared about the amount of salt in their diet.

Date: 03/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business; Explore - Aviation





Open Days - Palmerston North

Secondary school pupils and prospective extramural students spent a day on campus for a hands-on university experience. Volunteers in distinctive Massey gowns directed people to the variety of presentations, lectures and activities across the colleges.

Student clubs were also out on concourse to demonstrate martial arts, abseiling, fire-dancing and medieval re-enactment. Wellington Open Days take place 25 August with Auckland Open Days to be held on 16 September. Openday-tech-06: Getting down to the basics of propulsion physics pupils find the best way to propel ping-pong balls in a technology demonstration.

Openday-technology: as above

Openday-engineering: Openday-martial: Martial arts in demonstration during the common lunch-break.

Openday-abseiling: Members of the student alpine club scaled the library to impress open-day participants at lunchtime.



PHAT students make the most of open day

Māori secondary school students from Manawatū and Whanganui visited the campus this week under a programme designed to encourage young Māori to enrol at tertiary institutions.

The PHAT (Progressive, Holistic, Achievement Tertiary Training) programme is an annual event and is a joint initiative between tertiary institutions and the Māori Secondary Teachers Association.

Massey Māori Student Liaison Adviser Te Ahu Rei (Taranaki, Waikato) says the programme is an opportunity for students to discuss their career ambitions with Massey staff and consider Massey as a pathway to achieving their goals. The students and their teachers stay at Te Pūtahi-a-Toi (the School of Māori Studies) for two days. Students are expected to develop career goals, meet with career services, lecturers and student liaison officers.



While students can access information about Massey on the web and in our publications, it's important that they see first-hand what Massey has to offer and talk one on one with staff about possible career options, says Mr Rei.

Māori are less likely to consider university as an option than non-Māori, but by bringing them on campus, under a Māori kaupapa, we are sending the right message to the students. By meeting Māori staff and Māori students, they can see that there is a place for Māori here and Māori can achieve at university, he says.

The PHAT programme has been running for three years.

Date: 05/05/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Palmerston North

Students dominate Hokonui fashion awards

Fashion students from the University scooped the Hokonui Fashion Design Awards in Gore, taking home six awards from the nine categories.

Fashion and Textile Design lecturer Nina Weaver says the success this year demonstrates the creative focus of the programmes.

We encourage our students to enter competitions as it prepares them for working in the industry. It really develops their learning, she says.

Alex Smith won the sportswear award for his snowboarding suit. He says he will plough his \$1000 prize back into materials. After completing the Diploma of Fashion and Technology this year, he plans to work in the snow sports industry.

The award for Kiwiana went to Helen Moore, who says she drew inspiration from the flowery pattern on her grandmother's bathing cap when creating a second skin evening gown, made from laser-cut leather and uncarded wool.

Ms Moore achieved the look she wanted by sandwiching the wool between layers of wash away fabric, and embroidering the pattern by hand.

Megan Coombes won mentoring from clothing company Workshop along with a cash prize, taking first place in the denim category. She constructed a denim corset on a mannequin before setting it into shape with liquid resin. Puff denim shorts with riveted eyelets complete the outfit.

She was also successful in the nightlife category, with a dark green and grey patterned silk evening dress.

It was a solid week of long days to finish it in time for the competition, Ms Coombes says.

She is looking forward to working in the fashion industry after she graduates this year. The judges congratulated her on her range of skills.

Final-year design student Sophie McNie won the menswear category with a crushed satin embroidered leisure suit, while 2005 graduate Jessie Gibbs won the award for best collection.

Highly commended Massey students and graduates included Rachel McCarten in the wool category, Ming Wei Li in street wear, Tina Frederickson in the knitted category, and Tilly Keokotavong and Amelia Hope in the nightlife category. Katie Hastilow won a Merit award.

The students' entries were created in the Stretch Apparel pattern making and construction paper, and Fashion Studio paper taught by Nina Weaver; and the Fashion Textile Workshop paper taught by Gen Packer.

Fashion and Textile Design is taught at the School of Design in Wellington. Founded in 1886, the Wellington School of Design is New Zealand's oldest and most prestigious design school.

Since 1988 the Peugeot-sponsored Hokonui awards have been a competitive platform for amateur designers, and have provided an opportunity for both experienced and emerging participants to display their designs before a panel of high-profile judges.

Massey students are also competing at the World of Wearable Art next month, the Villa Maria Cult Couture and Westfield Style Pacifika in October, both held in Auckland.

Date: 05/05/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Creative Arts



Samoan nightclubs offer women sanctuary

Samoan nightclubs in Auckland may be providing a safer environment for women than many conventional late-night venues, according to University psychology and social work researchers.

In the minds of many older Samoans the term night club suggests a place of danger where bad things occur.

But the Massey researchers say Samoan parents shouldn't fret about their daughters' inclination to go dancing by night at island-style venues.

PhD students Tafa Mulitalo, a lecturer in the School of Social and Cultural Studies, and Karin Menon, from the School of Psychology, say that Auckland's Samoan nightclubs provide safe sanctuaries where groups of women of all ages can meet for a fun night out on the dance floor, and where positive cultural traditions and values are being preserved.

The way Samoan women behave and interact at nightclubs encapsulates their social needs in modern New Zealand society to be free to socialize on their own terms and at the same time to connect with their community and especially with other women, they say.

Their observation and interview-based research at several Samoan nightclubs located in Manukau and Waitakere cities including Apia Way, the Leon Club, Fia Fia Club and Le Eva Eva revealed key differences in the way Samoan women socialized compared with women at mainstream or western nightclubs.

On the dance floor you see groups of women dancing, chatting, smiling. It's very friendly and welcoming. There doesn't seem to be competition among them, Ms Menon says.

While European women occupy the dance floor as a stage for individual appearance, Samoan women dance in groups and interact with each other using the dance floor as a place of unification, they report in a joint paper entitled *The Socio-Cultural meaning of 'nightlife' to Samoan women in Auckland: Observed Variations in females' behaviour on the dance floor across Euro-American and Polynesian cultures*.

Alcohol and drug abuse was not an obvious problem, and some women did not drink at all, probably as a result of religious views.

Size and age did not exclude women from feeling at ease on the dance floor either, they noted. And women of several generations socialised together. The women they interviewed were aged between 18 and 45 years, but they saw women in their 60s enjoying themselves at the clubs.

Ms Menon was struck by the warm, relaxed atmosphere of the Samoan clubs, where a mix of disco, hip-hop and Pasifika music was played. She felt the ambience and attitudes reflected Samoans' more wholistic approach to life.

Researching nightclub behaviour brought into focus the changing gender roles of Samoan women living in New Zealand.

Ms Menon and Mr Mulitalo say the influence of Christian missionaries many years ago saw Samoan women's traditional social position shift from being the apple of a man's eye to being the faletau (literally house behind or support person), whereas these days their education and skills as employees have made them feel more assertive and competent.

While for some Samoan women activities are still restricted to that of a support role for the home and family, many now also socialise outside their community at work a situation which often challenges their Samoan cultural and religious paradigms, they say.

Rather than sinful and sleazy, they saw nightclubs as places for socialising, reconnection, networking and enjoyment.

Some of the women define nightclubs as *fale fa'a fiafia*, meaning a house for happiness, recreation and entertainment.

What makes dancing in nightclubs a socio-culturally important experience for some Samoan women is the opportunity to leave domestic seclusion, unify with other women, and share a sense of belonging.

The practice of traditional Samoan social protocols such as feagaiga, whereby Samoan men take care of women in a brother-sister way also ensured nightclubs were positive, safe places for women, they said.

The likelihood of one-night stands, often associated with going to nightclubs, was also extremely rare because of the cultural view among Samoans that it is insulting and shameful to leave with someone other than the group you had come with.

Their paper has been published in the International Journal of Diversity in Organisations, Communities and Nations, (Common Ground Publishers, Melbourne, 2006) and will feature in a book they plan to publish later this year.

Date: 05/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Pasifika



Student representatives at the blessing of Te Whare Herenga: Tini Tuisaua (Samoa), Karl Pearce (Ngāpuhi), Isabel Huizi Li, and Gerardo Canales (Chile)

Student building promotes cultural diversity

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori) Professor Mason Durie says the new student building, Te Whare Herenga, opened on the Turitea campus last month will help Māori, Pasifika and international students succeed academically.

Te Whare Herenga offers excellent facilities for study and supports the strengthening of cultural identity while studying at Massey, Professor Durie says.

We have a diverse range of students from all over the world here at Massey and this facility promotes and celebrates cultural diversity.

Māori, Pasifika and international students should not have to leave their culture at the gate.

Te Whare Herenga is located in the Young Farmers Club building and combines three student spaces catering for Māori, Pacific Island and international students.

The facilities are equipped with new kitchens, study space, lounges, computers and barbecues donated by the Palmerston North Rotary Club.

The YFC was established over 40 years ago as accommodation for farming students. Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Palmerston North) Professor Ian Warrington says the spirit of the building still lives on and now provides an excellent opportunity to bring many cultures together.

The international students space acknowledges Rotarians Allan and Margaret Cliff, who have given a lot of support to overseas students at Massey and abroad. It is fitting that this space acknowledges the work and commitment they have shown to the international community, Professor Warrington says.

The Māori student space, Kāinga Rua and the Pacific Island student space, Fale Pasifika have also relocated to the complex.

Māori student officer and social work graduate Karl Pearce (Ngāpuhi) applauded the effort put in to relocating Kāinga Rua in upgraded facilities.

The new facilities are affirming for Māori students. Massey is showing that Māori students are an important part of the campus. It's a great place to gather, study and socialise knowing that you are not the only Māori student on campus, he says.

Pasifika student spokesman and business studies graduate Tini Mafa Tuisaua from Samoa says Fale Pasifika played a huge role in ensuring he successfully completed his studies.

Gerardo Canales from Chile is completing his last year of a Masters in Resource Management and Isabel Huizi Li is in her third year of a Bachelor of Food Technology.

They say that they have enjoyed meeting people from a diverse range of cultures at Massey and that the new facility will help ensure other students get that opportunity.

Date: 05/05/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Palmerston North; Pasifika

Veterans want further study on DNA findings

The results of a study indicating a significant level of genetic damage to the DNA of Vietnam War veterans warrants a larger investigation, the Ex-Vietnam Services Association says.

The analysis of 25 veterans was conducted by Masters student Louise Edwards under the supervision of Dr Al Rowland from the Institute of Molecular Biosciences and the results are now in the hands of the veterans.

Ms Edwards and Dr Rowland studied the rate of sister chromatid exchange in the cells a test which analyses the way chromosomes self-replicate. A comparatively higher level of sister chromatid exchange identified in the study indicates genetic damage.

Ex-Vietnam Services Association spokesperson Chris Mullane says the study reinforces the association's concerns that the exposure of Vietnam vets to Agent Orange and other toxic substances has serious health implications for them and future generations.

The association, with a membership of more than 1800, anticipates the Government will consider initiating a comprehensive study as part of its stated commitment to fully understanding the health issues facing veterans and their families.

Dr Rowland says that although the study sample was statistically small, it is significant in that it shows the group, who were exposed to a harmful environmental agent, may have incurred genetic damage.

The sister chromatid exchange assays conducted on the sample suggest that the men have been exposed to a harmful clastogenic (an environmental agent which results in damage to DNA) as a result of service in Vietnam.

The chromosomal reproduction of the 25 veterans was compared with a control group of 25 former servicemen who did not serve in Vietnam. Dr Rowland says the factors of smoking, alcohol consumption and the use of medical x-rays were taken into account when comparing the DNA of the two groups.

Veteran Evan McKenzie says he is convinced that Ms Edward's report will be proven to be a significant publication on the long-term effects of toxic exposure. He has urged New Zealand veterans to weigh the report against the previous McLeod report.

Mr McKenzie praises the diversity of the report and its author. This woman has had the guts and integrity to tackle a very controversial topic with persistence and objective intellect and I offer heartfelt congratulations, on behalf of my family, for her insight and observations.

In April this year the Nuclear Test Veterans Association released the results of a similar study conducted by Dr Rowland. It involved the analysis of the DNA of Navy veterans exposed to nuclear radiation during Operation Grapple in 1957 and 1958, where nuclear bombs were detonated at Christmas Island and on Malden Island in Kiribati.

Date: 05/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - HEALTH; Government Policy commentators



Teen mess due to style and consumerism

▶ VIDEO Watch the ONE *CloseUp* items:

Item 1 - 15/08/06 [dialup 56k](#) or [broadband 128k](#)

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The messy teenage bedroom reveals how parenting is changing in the 21st century.

Social work and community development lecturer Jenny Jakobs says her new research reveals how parents respond to the messy teenage bedroom, and how they view the role of parenting a teenager. It is a phenomenon that touches a chord with many parents.



I've been involved in a parenting organisation and teaching adults for many years, and I noticed how often this topic would pop up, says Ms Jakobs, from the School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work.

The teenage bedroom has changed from a place to sleep to a space where teenagers live, play, and socialise. It is a place for them to be themselves.

I found that teens have more stuff than their parents, and messiness is more in style than neatness.

Parents' level of concern depended on how they interpreted the scene. Some viewed the messy bedroom as a measure of how well the teenager was doing, or as an example of how they were doing as a parent.

Ms Jakobs interviewed parents and teenagers for her Masters degree thesis, and had noticed how everyday parenting of teens was not often researched.

Research is usually about when things go wrong teen pregnancy, alcohol and drug abuse, eating disorders and crime and focuses on teenagers rather than parents.

The thesis explores changes in the parent/teen relationship, such as the shifting of responsibility as the teenager develops to adulthood.

It raises questions about the way parents acquire their knowledge, skills and attitudes about the job of parenting teenagers.

It reveals key issues:

- Knowledge of parenting teens is mainly learnt from one's own parents.
- The acquisition of parenting knowledge seems haphazard.
- Parenting teenagers is seen as different to parenting younger children.
- Parents feel a lack of support and recognition for their parenting work.

At last more emphasis is being placed on the role of parenting in New Zealand today, though mainly in the 0-5 age group, says Ms Jakobs. Parents of teenagers want more recognition and support from the wider community. Support for parents of teenagers tends to be provided when families are struggling rather than supporting parents to maintain and develop strong relationships before they are in difficulty.

Parents want to do their job well, but are not always clear about how they can do this.

Ms Jakobs recommends more research on the everyday parenting of teens and the provision of more recognition, education and support for parents of teens.

Her advice? Relax. Many parents seem to want to fix the 'problem' but my research shows that a messy teenage bedroom is typical of teenagers today.

Date: 05/05/2006

Type: Research

World-class ranking for Riddet researcher

Professor Harjinder Singh has been identified as one of the most highly-cited researchers by the Thompson Scientific publication, Science Watch.

Thompson Scientific records all scientific papers published and highlights the world's most cited authors.

Professor Singh, a co-director of the Riddet Centre, has been ranked 15th among international agricultural scientists.

Professor Singh is the only researcher from New Zealand and Australia represented in the report a rare achievement says fellow Riddet Centre co-director Professor Paul Moughan.

This ranking is not based on opinion, it is an objective analysis of citation. It demonstrates that research of this calibre is underway in the Riddet Centre and the University, and the international impact this research had over the last decade, Professor Moughan says.

Very few people have reached this level of achievement, and it reflects upon the centre's position as an elite centre of international standing.

Professor Singh's research programme is directed at generating fundamental knowledge of structures, interactions and functions of food components, in particular proteins, in different environments and after novel processing technologies.

His internationally-cited papers include research into food colloids and biopolymers, functions and interactions of milk proteins, colloidal stability of milk systems, behaviour of proteins at interfaces in emulsions, nanoparticles for delivery and protection of sensitive components, and novel techniques for characterisation food emulsions and gels.

Date: 05/05/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Any



Prestigious food awards opened up to schools

The Massey University Food Awards have been opened for secondary school science students for the first time.

The prestigious awards attract intense competition from the food industry and have become a showcase for the best of new food products.

Next month the judging will be held on the Auckland campus and the winners will be announced at a gala dinner on 16 October.

This year a product development section has been opened to high school students and two teams are working in conjunction with food technology students at the Auckland campus.

The food awards are recognized as the country's top awards and their success has been the initiative of Professor Ray Winger, who is head of food for the University's Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health. The last awards attracted well over 100 product entries from 45 companies. Products entered must be manufactured in New Zealand, either for the domestic market or for export.

The awards have strong support from all sections of the food and beverage industry, from producers to researchers, scientists, regulatory bodies and the food media.

The University is the leading educator of food technologists, many of whom are now leading innovation in the industry.

Opening the awards to school entries creates a link to a new generation of food technology students who are in hot demand as graduates, says Professor Winger

He is pictured with a student group from Westlake Girls High School, who are working to develop a gluten-free cereal.



Date: 05/05/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences



Ninya Maubach and fellow researcher Professor Janet Hoek,

Effectiveness of food industry accord challenged

Self-regulation by the food and advertising industries has failed to curb obesity and it is time for the Government to step in, says marketing researcher Professor Janet Hoek.

Professor Hoek says the food, advertising and media sectors have not taken the steps necessary to solve the problem of obesity, despite an accord signed almost two years ago.

On her hit list for regulation are cheap fast food combo deals, the use of sporting heroes in advertising, and food sold in schools.

The Food Industry Accord, launched in September 2004, was billed as a major, self-regulatory industry initiative to help address the issue of obesity. It commits participants to recognising that obesity is a major risk to public health and to working co-operatively to tackle it. The launch was attended by then Health Minister Annette King who had previously floated the idea of a so-called fat tax. Earlier this year Ms King said the accord must work, or future governments may reconsider the concept of self-regulation.

Professor Hoek, from the College of Business' Department of Marketing, and fellow researcher Ninya Maubach (pictured) have been reviewing self-regulatory initiatives like the accord and say it is clear that stronger measures are needed.

In our view, the industry has focused on 'supply measures', but has overlooked the restraint necessary in their marketing activities, which generate demand, Professor Hoek says.

The researchers say while measures such as product re-formulation can be beneficial, these benefits are unlikely to be realised if marketing and promotion still support less healthy menu items.

It's one thing to introduce new products that are lower in fat, salt and sugar. However, this needs to be matched by changes in marketing.

Foods high in fat, salt and sugar are still regularly advertised and discounted, and consumers are rewarded with loyalty gifts and competition entries for purchasing these. While this is the case, there is no incentive for consumers to change their behaviour and adopt new, more healthful menu items.

Professor Hoek is also sceptical of claims by the Television Broadcasters' Council that advertising bans do not affect consumer behaviour.

Simplistic analyses that plot advertising revenue against obesity levels are a waste of time. We know from our experience with tobacco regulation that when marketers can no longer advertise, they channel their promotion budgets into other activities, such as sponsorship, point of sale promotions and guerrilla campaigns.

Analyses that overlook the wide array of promotions undertaken and focus only on one element of the marketing mix will produce inaccurate and misleading results.

She says it is also of concern that marketing tools like loyalty programmes do not appear to be covered by new advertising codes.

The current self-regulatory environment encourages the minimum standards required to stave off Government intervention. There are no penalties for non-compliance and retrospective decisions foster a permissive advertising environment.

Professor Hoek dismisses arguments that government intervention will erode personal freedoms.

The industry has constructed a false dichotomy between freedom and curtailment of commercial activities. Consumers will only have the freedom to make choices that are in their long-term interests when Government intervention has constrained the current marketing environment.

She and Ms Maubach have identified four areas where they believe the Government needs to act:

- A review of marketing techniques including bundling products in combos to provide extra food and drink at either minimal or no extra charge. People respond very readily to price promotions and, because many of these occur within stores, they may not be covered by the industry's self-regulatory codes.
- Pairing sports heroes and other youth role models with foods high in fat, salt and sugar. This sends conflicting messages to children and adults alike. Even where sportspeople promote so-called healthier ranges, there's evidence that consumers associate them with the overall brand.
- Limiting advertising during prime time as well during children's programmes. We need to do more to ensure that the advertising children see promotes, rather than detracts from, healthier eating habits.
- School canteens, vending machines and food products used for fundraising. The discrepancies between what children are taught about good nutrition and the choices given to them at schools need urgent attention. School canteens and vending machines need to support healthier food choices. We'd like to see fund-raising efforts move away from chocolate sales to activities like sponsored walks the sort of fund raising that took place before confectionary became available for on-selling. Clear guidelines from Government would help boards of trustees make decisions consistent with the long-term health of students.

Professor Hoek has been appointed as an expert to assist Parliament's Health Select Committee inquiry into obesity and type-two diabetes. She was recently invited to join the Health Sponsorship Council's healthy eating healthy action implementation group. She and Ms Maubach recently published their conclusions on self-regulation by the food and advertising industries in leading American law journal The Loyola Law Review.

Date: 05/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business



Finlay Jackson from Oteha Valley School hard at work on the Kid's Choice category.

Licking your way to the top of the class

Eating ice cream took on a serious new guise for a group of primary school children from Oteha Valley School, Albany.

They were invited to the University's Food Technology laboratory to help judge this year's National Ice Cream Awards.

As well as the industry giants, a growing number of boutique operations enter the awards, some with highly-specialised products.

There are nine categories ranging from standard to premium products, the children's category, export, low fat and related items like gelato and sorbet.

Chief judge Kay McMath, a Senior Lecturer in Food Technology, says New Zealand has the raw ingredients and the product development expertise to position itself among the world's best ice cream makers.

It is a highly-competitive, fast-moving industry with constant demand for new products, she says.

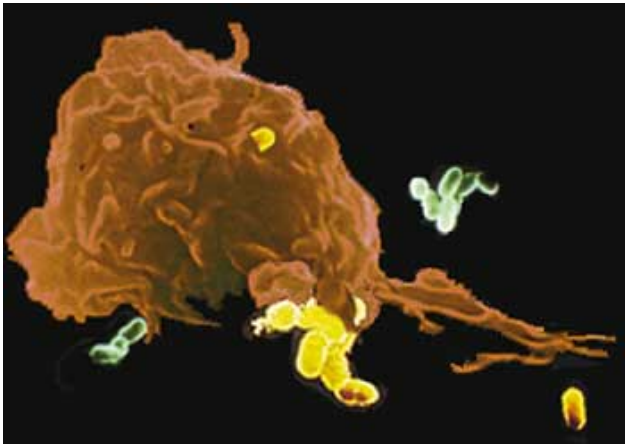
Food technology graduates, who are in strong demand throughout the food industry, have been employed by ice cream manufacturers and have made a significant contribution to the development of successful products.

Most years, joint projects with a number of ice cream manufacturers are undertaken on campus.

Date: 20/05/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Auckland



Science article challenges thinking

An article by Professor David Penny and Dr Lesley Collins, featured in the latest edition of the prestigious Science magazine, challenges established theories of eukaryote evolution.

The evolutionary biologists from the University's Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution co-authored the three-page article with colleague Professor Charles Kurland from Lund University in Sweden.

The published paper, titled *Genomics and the Irreducible Nature of Eukaryote Cells*, reviews the specific area of the origins of eukaryotes (organisms with one or more cells that have visible nuclei and organelles). It questions established assumptions and outlines the breadth of scientific speculation about early eukaryote evolution.

Dr Collins, a research fellow at the Centre, says the article will undoubtedly raise a few eyebrows in the international community of evolutionary biologists.

We felt it was important that this challenge should be put into prominence, and that a little balance should be added to the whole question of eukaryote evolution.

Dr Collins attended a recent phylogenomics conference in Canada and presented research showing that, under certain ecological settings, sequence loss and cellular simplification are common modes of evolution (known as genomic reduction). She says that although still somewhat controversial, the research was generally well-received.

The Science feature includes research conducted into genomic reduction, a theory in opposition to that of genomic fusion, which suggests that eukaryotes evolved by fusion between archaea (bacteria-like organisms) and bacteria.

Well-known examples of genome reduction in nature include fungi (such as baker's yeast) and parasites that have much smaller genome sizes than their relatives.

Dr Collins and Professor Penny say that the increase in genomic information made available through specialised research conducted in institutes such as the Allan Wilson Centre is changing many aspects of biology, and in this case, the perception of the nature of the early eukaryote cell.

A leading journal of original scientific research, global news, and commentary published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Science demands rigorous peer-review before publication.

Dr Collins says the article was carefully edited to review a massive amount of genomic and biological information about the evolutionary trajectory of modern eukaryotes, as distinct from that of prokaryotes organisms whose DNA is not contained within a nucleus.

Date: 20/05/2006

Type: Research



Student City buzzes during Graduation

Massey's successful Palmerston North graduation week once again helped stamp the Student City brand on the Manawatu capital.

It also continued a year of firsts for the University, with the first Doctor of Education capped, the first Highbury Scholar capped, and follows the largest number of PhDs to graduate from Auckland campus last month. The Wellington campus capping ceremonies later this week will see a record number of graduates.

In Palmerston North 10 capping ceremonies were held with as many parades along Broadway Ave to The Square, where the Massey marquee played host to functions throughout the week.

Town and gown combined for the successful Business Link function at which Massey and Vision Manawatu brought together with business leaders from throughout the region.

At a graduation luncheon at the Sport and Rugby Institute on campus, Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear spoke of the University's recent achievements and international recognition and accolades.

Professor Kinnear later described the graduation week as stunning ...highlighted by many research Masterates and PhD awards that reaffirm Massey's role in research training.

It was great to see the numbers and the age range of our graduates, which shows Massey's contribution to lifelong learning.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Palmerston North, Professor Ian Warrington thanked the city's residents, retailers and other businesspeople who supported what he described as a wonderful celebration of the achievements of more than 1500 graduates who crossed the stage, and of the support of their whanau and friends .

Professor Warrington also thanked the local newspaper, the Manawatu Stanard, the Manawatu District Pipe Band, Town Crier Caroline Robinson and the Palmerston North City Council for their support and participation.

City Mayor Heather Tanguay offered congratulations to everyone involved in what was a great week .

There was a buzz and excitement in the city, everywhere there were people going out to celebrate with their families bringing the city to life during the day and the evening, Mrs Tanguay said.

It was wonderful to see the Regent being used for this purpose and to see how much visitors enjoy the experience of visiting our beautiful theatre.

Date: 20/05/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: Graduation; Graduation (Palmerston North); Palmerston North

Council Report

In her report to Council at the 5 May meeting, Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear commented on the changes to research funding announced by Research, Science and Technology Minister Steve Maharey recently.

Professor Kinnear said the proposal should provide greater funding stability, however, while there would be some advantages in the proposed system, the overall effect would be to disadvantage universities, she believed.

She said she would have liked to see more overall funding for research and that there were core national services that should be funded separately, rather than from a contestable research and development fund.

She reported on the international links that had been made over the past month, including the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Versailles; progress made on a tripartite agreement between Peking University, Shihezi University and Massey; and a visit by the Malaysian University co-ordinating Committee on Human Resource Development.

Professor Kinnear reported that she had met with representatives of the Tertiary Education Commission, including TEC head Janice Shiner; the Mayor of Palmerston North, Heather Tanguay; and the Director of the Security Intelligence Service, Richard Woods.

She advised Council that the University had put in a bid to the Government to host the proposed National Centre for Tertiary Teaching Excellence, in partnership with the University of Canterbury, AUT and some polytechnics and industry training groups. She also advised that the funding cap for aviation students had been increased from the planned 500 EFTS in 2007 to 600 EFTS.

Professor Ray Winger was announced as the new Academic Board appointee to Council, replacing Professor John Codd who retired earlier this year, while the Chancellor, Nigel Gould, was reappointed to Council on the Vice-Chancellor's nomination.

Date: 20/05/2006

Type: University News

Categories: University Council

Robo-soccer for pulp culture fans

Futuristic robo-soccer demonstrations from the School of Engineering and Technology were popular at the recent Armageddon Pulp Culture Expo.

It was the first time the School has entered the expo, which has been held annually in Wellington and Auckland for more than a decade.

More than 13,000 people, most aged under 25, attended the two-day event.



Dr Wyatt Page, a senior lecturer in Multimedia and Digital Systems Engineering, said the Massey stand was the only display with an interactive exhibit.

Robo-soccer is played on a table with goals and hands-free robots that move towards the ball using sensors such as light-emitting diodes.

First-year engineering students design and build robots for the annual Robolympics , and the combination of imaginative engineering and sport is a favourite for secondary school students who visit the Palmerston North and Wellington Schools at open days.

The stand also featured an upgraded version of an Augmented Reality demonstration, courtesy of Palmerston North business established by Massey technology and engineering graduates, Unlimited Realities.

PhD student Chris Johnson operated the robo-soccer with the help of Dr Loulin Huang and Dr Yacine Atif.

Date: 20/05/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Sciences; Exhibition/Show; Wellington

Paradise duck may not be such a bad egg

New Zealand's paradise duck may soon be viewed in a slightly better light by farmers.

Massey researcher Mark Delaney thinks the commonly-held belief that the abundant and colourful paradise ducks contaminate paddocks may be wrong.

For his biology masters thesis, Mr Delaney is researching the ecology of the paradise shelduck, a bird endemic to New Zealand that has been the subject of relatively little research.

The paradise duck is one of those unusual endemic species that has benefited from human modification of the landscape, says Mr Delaney.

Despite its widespread distribution, its impact on agricultural pasture and crops, and its importance as a game species, only a few studies have been conducted and that was 30 years ago.

The ducks graze in wetlands and on open pasture. They often get offside with farmers, especially when they flock in large numbers. On farmland, they have been thought to contaminate land by passing on bacterial diseases.

Mr Delaney and his supervisor, Associate Professor Dianne Brunton from the Institute of Natural Resources, believe that the ducks may not be passing on bacterial disease to the paddocks and that the reverse may be true.

Dr Brunton says the ducks, like many other native species, may be found to have low levels of disease.

A study of the micro-organisms associated with paradise ducks, and their potential threat to livestock, is now under way at Tawharanui, north of Auckland.

Mr Delaney's research is supported by a \$10,000 Fish and Game Scholarship.

Date: 20/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture; School of Veterinary Science

Immigrant workers resource for businesses

Immigrants are an untapped resource for New Zealand businesses trading overseas, says commerce researcher Dr Henry Chung.

Although immigrants bring a wealth of knowledge about the marketplaces they come from, the value of this has been largely unrecognised by employers.

Dr Chung has been studying what he calls the immigrant effect for a decade after Asia-based New Zealand business leaders raised it with him.

Again and again they asked why New Zealand businesses don't make greater use of immigrant workers in their overseas dealings? he says.

I saw that there was a large group of people who were undervalued in business.

International immigration is an inherent factor in our globalised society and as well as bringing diversity to societies, it also brings business opportunities.

Dr Chung, a senior marketing lecturer, first conducted a widely-published study on the contribution and roles played by immigrants from Asia in companies trading with Taiwan, Hong Kong and China.

He found it was mostly smaller companies, trying to penetrate export markets, that recognised the benefits of the immigrant workforce.

Immigrant employees' knowledge about their country of origin market is manifested in the areas of culture, language, the legal system, market information and business operations. This innate knowledge is significant to a company's success.

Since he began his study, Dr Chung notes that the contribution of immigrants in a number of ways, has become an emerging theme among researchers.

His latest study looks at the contribution to New Zealand-based businesses of immigrants from Europe and his findings are to be published in the European Journal of Marketing. He studied 77 firms operating in 11 European markets. He found only 10 per cent hired immigrants from Europe to assist with their marketing activities in the EU region and these companies were typically larger operators with more international business experience.

He says the research is still in its developmental stage but some patterns emerged and he found that the strategy of using European immigrants to help firms market successfully in the immigrant's home country was still in its infancy.

Companies that used European immigrants' knowledge in their marketing strategies were mostly operating in the industrial and consumer durable sectors, he found.

While further research is needed, says Dr Chung, there is recognition now that immigrants could add significant new strengths to the so-called knowledge economy as well as to international trading.

There is a change of attitude in business. Some are waking up to immigrants as an undervalued resource. Some are realising there is a difference between the New Zealand and European perspective that has a significant bearing on success in European markets.

Date: 20/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Gold rush impact on Hauraki Māori

A study of the impact of the gold rush on Māori in the Thames area in the mid-to-late 1800s has revealed more were harmed than helped by the flurry of economic activity on their land.

In her history masters thesis *Let the Story Be Told: the Iwi of Hauraki and the Discovery of Gold 1850 1880*, Judy Walsh examines Māori engagement in the economics of the gold-mining boom, and how the gold rush influenced traditional Māori beliefs and practices.

She says her findings challenge the commonly-held view that, generally speaking, Māori involvement was of a purely economic and entrepreneurial nature.

When the easily-found alluvial gold had gone from rivers in the area, Māori rented land to Crown-controlled mining companies so that shaft mining could proceed. Ms Walsh says Māori had little involvement in the day-to-day mining scene, as the equipment and procedure was too alien to them.

While many engaged with mining companies to allow mining to go ahead, they did not foresee the impact of mining along with alcohol, gambling, disease and debt on their people, she says.

Neither did they anticipate the impact of shaft mining on the landscape, which had to be cleared of native forest.

This was really a fatal impact story, says Ms Walsh, a secondary school Māori language teacher who grew up in Thames.

Although most of the money iwi earned from land rents went back into supporting the people, some built up debts at the local grocery store for food and other items and handed over more land pay those debts.

Four iwi in the Hauraki area are thought to have lost a total of more than 400ha of land to the Crown during the gold-rush years and now have a claim for compensation before the Waitangi Tribunal.

For her research Ms Walsh studied Māori and English newspapers and manuscripts, government documents, artwork and photographs. She also interviewed kaumatua whose ancestors lived through the gold-mining era.

There was a lot of propaganda about the government making Māori entrepreneurs, she says.

But some did become wealthy as a result of the mining. There were chiefs who used money from land rentals to acquire European-style homes with all the trappings and trimmings of wealth.

Date: 20/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences



On the Massey farm, members of the Uruguan delegation hosted by College of Sciences staff, from left, Dr Walter Ayala, Dr Alexjandro La Manna, Dr Pablo Chilibroste, Professor John Hodgson (INR), Dr Fabio Montossi, Professor Colin Holmes (IVABS), and Gareth Evans (Ag Services).

Another round for successful Uruguay pact

An agreement between the University and Uruguay's National Agricultural Research Agency for collaborative research has proved such a success since 1998 it has been extended for a further five years.

Senior members of Instituto Nacional de Investigacion Agropecuaria (Inia) visited the Palmerston North campus on 9-10 May to sign a new memorandum of understanding, which will run till 2011.

It involves funding for postgraduate research and training programmes for nine Inia staff, and consultancy and training visits to Uruguay by nine members of staff of the Institutes of Natural Resources, Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences, and Food, Nutrition and Human Health.

The agreement focuses primarily on the Uruguayan pastoral livestock and dairy industries. In a brief signing ceremony Professor Robert Anderson, representing the Vice-Chancellor, and Inia board of directors chairman Professor Pablo Chilibroste commented on the value of the original agreement. Professor Chilibroste placed particular emphasis on the opportunity to access specialist expertise to reinforce the national research programme in Uruguay.

Among the Uruguayan delegation were two Massey alumni, both of whom obtained PhD degrees working in the Agronomy Department under the supervision of Professor John Hodgson on aspects of the ecology of grazing systems. Dr Fabio Montossi (1992 - 1995) is now Head of the National Meat and Wool Programme, and Dr Walter Ayala (1998 - 2001) heads the National Pastures Programme.

Created: 3 April, 2008

Date: 20/05/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture



Pictured above from left to right are: Dr Salha Issan (Dean, College of Education), Professor Wayne Edwards (Head, School of Educational Studies), Dr Moosa Alkindi (Assistant Vice-President for the Humanities Colleges), Dr Aly Amer (Head, Department of Curriculum & Instruction), Zuweina Hamed Nasser Al Battashi (Omani student in the College of Education), Zahya Salim Saif Al Ghefeili (Omani Student in the College of Education), Khulood Ali Juma Al-Fazari (Omani student in the College of Education), Professor James Chapman (PVC College of Education).

New Partnerships in education

A group of academics from Oman are among three international groups to make a special visit the College of Education so far this year. Here to exchange knowledge and experiences, the delegations have come from Malaysia, Oman, and Thailand, and have included senior academic staff, researchers and students.

Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor James Chapman is delighted with the visits.

Education and its delivery can be influenced by a number of social, political, and cultural factors, so it is particularly exciting to receive our international guests. It highlights the University's international reputation for excellence and research strengths, and offers us a unique opportunity to share our culture and ideas.

Four academic staff members of Sultan Qaboos University in Oman visited the College of Education over three days in April. They met with academic staff as well as with three Omani women who are enrolled in the B Ed degree programme. In addition, the delegation also visited Palmerston North Boys High School and the Massey University Children's Centre.

Discussions with the Sultan Qaboos delegation focussed on possible areas for collaboration, including staff and student exchanges, joint research projects, upskilling of SQU College of Education staff, and assisting with SQU programme reviews.

Date: 20/05/2006

Type: Research

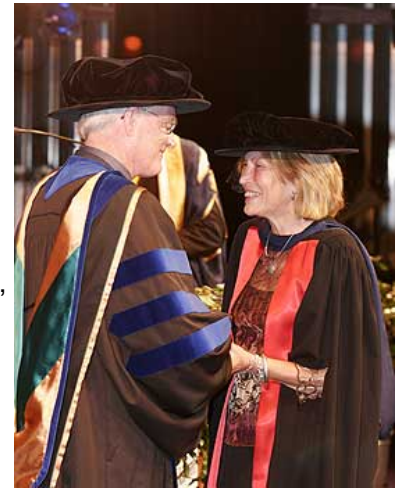
Categories: College of Education

Celebrating Education firsts

Academic Director for the College of Education Dr Kathleen Vossler became the University's first Doctor of Education, when she was awarded her EdD at Graduation ceremonies in Palmerston North.

In Dr Vossler's research, she argues that the preparation of professional educators should be enhanced to incorporate aspects of professional judgement, and expertise, and of moral and ethical commitment.

She was thrilled to share her ceremony with her former pupil, Lisa Kimura, who graduated with a Bachelor of Education (Primary Teaching). Ms Kimura, is the first graduate of the Highbury Scholarship programme which began in 2003 as a partnership between the Highbury community, the Tertiary Education Commission and Massey University.



Ms Kimura has now returned to her old school Highbury which has been renamed Somerset Crescent School to teach part-time. She says that most of the teachers at Highbury schools live outside the area and she believes her presence teaching at a local school has had a positive influence on the pupils.

Date: 20/05/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: College of Education; Graduation; Graduation (Palmerston North)



'Google hacking' attacks rising

New Zealand web sites are more vulnerable to Google hacking than many people realise and hacking attacks are on the rise, according to a recent study by Massey researchers.

Personal information held by businesses, government departments and voluntary organisations are potentially at risk, along with operations of the websites that hold them.

Google hacking involves using the popular Google search engine to locate sensitive online information, which should be protected but is not.

Dr Ellen Rose, a senior lecturer at the Institute of Information and Mathematical Sciences, and graduate student Natalia Nehring, ran Google search queries known to return sensitive information from the Google database.

They wrote a computer program that for three months ran 170 daily queries against the Google database, looking at sites in New Zealand, Australia, the United States and the Czech Republic.

They found that sensitive data was now easier to obtain and that New Zealand sites are more vulnerable to hackers than Australian or United States sites.

The study aimed to ascertain how vulnerable we are to hackers. The researchers say any internet user can now easily find sensitive information using only a browser and a few carefully chosen keywords. They point out website administrators can use the same techniques to discover their own vulnerabilities.

Google hacking, how it works and how to protect against it is extensively reported on a range of articles that can be found through the Google search engine itself.

Dr Rose and Ms Nehring say about half of their hits pointed to sensitive information although some types of sensitive information were only available for a small window of time.

Vulnerabilities related to backup files were open the longest, followed by remote administration vulnerabilities.

They got the most hits in New Zealand in the organisational domains (.co and .org) and within the categories of error messages and backup files.

The average number of days a potential vulnerability remained open across all domains and all categories was similar in the US (48.85 days, 46 per cent from the duration of test period) and Australia (49.54 days, 50 per cent from the duration of test period) with New Zealand vulnerabilities remaining open somewhat longer (60.96 days, 57 per cent from the duration of test period). Very little vulnerability could be detected in the Czech Republic.

Dr Rose said she felt it would be unethical to name the sites where personal information could be found but Massey's own website was found to have about 50 vulnerabilities, which they had alerted the University's technology services department to.

The researchers say a more proactive approach based on building security into the design of Web applications, like the Google search engine, is required.

Security on the Web is likely to remain an ongoing battle, Dr Rose says. On the one side, hackers will continue to employ new tactics, using tools like Google in unforeseen ways.

Security experts must try to minimise exposure by detecting problems and putting countermeasures, such as security audits, in place. Google hacking vulnerability should be included in these security audits.

The Massey researchers are now looking at proactive security measures that could be used by website administrators.

Created: 3 April, 2008

Date: 20/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Engineers build then bust bridges

Engineering is mostly about designing and building things, but sometimes breaking stuff is part of the job, and 13 teams of first-year engineering students put their work to the test recently in an assignment where they had to build, then break, a model bridge.

Senior lecturer in engineering Richard Jones says the students had to make their bridge from five metres of aluminium, 40 nuts and bolts and 20 pieces of wire.

A compression tensile testing rig was used to measure the breaking point. Students were scored on the length of the span and the force it could withstand before failure.

Team 'No Name' member Jeannie Yeung says they spent about 10 hours designing and building their bridge. The hardest part was agreeing on the design, she says, but we did the best we could with the time we had.



Their bridge withstood 3.7 kilonewtons equivalent to the weight of five people before it failed.

Mr Jones described it as fairly robust . He says the assignment was about having fun and getting a feel for all different aspects of engineering.

Ms Yeung's teammate Anna Tisch says she loves messing around with electronics and mechanics. So she was really excited last year to hear she had won a \$4000 bursary to study the new Bachelor of Engineering degree.

The students are the first to study the new degree majoring in mechatronics, which was launched at the Wellington campus this year.

Mechatronics is the combination of precision mechanical engineering, electronic control, computer technology and a systems approach in the design of products and processes.

There is a shortage of graduates skilled in mechatronics, which is a core technology for successful industrial activity in the 21st century, says Professor Bob Hodgson, head of the School of Engineering and Technology.

While we have for some years offered a four-year professional Bachelor of Engineering on our other campuses, this is the only such course available in Wellington, he says.

Date: 20/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Research aid to more effective social work

Social work researchers are looking at ways to increase social workers' use of and confidence in research.

The academics behind a joint project between Massey and Auckland universities say front-line social workers often ask themselves how they could improve their practice, but lack the time or the skills to find out what is effective and what could be improved.

Dr Neil Lunt and Dr Christa Fouche from the School of Social and Cultural Studies, and Liz Beddoe and Phil Harrington from the University of Auckland are working with several groups of social workers from different agencies.

Growing Research in Practice is funded by the Families Commission and the Social Development Ministry with support from the ASB Trust and the national Social Workers' Association.

It was prompted by a series of workshops two years ago that revealed a low level of research, as well as a lack of confidence, by social workers in undertaking and making use of research in their work. The project manager, Massey's Deborah Yates, who has 20 years of social work experience, says the aim is to encourage a culture of inquiry.

Social agency clients, including abused children, domestic assault victims, the elderly and the disabled, are likely to receive more relevant, effective help if social workers are able to research specific client needs, Ms Yates says.

But often the social workers do not have the time to make the inquiries that may help get results.

Social workers are rushed off their feet, they're incredibly busy. It's very difficult to stop and take the time to ask broader questions.

However, if they can build it into their professional development and with careful planning make it part of what they do, it can save time and money and deliver a better, more finely-tuned service.

Nine project groups are participating, representing a range of social agencies, including youth and ethnic groups.

Over the next year they will attend regular demonstration workshops to learn what research tools are available, and to receive peer-mentoring from academic staff.

Practice-based research might entail a survey of the relevant literature, studying data already collected by the agency, or collecting new data.

Results of the project will be presented next year and a handbook produced and made available for all social workers.

Date: 20/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences



Māori Visual Arts Graduates left to right: Back row - Rangī Kipa, Ngataiharuru Taepa posthumous for Raewyn Tangira, Piata Winitana-Murray, Erueti Tutaki, Kelcy Taratoa, Sandy Adsett. Front row - Wi Te Tau Taepa, Hemi MacGregor.

Ceremony to honour Māori graduates in Palmerston North

Local kapahaka Te Piringa led over 200 Māori graduates, their families and friends down Broadway in Palmerston North Friday following a special ceremony to honour Māori graduates. The ceremony marks the last of the formal graduation celebrations at Massey University this week.

Around 160 Māori graduated this week with a range of degrees and diplomas. Three of those graduates now have doctorates. Dr. Huia Tomlins-Jahnke (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Toa Rangatira, Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Hine) and Dr. Colin Knox (Ngāti Raukawa) have PhD's in Māori Studies and Dr. Bronwyn Campbell (Ngāti Porou) has a PhD in Psychology.

Professor of Te Reo, Tairahia Black (Ngāi Tūhoe, Te Whānau-a-Apanui, Ngāti Tūwharetoa) says the number of Māori PhD graduates coming through Massey is growing and the students have made huge sacrifices.

They are high achievers and have made a fine contribution to Māori research and development. The years taken to obtain the degree reflect the huge commitment and sacrifice undertaken by students. Time away from family and friends and absences from whānau gatherings can take its toll and can deter many from completion. Our PhD graduates have risen to the occasion.

Guest speaker and Massey Alumni Tiwana Tibble (Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Raukawa) has a Bachelor of Business Studies and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Management. Mr Tibble is the Chief Executive of Ngāti Whātua o Orakei Māori Trust Board in Auckland. He spoke about his own experience of implementing a global vision *Me pēhea e tutuki?*

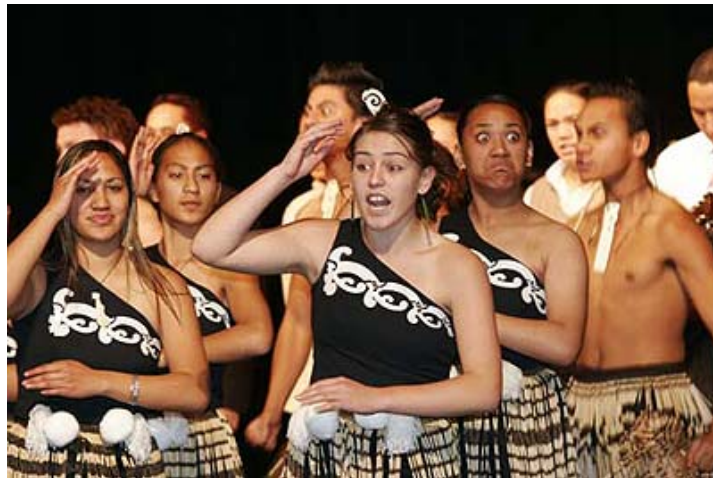
Masters of Nursing graduates husband and wife John (Ngāti Maniapoto, Ngāti Kahu ki Whangaroa, Ngāti Makea) and Maureen Emery (Ngāti Haua) have over 30 years experience combined in nursing and mental health.

The couple are also Te Rau Pūawai scholarship recipients. Mr Emery says the Masters degree will assist him in his role tutoring in mental health. Mrs Emery says that the degree will be highly beneficial for her role as a Liaison Nurse working in the prisons and courts. The scholarship is a partnership between Massey University and the Ministry of Health for students studying in the area of Māori mental health. Mr and Mrs Emery say without the help and support of the scholarship they may not have been able to pursue their studies.

The Māori Visual Arts programme also celebrated success amongst its students this week. Among them are artist Sandy Adsett (Ngāti Kahungunu) who graduated with a Masters of Māori Visual Arts, Rangī Kipa (Te Āti Awa, Taranaki) and also Wi Taepa (Te Arawa, Te Āti Awa) who graduated with a Post-Graduate Diploma in Māori Visual Arts.



The ceremony winds up with dinner and entertainment at the racecourse this evening. ends



Local kapahaka Te Piringa.



Dr. Bronwyn Campbell (Ngāti Porou) PhD in Psychology with Dr. Huia Tomlins-Jahnke (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Toa Rangatira, Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Hine) and Dr. Colin Knox (Ngāti Raukawa) both have PhD's in Māori Studies.



Chancellor Nigel Gould with Professor Mason Durie and School of Psychology Kaumatua, Turoa Haronga.



Massey Scholar and Te Rau Pūāwai Bursar Erika Te Hiwi-Burns (Rangitāne, Ngāti Raukawa) graduated with a BA in Psychology.

Date: 20/05/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Graduation; Graduation (Palmerston North); Maori

New PhDs in Palmerston North

WEI-HUEI HSU Doctor of Philosophy in Finance

Dr Hsu investigated the inter-relationship between rating agencies and banks and the valuation effects of rating announcements on investors. Her thesis demonstrated how the value of lending relationships from a high quality bank relied on mitigating the negative valuation effect from adverse rating announcements.

PAUL ANTONY PICKERING Doctor of Philosophy in Marketing

Dr Pickering investigated the internationalisation of micro-enterprises, which represent 90 per cent of New Zealand businesses. His findings demonstrate to managers and policy-makers how the micro-enterprise may succeed in its international endeavours, despite severe knowledge and resource constraints.

David JOHN Houlbrooke Doctor of Philosophy in Soil Science

Dr Houlbrooke investigated the quality of artificial drainage under intensive dairy farming, on which there is a lack of quantitative data. An improved system for applying dairy-farm effluent to land was successfully developed and implemented at a Massey dairy farm research site. PHILLIP EDWARD MURRAY Doctor of Philosophy in Agricultural Engineering.

Dr Murray investigated decision-making techniques for the implementation of renewable energy-based, distributed electricity generation in rural New Zealand communities. The study provides decision makers within rural communities anywhere in the world with valuable information on which to base renewable energy investment decisions.

ANDREW JAMES WALL Doctor of Philosophy in Plant Science

Dr Wall's research provides comprehensive information on the effect of poplar trees on pasture production, across stand densities used for soil conservation in North Island hill country. His study emphasises the need for ongoing silvicultural management of poplar stands to minimise the impact of excessive shading, and provides practical solutions.

Rachel CLAIRE Anderson Doctor of Philosophy in Biotechnology

Dr Anderson's research investigated the properties of the antimicrobial peptides found in ovine blood and assessed their potential as a high-value product. She was able to simplify and scale up the extraction process to show that the antimicrobial peptides could be easily and cost-effectively isolated from ovine blood commercially.

Hamish WILLIAM Mackie Doctor of Philosophy in Ergonomics

Dr Mackie examined the significance of heavy schoolbags. Findings supported the schoolbag weight recommendation of 10 per cent body weight, although this is likely to be unsuitable for some students. Other areas identified as requiring attention were lockers for belongings and correct matching of workstations, desks and chairs to a student's body size.

Abby KERRIN Thompson Doctor of Philosophy in Food Technology

Dr Thompson's research showed that phospholipids extracted from milk may be used to produce liposomes, which are used in the pharmaceutical and cosmetic industries. The results of her investigations suggest that there may be advantages in the use of the milk phospholipids for the production of liposomes.

Henning Koehn Doctor of Philosophy in Biochemistry

Dr Koehn studied proteins in breast cancer cell lines in response to a standard chemotherapy drug; most drugs are effective in only 50 per cent of patients due to drug resistance. His work provides a framework for further study of tumour samples for the development of diagnostic and therapeutic strategies for the treatment of cancer.

GLENIS ANNE MOBBERLEY Doctor of Philosophy in Physiology

Dr Mobberley investigated the effects from exposure to electromagnetic fields in humans, looking at the frequencies running domestic and office appliances and cellular phones. Effects from the cellular phone frequency included a significant rise in aural temperature in both ears, heating of the head, and low scores in an attention test.

Brent MARK Stephenson Doctor of Philosophy in Zoology

Dr Stephenson studied gannet breeding at the Cape Kidnappers' gannet colony in Hawkes Bay. He found breeding success is highly variable and linked to weather patterns. He became the first person to photograph the New Zealand storm-petrel, leading to the species' rediscovery after 150 years of supposed extinction.

CAROLYN ANNE YOUNG Doctor of Philosophy in Molecular Biology

Dr Young studied a fungal endophyte that associates with common, perennial ryegrass and remains undetected. The association has beneficial effects for farmers but also produces compounds detrimental to grazing animals. Her research will be useful for evaluating endophyte-infected ryegrass for this detrimental effect.

XIUWEN ZHANG Doctor of Philosophy in Genetics

Dr Zhang studied the role of the coenzyme, thiamine, in conferring fitness to a fungal endophyte to colonise perennial ryegrass and to form reproductive structures on the leaves. Her work enhances understanding of endophyte-grass symbiosis and provides fundamental insights into thiamine biosynthesis in fungi.

CHARLES HUW CRAWFORD LITTLE Doctor of Science (in absentia)

Dr Little's thesis is concerned with three basic strands of graph theory and chromatic polynomials. He was involved in the discovery of two characterisations of such graphs and has also studied perfect matchings, involving a set of lines that can be used to pair off the points. He proposes a way to answer the question of how many perfect matchings there are in a given graph.

Deborah ANNE Ayres (née CLARKE) Doctor of Philosophy in Education

Dr Ayres thesis offers a definition of spiritual growth as learning which calls for new understandings of learning. The theory generated by teachers' talk, practices and ideas, identifies that establishing and maintaining a trusting, learning-directed relationship with each student is essential to effective teaching.

Christopher CHRISPEN Chimwayange Doctor of Philosophy in Education

Dr Chimwayange's research explored home and school processes of difference, inequality and oppression, which have resulted in low design and technology subject enrolment and career progression limitations for girls in the African context. Contrary to widely held beliefs, the research found no notable differences between girls' and boys' achievement.

KATHLEEN RUTH VOSSLER Doctor of Education

Dr Vossler examined current pre-service teacher education programmes and found they are mainly one-dimensional, skill-based and performative. She argues that preparation of professional educators should be enhanced to incorporate aspects of professional judgement and expertise and of moral and ethical commitment.

ROBYN ANN ANDREWS to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Social Anthropology

Dr Andrews researched Calcutta's Anglo-Indians: a minority community which is, in many ways, more western than 'Indian'. Since the departure of the British Raj, the prognosis for the community has been decline and eventual demise. As well as providing an ethnographic account of Anglo-Indians, her work challenges this pessimistic prognosis.

ANN LUCILLE APPLETON Doctor of Philosophy in Social Anthropology

Dr Appleton carried out ethnographic research in a Melanau community in Sarawak, prompted by studies indicating a better prognosis for mental illness in traditional societies than in more technologically developed societies. Her analysis suggests correlation between how a society approaches death and the way it handles psychopathology.

BRONWYN MARGARET CAMPBELL Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

Dr Campbell used various research methods and analysis for a reading of bicultural relations between Māori (researcher) and Pākehā (kaikōrero/participants). She found discontent with the present state of biculturalism was mediated by positive aspirations for future relationships, which were consultative, collaborative, and collegial.

Meidyah Indreswari Doctor of Philosophy in Development Studies

Dr Indreswari examined corporate governance practices, the roles of the boards of Indonesian State-owned Enterprises (ISOEs), and the effectiveness of government initiatives. The findings suggest that a strong-willed commitment from the government and ISOE management is a key factor in achieving good corporate governance practices.

COLIN FRANCIS KNOX Doctor of Philosophy in Māori Studies

Dr Knox investigated factors influencing Māori land based organisations, and obstacles to successful land development under the Treaty of Waitangi. He found that while there have been enormous law changes, which affect Māori ability to manage assets along traditional whānau and hapu lines, Māori values and preferred behaviours have not changed significantly.

WILMA PENELOPE ROBINSON Doctor of Philosophy in Social Anthropology

Dr Robinson investigated practices of belonging among Pākehā women living in Whanganui. Her research

revealed belonging as an evolving process, influenced by past practices, the New Zealand environment and Pacific culture. It also indicated that Māori collective activities are tangential in the everyday experience of the participants.

KIRSTY JANE ROSS Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

Dr Ross interviewed 24 sperm donors, investigating how they constructed and made sense of their experiences and their position as sperm donor. Findings revealed that being a sperm donor can lead to an enhanced construction of masculinity, and an accompanying powerful subject position with regard to other men in society.

HUIA TOMLINS-JAHNKE Doctor of Philosophy in Māori Studies

Dr Tomlins-Jahnke found that tribal service provision is characterised by Māori philosophies and values and dynamic relationships between provider on the one hand, and whānau, tribal authorities and government agencies on the other. However the thesis argues that devolution of services to iwi has significantly benefited tribal development and potential is high for a mix of tribal and government policy.

Susan Watson Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology

Dr Watson's research examined an etiological model of depression which looks at the interaction between life events and personality, and the subsequent likelihood of developing depression. Her work sheds light on reasons why previous investigations have not consistently shown expected results, and makes recommendations for future research.

Malcolm JAMES Bancroft Doctor of Philosophy in Media Studies

Dr Bancroft's research offers a humanistic study of the intellectual history of American fast food. The McDonald's hamburger is identified as instance of popular art and also part of mass culture. An existentialist approach to fast food highlights its compulsive nature and its role in the autonomy and proliferation of technology, which helps explain its popularity as well as its limited artistic potential.

SUSAN JANE HANNA Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work

Dr Hanna's thesis investigated how women in committed lesbian partnerships managed the long-term impacts of child sexual abuse, both on themselves and on their relationships. The research findings have application for counsellors and social workers working with this client group and others so abused, particularly heterosexual women and couples.

TRACIE AILONG MAFILE'O Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work

Dr Mafile'o's study explored Tongan approaches to social and community work practice. The thesis demonstrates that a Tongan worldview provides a relevant framework and argues that if social and community work is to be transformative, it must itself be transformed and its very foundations reshaped by Tongan and non-western voices.

BRONWYN JOAN WATSON (nee DAVIES) Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology

Dr Watson examined how women are surmounting gender exclusion and marginalisation in the funeral industry. Her study shows that the industry is changing as women clients and workers enter the field, bringing new values and ways of working. This is in contrast to the values of the masculine 20th century stereotype of a funeral director. In absentia

JESSICA ANNE STEWART Doctor of Philosophy Veterinary Pathology

No summary available.

In Council

No summaries available.

Tehseen Aslam, in Soil Science

Amy Marisa Ballantyne, in Chemistry

Jose Barquin Ortiz, in Ecology

Oliver Fleetwood Berry, in Ecology

Winnie Bosi, in Education

Naomi Samantha Boxall, in Veterinary Science

Victoria Gertrude Burggraaf, in Plant Science

David James Chapman, in Education

Jane Elizabeth Cherrington, in Psychology

David Douglas Miller Mason, in Quality Systems

Fábio Netto Moreno, in Soil Science

Emy Perdanahari Muliadiredja, in Resource and Environmental Planning

Chioma Maureen Okeoma, in Animal Science

Nigel Ross Perkins, in Veterinary Epidemiology

Achmad Arivin Rivaie, in Soil Science
Edward Ian Rumball, in Physics
Alfred Maxwell Saunders, in Production Technology
Swapan Kumar Sikder, in Environmental Engineering
Claire Nicolette Slatter, in Public Policy
Jiancheng Song, in Plant Biology
Indra Murty Surbakti, in Development Studies
Christine Helen Taylor, in Plant Pathology
Alison Ruth Viskovic, in Education
Vikki Marie Weake, in Genetics
Stephen Roland Leslie Werner, in Chemical Technology
Baisen Zhang, in Plant Science

Date: 20/05/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: Graduation; Graduation (Palmerston North)

End of WWI the beginning of another ordeal

Armistice in 1918 might have meant the end of hostilities in World War I, but for many New Zealand soldiers the ordeal was far from over, a University researcher has found.

It wasn't just the shell shock, the injuries or the trauma that had to be lived with or shaken off, it was finding a way to get home from Europe and the Middle East.

Master's student Michael Wynd has traced the history of the demobilisation period of 1918-19 for the NZ Expeditionary Force for his thesis entitled *So the end has come...I shall see you all again*.

He says that for thousands of New Zealand soldiers the armistice meant soldiering on while enduring endless waiting, boredom and frustration for up to a year after the war was over.

Quoting from a letter home by Captain George Tuck for his thesis title, Mr Wynd has examined the fate of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force: of the base camps in England, of the New Zealand Division in France and of the Mounted Rifle Brigade serving in Egypt, Palestine and Gaza.

Sourcing diaries and personal letters as well as administrative material from archives in Wellington and the Army Museum in Waiouru, Mr Wynd wanted to find out how the formidable process of demobilisation and repatriation was carried out.

I wanted to find out how the men felt, what their thoughts were, he says.

He was fascinated to learn about the practical, logistical side of an operation that involved dismantling camps equipped with items such as milk separators as well as masses of military equipment.

The fact that the armistice didn't signal instant peace, rather a delicate period of ceasefire until peace was signed, meant the war was not quite over for the battle-weary men so far from home.

New Zealand troops protested when they were ordered to march into Germany when the fighting ended, he says. One soldier was reported to have angrily retorted to the command that *We're not going to Germany, we're going home!*

But march into Germany they did, to Cologne, where they spent five months guarding bridges, roads and buildings from further destruction.

In the base camps back in England, ill-discipline was a problem for army leaders, with rioting, drunkenness, violence and theft occurring as their troops languished in base camps in England, waiting their turn for the two-month sail home.

Leadership was an issue, says Mr Wynd. There was also the ready access to alcohol, the boredom and frustration and the loss of unit cohesion.

You have to remember this was a citizen army. Most men were volunteers or were conscripts.

It's one thing to command an army in combat, but it was very different managing them after a declaration of peace.

Inevitably, men were punished for their ill-discipline. Others, having survived the war, died of influenza and other illnesses or of their injuries on the way home.

Amusing anecdotes have emerged too. A Māori soldier was brought to task for passing himself off as a Māori prince and running up debts with hotels and London money lenders.

New Zealand soldiers were sent home progressively those who were ill or injured went first (on what they dubbed the *limbie boats* for men who had lost limbs in battle), followed by those who were married and had families. The last to go were the fittest, unharmed men.

Mr Wynd believes that sending them home based on individual need rather than in their units might have contributed to the lack of order among those who waited.

About 124,000 New Zealanders went to war, representing 11.5 per cent of the total population and half of the

male population of military age (15-45 years).

From 1916, two years after the war began, service was compulsory for all men aged between 20 and 46. The official death toll on active service was 16,500.

The project has brought to light some of the invisible casualties of war, such as the young soldier who hanged himself on the return sea voyage home. An official inquiry reported he was unwell. He was buried at sea.

I didn't want him to be forgotten, says Mr Wynd.

Created: 8 May, 2006

Date: 20/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Malls to get even more mega says researcher

The traffic chaos and shopping frenzy that marked the opening of the Sylvia Park mega-mall in Mt Wellington is just a sign of things to come, predicts retail researcher Associate Professor Andrew Parsons.

Dr Parsons, from Massey University's Auckland campus, says New Zealand is likely to follow overseas trends, with even bigger malls attached to big box complexes, more entertainment, and add-ons such as gymnasiums, swimming pools and even schools.

He says developers closely follow the needs and changing shopping patterns of customers. Malls have developed as large covered areas that provide people with a pleasant, safe environment away from pollution, politics and the weather. But the catch is that such environments can be very sterile and lacking in excitement. You can stand in a mall and not know where you are you could be anywhere in the world for that matter.

Increasingly, people live by themselves and work in an office space by themselves. Going to a mall is one of the few ways available to interact with other people, to sit and socialise. Mall developers are tapping into this. They're also aware of the growing popularity of on-line shopping and 'warmer' shopping experiences provided by farmers' markets, for example.

He predicts retailers and developers will counter these changes by building bigger and providing unique, interactive experiences, with retailers letting people try out products in context. Nike Town in the United States, for example, has full-sized basketball courts in its shop, so that customers can put on the clothes and the shoes and then have a go on the court before they buy them. Some golf shops already have mini driving ranges in store. Extend that to other products and you have a less passive shopping experience.

Dr Parsons says in the future malls may even have schools attached. There are already crèches and pre-school centres for the children of both staff and customers. Why not schools? Overseas malls now have swimming pools, adventure parks, mini golf the sky's the limit. At the University of Alberta, where I worked for a time, the business school was attached to a mall which contained levels of shops and restaurants as well as student apartments.

He says new developments like Sylvia Park may seem bright, big, new and modern but we're only just scratching the surface of what's to come in the future.

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business



Hayley Lawrence, Damien Fleetwood and Professor Judith Kinnear.

Young scientists shine at MacDiarmid Awards

Genetic research that will play a crucial role in the conservation of one of the world's rarest birds is one of two projects by Massey scientists awarded prizes at the prestigious MacDiarmid Young Scientist of the Year awards.

PhD students Damien Fleetwood and Hayley Lawrence were awarded a first-prize category award and a commendation, respectively, at the awards ceremony in Auckland.

One of six category winners, Mr Fleetwood received a prize of \$2000 and Ms Lawrence was one of two students awarded a commendation.

Organised by the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology, the awards are named after New Zealand-born Nobel Prize winning scientist Professor Alan MacDiarmid and are designed to publicly celebrate the achievements of New Zealand's future leaders in science and to encourage others to follow in their footsteps.

Congratulations from Professor MacDiarmid were broadcast at the awards from the University of Pennsylvania, US, where he is currently based. He says that it is vital New Zealand scientists' achievements are honoured and recognised in the same way as those of New Zealand's sportspeople.

The Massey scientists are:

Damien Fleetwood, winner of the Adding Value to Nature category: a PhD student in the Institute of Molecular BioSciences (Palmerston North), Mr Fleetwood is based at crown research institute AgResearch.

Titled A Toxic Tag Team, his research explores how fungi and grass combine to poison grazing animals. It focuses on the interaction between grass and a fungus it hosts (the *Epichloë* endophyte) in a relationship Mr Fleetwood describes as a double-edged sword.

Grass infected with the endophyte is protected from many insect pests but at the same time many strains produce toxic chemicals, including one called ergovaline, that are designed to stop the grass being eaten because they are toxic to grazing stock, he says.

Animals that eat endophyte-infected grass producing ergovaline suffer effects ranging from poor weight gain to gangrene and death, at a potential cost of millions of dollars to the agricultural industries each year.

Mr Fleetwood's work has helped identify a cluster of six genes that are responsible for producing the toxic chemical ergovaline and built up new knowledge about how they work and when the genes are switched on and off.

Ultimately this will help us maximise the good agricultural effects of endophytes and minimise the bad ones, he says.

Hayley Lawrence, awarded a commendation in the Understanding Planet Earth category: A PhD student in the

Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution at the Auckland campus, Ms Lawrence is developing techniques to help locate the burrows of the Chatham Island taiko, one of the world's most endangered seabirds.

It is estimated that there are between 120 and 140 birds remaining, with only 14 breeding pairs on the Chatham Islands.

Ms Lawrence's research on the behaviour and interactions of the rare bird in the wild involves the use of taiko (magenta petrel) blood samples that will provide genetic identification for each bird.

These genetic identifiers will help researchers track birds to the family nest in underground burrows. When nests are found, improved trapping and poisoning of predators can be carried out to protect the critically endangered species.

A predator proof fence has already been built around an area on the Chatham Islands to create a safe breeding ground for taiko.

Ms Lawrence says she hopes her project, titled Can Whakapapa help save New Zealand's rarest seabird? will also improve conservation efforts to establish a new colony. Her research is supported by the Department of Conservation.

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences



Dr Cullen meets Edge the injured police dog at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

Deputy PM calls on recovering police dog

Stabbed police dog Edge received a visit from animal-loving Deputy Prime Minister Michael Cullen at Massey's Veterinary Teaching Hospital today.



Dr Cullen's visit to the Institute of Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Sciences was arranged well before Edge was stabbed twice in the chest by a man police confronted on a farm at Maraekakaho, Hawke's Bay, on Tuesday.

Airlifted to Massey with his handler Senior Constable Dave Whyte, Edge underwent surgery on Tuesday evening and is continuing to recover at the hospital and may be discharged as early as this weekend.

Despite his close call with death, he showed signs today that he is rapidly recovering, standing and licking Dr Cullen in response to affectionate pats.

Dr Cullen, the Tertiary Education Minister and Finance Minister, was also introduced to Gonzo, a North Island brown kiwi being treated for a damaged beak after being hit by a car several weeks ago.

I love animals, so for me it's a great pleasure to come to a place like this, he said.

He was welcomed and escorted through the hospital by College of Sciences Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Robert Anderson, Institute Head Professor Grant Guilford, the Programme Director of the Veterinary Degree Professor Norm Williamson and hospital director Dr Frazer Allan.

Senior staff from the institute joined them, Education Minister Steve Maharey, University Chancellor Nigel Gould and Acting Registrar Stuart Morriss, for a discussion on the Government's planned changes to tertiary education funding.

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Sciences; School of Veterinary Science



Prime Minister Helen Clark was at the University's Auckland campus last night to launch the New Zealand leg of the International Global Enterprise Challenge, a competition where teams of secondary school students launch a product or service backed by a business plan. With the Prime Minister are North Shore Mayor George Wood, Massey Chancellor Nigel Gould, members of the 10 school teams, and challenge organisers.

Secondary students vie for international business competition

Teams of clever teenagers will converge at the University's Auckland campus from Sunday for the international Global Enterprise Challenge.

The teams from New Zealand secondary schools will spend two days working on a business-related challenge that will be launched simultaneously to young participants the world over.

A New Zealand team has won the Scottish-run challenge three times in the past six years.

Last year it attracted competitors from 21 countries.

From the 10 teams of eight students participating in the two and a half day national event, a team will be selected for the international challenge. Their specified challenge will call for the development of an innovative product or service supported by a business plan.

On the morning of Monday, June 19 the competing teams will be set a New Zealand challenge, which they will then work on with the support of mentors and their corporate hosts.

They will participate in workshops at the University on the topics of innovation, business planning, marketing and production, finance and presentation techniques. After that the teams will work together in the boardrooms of their corporate hosts.

At the end of the second day each team will make a three-minute presentation to the judging panel, which includes Commerce Minister Lianne Dalziel.

On Tuesday evening the winning team will make a presentation from the University via video link to the international Global Enterprise Challenge panel in Scotland.

The national event is run by the Enterprise New Zealand Trust, with support from Trade and Enterprise, the University, North Shore City Council, Enterprise North Shore and several corporate hosts.

For further details contact Caroline Steele, Business Development Manager, Enterprise New Zealand Trust 027-454 -644, or Helen Vause, Massey University.

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business

More awareness needed of risks of concussion

Not enough New Zealanders, particularly children, are seeking treatment for concussion injuries, says clinical psychologist Joan Norrie of the Palmerston North Concussion Centre.

The centre, based at the University, is one of 10 in New Zealand set up six years ago by the Accident Compensation Corporation to assess and manage concussion and mild traumatic brain injury symptoms and help speed up recovery.



About 28,000 people, just under 1 per cent of the population, are treated either by hospitals or general practitioners each year for mild traumatic brain injury. This is head trauma that results in confusion or brief loss of consciousness and brief memory loss. A further 20,000 have moderate or severe traumatic brain injuries.

But Ms Norrie believes the numbers treated, particularly for mild traumatic brain injury, are likely to be considerably lower than the actual number of people affected because many people do not seek medical advice following mild head trauma assuming, often mistakenly, it is not serious.

"It is important that people, particularly school children, with even mild concussion, go to the GP who can refer them to us, for specialist help, she says.

School children are especially vulnerable because even a mild head injury can cause temporary difficulties with learning, through attention, concentration, memory and fatigue difficulties.

Teachers and parents need to be on the lookout for children who appear to be losing concentration or falling asleep after suffering a head injury, particularly if those symptoms recur for more than a week.

Ms Norrie says parents whose children play contact sport should never take concussion lightly.

They need to recognise that repeat concussions, particularly if untreated, can cause long term brain injury. If children suffer repeat concussions on the sports field, they may need a break or even consider changing sports.

The Palmerston North Concussion Clinic is based in the Psychology Clinic at Massey. Team members are Dr Richard Seemann, a Specialist in Rehabilitation Medicine, Joan Norrie, Clinical Psychologist (Neuropsychologist) and Pauline Andrews, Occupational Therapist. It receives referrals from ACC, GPs and hospital emergency departments from Wanganui, Manawatu, Horowhenua and Taranaki.

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Explore - HEALTH

Pasture sensor wins top innovator award at Fieldays

A GPS mapping system to assist the accurate measurement of a farm's pasture has won the innovation section at Fieldays in Hamilton.

Tried extensively last summer, the Rapid Pasture Development system was developed by Dr Ian Yule and the University's New Zealand Centre for Precision Agriculture to meet the need for improved methods of measuring pasture.

The three different models of pasture measurement sensors fit into sledges designed and developed by project partner C-DAX Systems Ltd to be towed by a farm-bike. The sledge and sensor can be towed at up to 15 km/h over rough terrain, wet pasture and mud, taking measurements every one or two seconds.

Expressed in kilograms of dry pasture per hectare, the data collected can then be downloaded into a computer to be integrated with feed budgeting software. Dr Yule says measurements taken before and after pasture has been grazed by stock can be used to assess which areas of a paddock are the most productive, or are preferred by stock.

Currently pasture is measured by New Zealand farmers manually and on foot using the plate meter, but Dr Yule says the time-consuming task often means only a small sample of the paddock is measured and used as a representative section.

The variation of factors such as soil type, water retention and pasture composition, demands a more accurate assessment.

Dr Yule says the beauty of a tool attached to a bike is that a thorough cross section can be measured as a farmer travels across a farm whilst moving stock or getting from one place to another. The sensor's stainless steel sledge has edges designed to flick off as much muck as possible and the data collected can be calibrated for different plant species. He says previous research suggests that a 15-20 per cent improvement in pasture utilisation may be made through the use of pasture budgeting systems. This estimate is based on factors such as the better utilisation of pasture, and an improvement in actual pasture yield through better controlled grazing.

The main benefit is that farmers will be able to develop a budgeting approach and make better decisions regarding feed production and use, and the application of fertiliser.

It will allow the identification of areas of low production, which can then be monitored regularly and compared over time, the ability to benchmark against other pasture within the paddock as well as other paddocks or even other farms on similar soil types.

The three sensors launched today begin with a basic model, which calculates the average pasture cover between the stopping and starting of measurement. The intermediate level model stores the paddock number and collected data, which can be downloaded to a computer.

The most advanced model is linked to a GPS unit, and readings are geo-referenced. This allows for advanced mapping. If paddocks have been mapped, the GPS unit will recognise which paddock it is in, and the information can be directly downloaded to mapping and feed budgeting software.

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture



Coin change marks end for foreign invaders

Tens of millions of mostly Australian coins currently treated as legal tender in New Zealand are about to become redundant.

Massey University Banking Studies director Dr David Tripe predicts many people may be caught out with a surprisingly large number of Australian coins that have crept into common use when the Reserve Bank prepares to issue new 10c, 20c and 50c coins and scrap the 5c.

In nearly 40 years since decimal currency was introduced the echidna, the lyrebird and the platypus have become almost as familiar to New Zealanders as the tuatara, the tiki and the kiwi symbols that appear on the 5c, 10c and 20c equivalents.

A recent Bank survey of coins in circulation has indicated about 5 per cent of those denomination coins or one in 20 are foreign, predominantly Australian, which are identical in weight and size.

Dr Tripe says until now, no-one has really cared.

Not only do they work in most parking meters and vending machines, shops either willingly or inadvertently accept them as payment and return them in change.

But that is about to end as a result of the new smaller, lighter coins, which will be issued on July 31.

Vending machines and parking meters will be recalibrated to accept the new coins and could begin rejecting the old coins either immediately or after they are fully withdrawn on 1 November, when shops will no longer have to accept them.

After that only the Reserve Bank will exchange them but it will not exchange Australian coins or other foreign coins. Trading banks will decide for themselves whether or not to accept the coins.

Dr Tripe predicts there may be a flurry of activity as people sort out jars of coins and take them into banks to exchange, only to find that they are handed back any foreign coins.

Most banks will not knowingly accept Australian or any other country's coins unless they have a special arrangement with the customer, he says.

I expect many people will then try to dispose of these coins either while shopping or in parking meters and vending machines.

But they should be aware that they are probably technically guilty of fraud if they knowingly attempt to pass off foreign currency as New Zealand's that includes putting an Aussie 20c in the parking meter or handing it over the counter as payment.

Dr Tripe says shoppers should also know they have the right to refuse to accept foreign coins as change.

My impression is that the number of foreign coins has increased with the huge growth in international travel in recent decades, combined with the fact that inflation has reduced the spending power of coins throughout the world, so people are less worried about trying to spend all their foreign coins before they travel home.

A recent Reserve Bank survey of 8000 silver coins 2000 of each denomination found 5 per cent of the 5c, 10c, and 20c pieces in circulation were Australian, with a few other countries coins also out there.

The bank has 584 million 5c coins worth \$29.2 million on issue, along with 241 million 10c worth \$24.1 million and 157 million 20c coins worth \$31.4 million.

That would indicate up to 49.1 million Australian coins with a face value of \$4.23 million may be in circulation, but Dr Tripe suggests it is likely to be considerably less as an unknown number of coins issued are thought to be permanently lost.

It is also probable that a large number of New Zealand coins are circulating in Australia we don't know how many which may cause problems over there in due course if they too decide to mint new, smaller coins.

Created: 6 March, 2008

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Noise also a danger for children in tunnels

A health science lecturer and specialist in the effects of noise on young children says taking pre-schoolers into road tunnels could severely damage their hearing, in addition to the physical dangers posed by traffic and exhaust fumes.

Stuart McLaren says apart from the obvious physical danger of taking children through a tunnel without a designated public footpath, the teachers from the Leeds St Early Years Childcare Learning Centre who took toddlers into The Terrace tunnel in Wellington this week were risking exposing the children's ears to excessive noise.

Mr McLaren has studied noise exposure of young children on walking excursions in Wellington and Auckland as part of a study on noise in early childhood centres, and says tunnels, constructions sites and even busy roads could pose a danger to hearing.

Organised walks are a very popular activity, which many childcare centres do with their children and while there are tremendous educational benefits and enjoyment for children, teachers, supervisors and parents need to know there are also potential dangers.

We have monitored young children as they walk and have been surprised by the high level of noise exposure children can receive on the busiest inner city streets.

This is in the range of workplace limits as high as 86 dB averaged over the excursion. In workplaces the law requires hearing protection for workers exposed to an average higher than 85 dB over an eight-hour day.

He says even where a designated pathway exists he would strongly advise against taking children into any noisy confined space such as Wellington's Mt Victoria tunnel.

Construction site noise too can be very loud, distressing and potentially damaging to children's ears.

That should be taken into account by local authorities, when they receive applications to build or demolish buildings close to schools, pre-schools and childcare centres.

If they allow such work to go ahead, councils should place conditions on the works to minimise the impact on young children attending the centre.

Mr McLaren says children with special needs, such as autism and some with giftedness, are especially vulnerable to loud or unexpected noise and could become very distressed.

Teachers and parents taking children for walks should plan the excursion very carefully and choose a route that minimises exposure to noise as they should with any other hazards.

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

More than \$272,000 ag/hort scholarships awarded

More than \$272,000 in scholarships, bursaries and prizes was awarded to 92 top students studying agriculture and horticulture at Massey at a special function recently.

The industries behind some of the scholarships include Meat and Wool New Zealand, Summerfruit New Zealand, Turners and Growers, the James Bull Group and Wrightson.

This year the inaugural Seed Tech Services Scholarship for the top honours student in agronomy and worth more than \$15,000, was awarded to Andrew Powell from Hawera.

Another six new scholarships were awarded to first year students in the Bachelor of Applied Science programme. The James Lockie Stewart Scholarships are worth \$2500.

The Sir James Wilson Prize (presented by the Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear) is awarded to the top Bachelor of Applied Science student of each year and this year went to Masterton student Tom Philips.

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture; Scholarships

Trust drives success in the international market

Tiny Kiwi businesses can succeed in niche international markets if they pick the right partners then trust them.

They also need more customised support from the Government, according to Department of Commerce researcher Dr Paul Pickering.

His PhD research on what makes micro enterprises successful in international markets - supervised by Dr Russel Kingshott from University of Notre Dame WA - is one of few studies of this important but largely overlooked business sector.



So-called micros - ventures with five or fewer staff - make up around 90 per cent of all New Zealand businesses. They provide 11 per cent of employment and 20 per cent of GDP. Dr Pickering says they are involved in a wide variety of activities, from manufacturing and information technology to retail and consulting services.

His research involved case studies of seven enterprises specialising in new voice-recognition technology, high-tech interactive visual production, remote mobile data communications, tropical pharmaceuticals, organic condiments, element-resistant baby-shades, and traditional wooden toys. All seven had successfully taken their products into international markets within 12-18 months of start up and Dr Pickering set out to find out how.

He says the common element was trust: "It's essential for micros to trust those they have chosen to deal with, which may include manufacturers, distributors, customers or others significant in the value chain. Furthermore, this trust must often be proffered at a time when only a short relational history exists. This seems like a risk which is opposite to accepted 'best practice', but it can make the difference between success and failure.

This often doesn't happen because fledgling businesses fear the exploitation of their ideas or innovations and then devote too much of their limited resources towards monitoring and controlling their value chain. The usual result is that they don't get the right equity partners on board and fail to gain entry into critical market networks to leverage the required resources. The venture is then stalled before it starts, runs out of money and disappears.

"The key to overcoming the fear is time spent early on in the venture filtering prospective partners, so that the relationships eventually entered into have the greatest chance of becoming long term, mutually beneficial, business marriages - as opposed to a series of self seeking interactions.

Created: 6 March, 2008

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

An education in governance

A unique qualification in the increasingly relevant area of corporate and institutional governance is now available in New Zealand.

The Postgraduate Diploma in Business and Administration endorsed in Corporate and Institutional Governance is a first and has been introduced by Massey University's Department of Management.

It is expected to appeal to existing or potential directors of companies, members of school boards, community trusts or other voluntary organisations and others with a serious interest in governance issues.

Professor Martin Devlin says the new diploma is the result of an increasing number of inquiries to the University about ongoing qualifications in the field of governance.

He says the new programme provides an important new tool, given that many recent corporate and institutional failures, in New Zealand and overseas, have been failures in governance as much as failures by management.

Discussions with the governance community, the Institute of Directors, independent consultants, Crown Companies Monitoring and Advisory Unit, as well as practitioners of governance, revealed a need for governance education in general and some areas in particular.

Those areas include:

- Governance and strategy
- Current issues in governance
- Best governance practices private, public, and voluntary
- An understanding of the principles of good governance in the New Zealand context
- Research in, and theory of, governance
- Local case studies in governance
- Duties, roles, and responsibilities of directors
- Legal and ethical studies
- Business-related skills development in governance.

Professor Devlin says the new qualification will cover all of those areas, providing a comprehensive and thorough understanding of all facets of governance, based on current research, publications and best practice guidelines.

Under the Companies Act, directors are responsible for the management of the company so one way of looking at the role of governance is that of providing strategic direction for organisations, or managing the managers, Professor Devlin says. While authority and resources may be delegated to appointed managers, it is the directors or board members who are ultimately responsible for the success or otherwise of the organisation.

Professor Devlin says failure to properly perform the duties of directors may result in severe criminal and civil penalties, including substantial fines and terms of imprisonment.

Similar, less substantial outcomes apply to board members of public and voluntary organisations. Above all, there are the social costs of organisational failure and the damage to the reputations of those involved.

He says the new qualification will allow students to understand and appreciate what constitutes best governance practice, to help organisations and companies achieve the goals expected of them by their stakeholders and owners.

The diploma is available extramurally and enrolments are already high.

Created: 23 May, 2006

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Business



Helen Mann and Dr Mark Sullman

Teenagers, roads, and risky behaviour

▶ VIDEO Watch the ONE NEWS item: [Dialup 56k](#) or [Broadband 128k](#)

A study of New Zealand adolescents' behaviour as pedestrians suggests risky behaviour is behind a relatively high road toll, particularly among Māori and children from small towns.

Dr Mark Sullman, a driving behaviour and road-rage researcher in Massey's College of Business, and Helen Mann from Heriot Watt University, Scotland, surveyed more than 940 school children aged from 13 to 18.

They say there is a need to know why adolescent road users are at particularly high risk of being injured on the road, as reflected by New Zealand's high road-toll. In their report Dr Sullman and Ms Mann cite statistics from the Ministry of Transport: Of 461 people killed were killed on the road in 2003, 58 were pedestrians. Those aged between 10 and 19 years old accounted for 28 per cent of all pedestrian injuries, despite making up only 15 per cent of the population.

The survey respondents were asked to rank the behaviours they engage in on a scale of one (never) to five (Very often). The road-use behaviours surveyed measured 43 different pedestrian behaviours, which could be placed into three categories: unsafe crossing behaviour (such as running across the road without looking); playing on the road (such as playing chicken by lying on the road and waiting for cars to come along); planned protective behaviour (such as wearing a cycle helmet or reflective clothing).

Significant results identified by Dr Sullman and Ms Mann include:

- About 20 per cent of the adolescents surveyed reported that they had engaged in behaviours rated by safety experts as being the most dangerous and most likely to lead to fatality (such as lying on the road and waiting for a car to come along and running onto the road without looking, for a dare).
- Adolescents from small towns reported playing on the roads and dangerous crossing behaviour more often than those from the cities and rural areas.
- Ethnicity: Māori(and part Māori) adolescents reported playing on the roads more often and dangerous crossing behaviour. They were also significantly less likely to engage in planned protective behaviour.
- Males reported playing on the roads more often than females.

Date: 29/05/2006

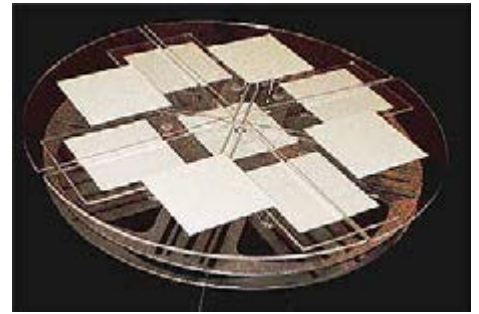
Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Expanding table on show

An expanding table featured at the Milan Furniture Fair in Italy last month is part of an exhibition of new designs from Massey University students in Auckland this week.

The ingenious table, by design student Natalie Russell, radiates out with the aid of a complex mechanism to swiftly expand from a four seater to an eight seater.



Design lecturer Nick Dearden says it is based on a British antique table, and in this contemporary form the table is targeted at the high end of the furniture market. He says the show is a great opportunity to see the best work from the next generation of furniture designers.

Of the seven students who showed work at the Salone Internazionale del Mobile Fair in Milan, five have had their designs picked up by European manufacturers interested in commercialising them.

We are delighted to be the first New Zealand university to be invited to the Milan Furniture Fair. It's hard to cut the first track to a global market but this will make it easier for next year's students, says Mr Dearden.

A paper in furniture design is offered as part of the Bachelor of Design degree on the Auckland campus.

The students' work will be on show at Furniture Fashion 2006 from 18-21 May at the Greenlane Expo Centre.

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Features

Categories: College of Creative Arts; Exhibition/Show



Richard Garland, Managing Director of NZ Pharmaceuticals, recipients of this year's Business Link award.

Business award for pharmaceutical supplier

The winner of this year's University Business Link award is a company that started out in Massey's Old Dairy Building.

A shortage of ingredients for pharmaceutical products in the 1970s saw New Zealand Pharmaceuticals Ltd step forward as an international supplier of bio-chemicals.

The recipient of the University's 2006 Business Link Award, NZ Pharmaceuticals was founded in 1971 between the freezing industry and Tasman Vaccine Laboratories. Its first contract with a French pharmaceutical company was to process concentrated animal bile into deoxycholic acid a component of steroid drugs.

The business quickly outgrew its rented laboratories in the University's Old Dairy Building, but remained in the Manawatu to become a high-tech enterprise with a \$25 million turnover under the management of Richard Garland.

It employs more than 90, ranks in the nation's top 500 companies and, in November, will complete a new factory purpose-built to produce its latest product complex sugars developed from simple sugars found in prawn shells.

Mr Garland received the Business Link award from Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Warrington at a graduation week function co-hosted by the University and Vision Manawatu. A wide variety of local businesses enjoyed the opportunity to network during one of the city's busiest weeks.

Guest speaker for the evening was James Watt, founder of the eight-year-old internet service provider InSPire NET and Inspired Web Solutions, who started his company in a garage in 1998 after spending too many hours on hold waiting for a Telecom help desk staffer.

Mr Watt gave an overview of the growth of his business, and described his long-term goal to develop a fibre network to provide Manawatu-based business with broadband capability of international standards. The group is also working to establish wireless internet connection through the franchise CafeNET, a public WiFi provider that can be accessed by laptop users at locations such as cafes, airports, hotels and conference venues.

Wireless access is especially beneficial to Massey's students, who, through the group's Student City service, can access New Zealand's fastest broadband connection in their hostels, in the Massey Library, and on concourse. Professor Warrington thanked Mr Watt and his companies for their support of the Student City brand, and for the difference they are making to local businesses.

Created: 6 March, 2008

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments



Lisa and her whānau on graduation day from left to right: Husband Wayne Hemopo, daughter Alesha with mokopuna Jayrome, Lisa, her dad Frank Kimura, daughter Micheala, mother-in-law Kathy Hemopo, Lisa's mum Kelly Kimura.

First Highbury Scholarship Recipient to Graduate

The Highbury community and Massey University celebrated their first graduate from the Highbury Scholarship programme this week.

Lisa Kimura (Ngāti Raukawa) has graduated with a Bachelor of Education (Primary Teaching). Ms Kimura, 37, was born in Palmerston North and grew up in Highbury. She attended Highbury and Cloverlea primary schools, Monrad Intermediate and Queen Elizabeth College.

Ms Kimura left school, worked at a few factory jobs before getting married and raising three children. However teaching was always on her mind and she decided that once her children were old enough she would go to Massey and pursue a teaching degree.

I wanted something more for myself than working in factories and I've always wanted to be a teacher, she says.

Ms Kimura has now returned to her old school Highbury which has been renamed Somerset Crescent School to teach part-time. She says that most of the teachers at Highbury schools live outside the area and she believes her presence teaching at a local school has had a positive influence on the pupils.

They see me as a local. They are polite and friendly. A lot of them think that most of their teachers are rich because they live outside of Highbury. The kids don't think they can relate to them. Just knowing that I'm from here they seem to relate to me and react to me differently. I hope that having a local teaching at their school will encourage them to achieve their dreams and aspirations.

Highbury Scholarship Board community representative Peter Butler (Ngāti Tūwharetoa) says Ms Kimura's graduation is a great achievement for the Highbury community.

We want to change the 'ahua' of the community and ensure our people in Highbury value education. Having a role model like Lisa, who is working back in the community, is really important.

Mr Butler says there's been a lot of negative publicity about Highbury in the past and it is important to see some positive news about their community.

We've got great students coming through the programme who will make important contributions to both Highbury and the wider community. It's important that our people have positive role models out there.

The programme began in 2003 as a partnership between the Highbury community, the Tertiary Education Commission and Massey University.

The scholarship aims to help members of the Highbury community realise and reach their academic and personal potential and to increase the number of role models in the area.

Recipients receive pastoral care and mentoring, as well as full cover of their tuition and course fees providing they maintain a B grade average.

As well as achieving academically, scholars are expected to be committed to the success of the community and bring the benefit of their study back to Highbury.

Created: 6 March, 2008

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: Graduation; Graduation (Palmerston North); Palmerston North

Baby boomers blamed for age of impoverishment

Educationalist and anti-racism campaigner John Minto has accused the baby boom generation of overseeing an age of impoverishment and urged his contemporaries to clean up the economic mess they created.

Mr Minto, an Auckland trade union organiser and former secondary school teacher best known for his leadership in the 1981 anti-Springbok tour protests, used his speech to a Massey University graduation ceremony in Palmerston North today to attack the Government for its education policy and failure to protect the jobs and wages of the low-paid.

The former Massey physics graduate congratulated fine arts and education graduates for making a very good first step in their tertiary studies by choosing a quality public institution .

Many tens of thousands of students had not been so lucky, he said. They chose, with the best of intentions, to attend a private education provider and have been left out in the cold with low quality qualifications as well as huge student debts.

Mr Minto cited last year's Tertiary Education Commission report, which found 64 per cent of private tertiary establishments' qualifications were either low quality or low relevance.

The commission withdrew funding for 78 of the 480 qualifications on offer in the private sector and threatened providers of a further 228 qualifications with no funding next year unless they improved the courses.

This is the extent of the appalling debacle that faces tertiary education. This system was established by National in the late 1990s and then continued by Labour under local MP Steve Maharey as [Education] Minister.

He described the explosion of funding for low-quality private education providers at the expense of universities and polytechs as staggering , an increase of taxpayer contributions from \$17 million in 1999 to \$150 million four years later.

This created a an epidemic of low-quality courses initially in the private sector but inevitably spreading to public providers as they too were caught up in the race for funding .

It also saw bribes and inducements , such as free computers and cellphones given to students to encourage enrolments.

This is a shameful legacy of market-driven madness in education...One of the most hare-brained schemes to come from the free-market ideologies of the past 20 years.

Mr Minto then aimed his guns at Government employment policies and the failure to protect jobs and incomes for those low-paid jobs, particularly those trying to support families.

He cited an example of a bright student at his school who fell behind in his work and appeared unhappy and unhealthy and was found to be working 24 hours a week after school at a supermarket to help his family after his father lost his job and could find only part-time work.

Similar stories are the rule rather than the exception in low-income communities. We still have 175,000 children growing up in families on a poverty income. There is no prospect of this changing under our current political setup.

He said he was embarrassed to be part of a generation that was leaving New Zealand worse than it found it.

We may have marched for all sorts of liberal causes from the 1960s to the 1980s but the baby boomers will be better remembered for their free-market policies which have impoverished so many in New Zealand and around the world.

He said eras in history had been given names, such as the bronze age, the iron age, the industrial age and the space age in which he grew up. More recently we had the computer age.

This age might be called the Bush age, God forbid, but if I were to guess I'd say it's more likely to be called the age of impoverishment.

I hope my generation can clean up some of the economic mess we have created before we depart the scene. 24

Created: 10 May, 2006

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: Graduation; Graduation (Palmerston North); Palmerston North



Māori service providers praised

A senior Māori studies lecturer says that Māori service providers are delivering good services to Māori communities contrary to the often negative public perception.

Dr Huia Tomlins-Jahnke will graduate this week with a doctoral degree in Māori Studies. She looked at the nature of tribal service provision amongst one of her own iwi Ngāti Kahungunu and Ngāti Raukawa ki te Tonga. She was motivated to choose this as her thesis topic because of public perceptions that iwi providers were inept.

Any allegation relating to tribal providers attracted intense media interest while stories like the government bail-out of BNZ paled in to the background.

I wanted to explore the realities for tribal authorities of providing government-funded services.

She found that staff working for tribal providers are totally committed to their jobs and enjoy working in a Māori environment. They apply Māori principles and values on a day-to-day basis which often means they deliver services well beyond the contract requirements and that all clients, whether Māori or Pākehā, respond positively to that approach.

Dr. Tomlins-Jahnke has 16 years teaching experience in primary schools and now lectures in social policy at Te Pūtahi-a-Toi (Māori Studies) at Massey University. She also has a Bachelor of Education and a Masters of Education (Honours).

Created: 6 March, 2008

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Maori

Massey researchers back Health Ministry tobacco labelling plan

Massey University marketing researchers say their evidence suggests that pictorial warning labels on cigarette packets are more likely to reduce tobacco consumption than text-only warnings.

Professor Janet Hoek, Professor Philip Gendall and Ninya Maubach, of the University's Department of Marketing, conducted studies recently into the effectiveness of pictorial warning labels compared with a text-only label, as required at present.

The ministry wants mandatory pictures of an ulcerated mouth, gangrenous toes, a close-up of a damaged heart and lungs, and a deformed human eye to be included along with text warnings about the dangers of smoking.

But tobacco industry representatives have claimed that would interfere with their intellectual property and brand imagery, and cause smokers unnecessary distress.

Tobacco manufacturers also argue that new or modified text-only smoking warnings may achieve the same thing as the pictures.

The Massey researchers say their studies question the industry's claims.

Our initial work tested five pictorial warnings and compared these to 'Smoking Kills', the strongest of the current warning messages. We found that smokers exposed to a pictorial warning had a higher likelihood of reducing the number of cigarettes they smoked, telephoning Quitline for cessation assistance and quitting than smokers exposed to the text-only warning.

In a second study, the researchers compared the introduction of visual elements with changes in the text only warnings.

The two pictorial warning labels tested were perceived as more effective than two of the text-only warnings, including the smoking kills control option.

However, the pictorial images did not invoke high levels of fear, which suggests these images may not shock or vilify smokers, as industry spokespeople have claimed.

The behavioural questions revealed similar results. Respondents allocated higher probability scores to the pictorial warning labels, which they considered more likely to discourage non-smokers from trying smoking and significantly more likely to encourage smokers to quit their habit.

These findings support regulators' initiatives to mandate the use of pictorial warning messages and suggest that refreshing the text used in warning labels, an alternative promoted by the tobacco industry, will be considerably less effective than introducing pictorial warnings.

Created: 10 May, 2006

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business; Government Policy commentators

Another high ranking for Finance researchers

The University's Finance programme has again achieved a high ranking in a respected international measure.

Massey is ranked 34th amongst international business schools, as measured by the number of research papers downloaded from the eLibrary of the Social Science Research Network (SSRN) during the last 12 months.

The ranking places Massey at the top of the list amongst New Zealand and Australian universities, with Monash in 44th place and the University of Otago in 52nd place.

The downloads a measure of the quality and relevance of the research were largely of papers by researchers from the Finance programme.

Finance Professor Larry Rose says the network ranking reports are relatively new and provide a useful way for institutions to see how they are stacking up.

He is pleased with the network ranking: "It's consistent with other international rankings achieved by Finance researchers and shows increasing interest in our research papers. It's also a feather in the cap of the College of Business in the run up to the Asia Finance Conference in July.

The network is a website devoted to the promotion of scholarship in the fields of economics, finance, accounting, management and law. SSRN was founded by Michael C. Jensen, a famous financial economist, and is run by him and other highly respected scholars. The eLibrary is co-hosted by Stanford University.

Since its foundation in late 1994, SSRN has grown tremendously in importance in the academic community, especially in economics. Almost all papers will now first be published on it before being submitted to an academic journal.

Last year the University's Finance programme was ranked 12th out of 170 universities in the Asia Pacific region for research productivity, based on research published in 21 of the world's leading finance journals from 2000 to 2004. The ranking was made in a research paper distributed globally in the Pacific-Basin Finance Journal later this year.

Massey Finance academics are hosting the 17 Asian Finance Conference, the most significant finance conference ever to be held in New Zealand.

It will be held in Auckland from 9-12 July 2006. It is organised in conjunction with the Financial Management Association, the largest finance academic and practitioner group in the United States.

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business

A big tick from the TEC chair

A Massey University business qualification has been given the big tick by the chair of the Tertiary Education Commission Russell Marshall.

He says in terms of what the government is trying to get universities to do, business education at Massey is already inside the loop of relevance and usefulness to a career.

He says he also has no doubts that Massey well meets the requirement of quality.

In a speech to business graduands at Palmerston North today (Tuesday), the former Minister of Education and Foreign Affairs also saluted the University for its leadership over the past 80 years particularly, but not only, in agriculture and in distance education .

Mr Marshall outlined the government's future approach to tertiary education, including funding that will still reflect enrolments but with other key indicators such as course completions.

Quality and relevance have to become the central focus of the system, he said. When the minister refers to quality he is talking about international benchmarks but also of education that delivers to employers graduates whose skills are current and who are well-prepared for the workforce.

By relevance, he is talking about a tertiary education system better in tune with the major drivers of productivity and change in the economy.

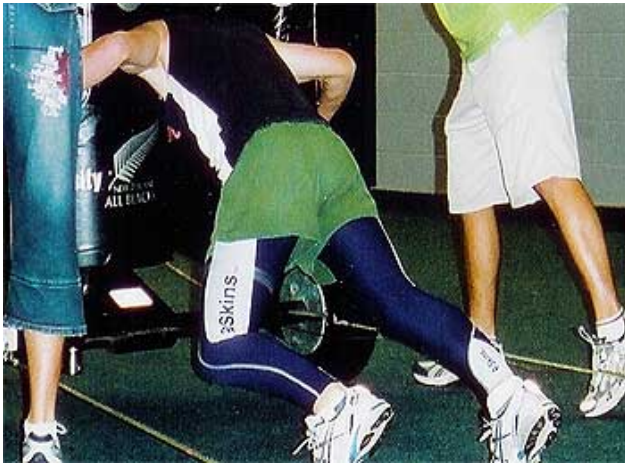
Mr Marshall said the system would also favour institutions that engage with their stakeholders and thereby gather information about the skills and competencies that are most needed and that will be valued in the workplace.

He assured the business graduands that the pieces of paper they were receiving were both credible and valuable.

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: Graduation; Graduation (Palmerston North); Palmerston North



Tights tested for rapid recovery

▶VIDEO Watch the ONE NEWS item: [Dial-up](#) or [Broadband](#)

Sport scientists are testing the effects of compression garments on blood flow and recovery time among top rugby players.

Johann Edge and Rob Merrells, researchers in the University's Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, are working with Dr Nic Gill, trainer of Super 14 team the Chiefs, and Dr Rob Duffield from Charles Sturt University in NSW, Australia.

They are testing compression tights designed to reduce the build-up of lactic acid immediately after periods of sustained exercise, allowing for a faster return to recovery levels. The tights apply differing surface pressure over specific body parts, triggering an acceleration of blood flow, which increases oxygen delivery to working muscles. This is thought to enhance muscle performance.

Players from the University's senior 'Varsity A' and under-21 teams are participating in the research trials. Each participant is tested twice, with and without the compression tights in a simulated rugby game that involves sprints, weaving, and one-man scrum machines. The compression tights are worn during exercise and overnight recovery.

In rest periods of the simulated game, skin temperature is read and blood samples are taken to measure lactate levels (a by-product of metabolism) and the presence of creatine kinase (an indicator of muscle damage). Compression is a standard method used in injury rehabilitation, and the tights are designed to maximise the benefits.

Mr Edge says compression garments may be especially beneficial in periods of back-to-back training, and tournaments, where athletes' recovery time is often an issue.

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Audio Visual

Categories: College of Sciences; Sport and recreation



Top designers honoured

The top women graduates of Massey's College of Creative Arts were honoured at the Zonta Design Awards last night.

Governor-General Dame Silvia Cartwright announced graphic designer Sarah Jackson as the supreme winner. Ms Jackson received \$5000 while the winners in four other design fields received \$1000.

Sarah Peters of the Zonta International Club of Wellington says Zonta, a women's service organization, established the awards in partnership with the University and five leading businesses to recognise the top women graduates in their field of design, to promote design as a career for young women, and to acknowledge the status of women already in the design field.

Ms Jackson, who is now working for Clemenger Design, said afterwards, I'm still on cloud 10. As a woman in the advertising industry, I have an intense desire to be a relevant part of an ever-evolving creative world that demands originality, substance and reward in order to make a meaningful impact.

And, as a woman, my essence is to push the known boundaries of communication whilst maintaining respect for myself.

The University's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Judith Kinnear, said the college produced graduates who made outstanding contributions to the New Zealand and international design industries.

They do this as entrepreneurs in their own businesses, such as Kate Sylvester on Cuba Street and Veronica Keucke, an awardee at the recent Mercedes Australian Fashion Week, and as employees in a range of enterprises, such as Weta, Fisher & Paykel, Apple Computers, Nike and Philips, Professor Kinnear said.

The five design category winners for this year are:

Emma Boyd, Industrial Design, sponsored by Weta Workshop; Sally Ford, Photographic Design, sponsored by Imagelab; Briar Hickling, Interior Design, sponsored by Limited Editions; Sarah Jackson, Graphic Design, sponsored by Clemenger Design; Emily Miller-Sharma, Fashion and Textile Design, sponsored by Rembrandt Suits.

Created: 5 March, 2008

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Creative Arts

More evidence that 'light' smokes fool the smoker

A new survey confirms that many smokers are fooling themselves about the benefits of so-called light cigarettes.

Research by Professor Janet Hoek from Massey University and Associate Professor Rachel Kennedy and Jeremy Tustin from the University of South Australia involved telephone interviews with 788 respondents from South Australia and New South Wales.

The survey coincided with both countries' ratification of the World Health Organisation Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, which calls on signatories to review the descriptors used on cigarette packets.

Australia has recently entered into voluntary undertakings with several tobacco companies that will see the elimination of the words light and mild on cigarette packets. Australian regulators have argued that these words imply health benefits the products do not deliver, and so may mislead and deceive smokers.

Professor Hoek says the new survey shows that a substantial proportion of respondents, both smokers and non-smokers, were confused about what the term light means. However, smokers of light cigarettes were much more likely to associate incorrect attributes with them, including that they deliver less tar.

Professor Hoek says although the findings are preliminary, they have important policy implications because they highlight misconceptions among all groups, especially those at greatest risk of being harmed by confusion.

She says it is of particular concern that smokers are more likely to associate healthier attributes with light cigarettes. Smokers often view light variants as a means of maintaining a smoking habit while minimizing the harm they believe will result from this.

The report says the tobacco industry has indicated it intends to replace light and mild with terms such as fresh , 'fine and smooth .

Professor Hoek says there is an urgent need for more research, particularly into the attributes smokers might associate with these new terms. There is little point in replacing one misleading term with another.

She says further research needs to examine the effect cigarette descriptors have on young people at risk of developing a smoking habit. If the alternative words proposed have a particular appeal to young people, there is a danger they may make smoking more attractive, not less so.

A paper outlining the research findings won a Best in Track award at the recent Australian and New Zealand Marketing Academy conference.

Created: 3 May, 2006

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business; Explore - HEALTH

Good news for cats and carpets

New research has provided strong evidence that children exposed to dust and micro-organisms from an early age are less likely to develop asthma.

Massey University and Utrecht University in the Netherlands have been conducting research over the past 10 years involving the study of about 700 Dutch children since before birth.

Massey epidemiologist Associate Professor Jeroen Douwes says the more children are exposed to dust, dirt and microbials, such as bacteria and fungi, as well as pets and farm animals, the greater the odds they will not develop asthma.

The children who were highly exposed to microbials were 60 per cent less likely to develop asthma in the first four years of life, says Dr Douwes.

The children were watched for the development of asthma symptoms such as wheezing or atopic sensitization. Atopic sensitization can develop into allergies and may be inherited from one of their parents. If a child develops this allergy the reaction is instant when coming into contact with the allergen.

Dr Douwes says the researchers measured the amount of dust found in the children's living room floors and on their mattresses.

We compared the use of mite-impermeable mattress and pillow covers with a control group using a regular cotton mattress and pillow cases. We also assessed whether children had allergies, by measuring antibodies in their blood.

Different beddings did not seem to be significant. The measurements between the mite-impermeable and regular bedding was not much different. It did not seem to affect the levels of children developing asthma.

What did make the difference in whether the children developed asthma was how clean the living room floor was. The children that were the most exposed to microbials on the floor had a lower risk for developing asthma or a wheeze.

This longitudinal study is strong evidence that removing carpets and pets in an effort to reduce the risk of children developing asthma is not effective. It may make things worse.

However if a child has developed asthma as a reaction to indoor allergens, removing carpets and pets is likely to help.

Allergies and asthma are serious conditions. Dr Douwes says if symptoms of wheezing or hives outbreak occur, seek medical attention for proper treatment. If a child is allergic to something do not force the child to be exposed to the offending allergen, and always consult with a doctor about appropriate treatments for allergies.

Created: 1 May, 2006

Date: 29/05/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; School of Veterinary Science



Getting to the guts of human nutrition

Associate Professor Roger Lentle and his amazing gut machine impressed young participants in an educational human nutrition day at the Te Manawa science centre.

Handing over containers of replicated (and very realistic) stomach and bowel contents, Dr Lentle took his audience through the human digestive system. He described the digestive systems of people who smoke, and of those who have an excess of parasites in their gut, and with all the talk of 'poos and farts', was one of the most popular demonstrations of the day.

The educational science session was an initiative of the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health. Alongside Dr Lentle's gut machine were demonstrations on: taste and the brain; the structure of bones and composition; fat in food, and nutrition and growth.

Date: 30/06/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Sciences

Getting an edge in global agribusiness

New Zealand's dairy industry must step up its marketing in order to compete for the consumer market against the United States and the European Union, says former head of the NZ Dairy Board (Asia), Dr Ong Poh Seng.

Dr Seng is a keynote speaker in an inaugural seminar series touring five regions and providing insights into world-class marketing strategies. The series is an initiative of the Alistair Betts Memorial Trust for Agribusiness Excellence, hosted by the Massey University Foundation.

At the first of the seminars in Auckland today, Dr Seng spoke about what NZ agribusiness industries need to do to compete internationally, and he ran an interactive workshop containing the vital elements of a consumer marketing programme.

Dr Alan Jackson, senior vice-president of the Boston Consulting Group, is also a keynote speaker. He has been a member of the Business Council of Australia and the NZ Business Roundtable, a Director of NZ Racing Board, and played a significant part in the development of The ICEHOUSE business incubator and accelerator.

Eight Massey academics will give short presentations in the areas of precision agriculture, food process and product development, nutrition and health, the supply chain, and adding value. They are: Dr Ian Yule, director of the Centre for Precision Agriculture; Professor Roger Morris, director of the Epicentre; Professor David Mellor, director of the Animal Welfare Science and Bioethics Centre; Dr Brian Wilkinson, senior lecturer in food technology; Professor Marlena Kruger, professor in nutritional physiology; Professor David Walters, chair of Agri-Food Systems, and Professor Richard Archer, head of the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health.

The series runs from 10 July 14 July 2006 in Auckland, Tauranga, Palmerston North, Christchurch and Dunedin.

Date: 30/06/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture

House prices rise but sales stay steady

House prices continue to rise slowly and sales remain steady. June quarterly figures from the University's Real Estate Analysis Unit also show that for the first time in almost three years, seven regions saw an improvement in home affordability.

Other highlights:

- New Zealand median dwelling price finishes quarter at an all time high of \$305,000.
- Provincial regions lead in quarterly home affordability improvement.
- Prices in Southland and Hawke's Bay show little movement over the year.
- Otago replaces Taranaki as the third most affordable region.

The median dwelling price moved from \$295,000 to finish the quarter at an all time high of \$305,000 a lift of 3.4 per cent. Real estate researcher Graham Crews says this price increase, combined with a continued upward creep in interest rates, offset a 2.3 per cent lift in wages over the quarter.

He says while house price increases have slowed in most areas, sales volumes, which had shown signs of earlier decline, had recovered by the end of the quarter. The New Zealand Home Affordability Index reflected a quarterly decline of 2 per cent.

Earlier in the quarter the Real Estate Institute was reporting the market as 'slipping back', but by the end of the quarter the mood had changed to one of resilience, says Mr Crews. Quarterly dwelling sales of 27,312 were 4.2 per cent down on the same period last year (28,522). Sales for May were reported at 9642, up on both April sales and on May sales last year.

In the June quarter seven of the 12 regions recorded a rise in median dwelling prices but only five recorded a quarterly decline in home affordability. Mr Crews says regional declines were more muted than previous quarters, with Northland leading at 7.6 per cent followed by Auckland, Wellington, Otago, and Canterbury/Westland.

For the first time in almost three years seven regions recorded a quarterly improvement in affordability. In a clean sweep for provincial regions, Taranaki led at 5.8 per cent followed by Central Otago Lakes and Hawke's Bay. Four regions also recorded a quarterly fall in median dwelling prices.

For the 16th consecutive quarter, the index reflected a 12-monthly decline in home affordability of 11.2 per cent. Total sales for the year were 100,249, 3.7 per cent down on the previous year's sales of 104,115. The median dwelling price moved up 10.9 per cent from \$275,000 to \$305,000.

Mr Crews says all regions, except Hawke's Bay, recorded a 12-monthly decline in home affordability but levels of decline were generally more muted than in preceding quarters. Provincial regions dominated, with Manawatu-Wanganui leading at 19.6 per cent.

All regions reported an increase in median dwelling prices over the year. North Island provincial regions were out in front with Manawatu-Wanganui in the lead at 17 per cent. Mr Crews says a slowdown in house price increases has been evident in most regions over the past year. Little change was recorded in both Hawke's Bay and Southland.

Southland remains the most affordable region, with Manawatu-Wanganui in the number two position. Otago has replaced Taranaki as the third most affordable region. Central Otago Lakes is the least affordable region, followed by Auckland.

The quarterly Home Affordability Index report is prepared by the University's Real Estate Analysis Unit. It combines data on housing prices, mortgage interest rates and average weekly earnings to produce a home mortgage affordability index indicator. The survey, conducted since 1988, uses data supplied from Statistics New Zealand, the Reserve Bank and the Real Estate Institute of New Zealand.

The full report is available at http://property-group.massey.ac.nz/fileadmin/research_outputs/homeaffordjuly06.pdf

Date: 30/06/2006

Type: Research

World finance gurus gather in Auckland

The funding of care for the aged and retirement planning, bank supervision and the topical issue of corporate governance are shaping up as key topics at next week's Asian Finance Conference.

Presenters at the conference form an international Who's Who of luminaries in the finance field, including Nobel Prize winner William F. Sharpe and senior executives from data suppliers Standard and Poors and Wharton Research Services.

The organisers say never before has such a group been assembled in New Zealand and the event is a unique opportunity to access the latest research and market experiences first hand.

The conference is being held in New Zealand for the first time, at the Carlton Hotel in Auckland from 9 to 12 July. Massey University is host, in partnership with the United States Financial Management Association and the Asian Finance Association, with Westpac Institutional Bank as main sponsor.

The vast amount of new research which will be presented at the conference, together with insights from the worlds' leading experts in their fields, will put New Zealand at the forefront of helping lead new understanding and better practices in financial markets, says the head of Westpac Institutional Bank New Zealand, David McLean.

This makes Westpac's sponsorship of this conference a very natural and exciting synergy. As a leading Australasian company, providing a large range of financial services to New Zealand and Australian businesses, the bank is well aware of the rapid pace of growth in business around the Asian region.

Organisers Associate Professor Martin Young and Professor Lawrence Rose from Massey University's Finance programme report strong interest from groups including financiers, policy-makers, national and regional government officials, practitioners, researchers and business media.

The conference offers 80 sessions over three days, with more than 30 international presenters and participants. Dr Young and Professor Rose say it meets demand for new knowledge on what's new in financial markets which they describe as the engine of an economy. It is also an opportunity to network with internationally respected figures in finance and influential policy makers in finance education and development.

Dr Young says there is great value for New Zealand practitioners and policy makers in assessing first hand reports of overseas experiences, research and orthodoxies. In a global marketplace, everything has relevance.

Access the full conference programme at <http://www.asianfa.com/>

Created: 6 July, 2006

Date: 30/06/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Business; Conference/Seminar

Expert advises against Marineland dolphin re-stock

Marine scientist Dr Mark Orams says holding dolphins in captivity for entertainment at facilities like Napier's Marineland should be a thing of the past.

Dr Orams spoke out against restocking the region's Marineland while he was in the Hawke's Bay as guest speaker at the local Chamber of Commerce Business Awards. After 40 years as a leading tourist attraction, Marineland looks set to close with only one dolphin left following the recent death of its long serving companion.



Controversy surrounds the issue of restocking the marine zoo with more common dolphins and supporters claim to have now gathered over 12,000 signatures petitioning conservation officials.

At Massey University Dr Orams is an international expert on marine mammals and he leads a group of scientists that is at the forefront of research on common dolphins in New Zealand. He says research has advanced understanding of the dolphins a very long way since Marineland was established nearly half a century ago.

He says the dolphins do not respond well to being held in captivity. These dolphins live offshore and range over great distances and do not respond well to being constrained. They are plucked from a highly-evolved, highly structured society and placed in an alien environment the stress kills them.

My understanding is that there has been a high mortality rate among dolphins captured to stock Marineland over the years.

These days we have a very different attitude to care and ethics and we set ourselves much higher standards. It is worth reflecting on the fact that New Zealand takes a very strong line internationally on marine mammal conservations.

Date: 30/06/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business; Enviromental issues

Outwitting possums with the Web

A web-based information system is the latest weapon in the war against possums infected with tuberculosis.

Developed by Massey and Landcare Research scientists contracted to the Animal Health Board, the system is available free online.

The interactive system has been designed for pest-control operators, and includes checklists covering all biological and technical constraints managers or contractors need to consider when planning a control operation. It recommends tools and techniques for a range of conditions, answers specific queries, and features an encyclopaedia of information sheets linked through key words.

Possums are major carriers of bovine tuberculosis and infect domestic cattle and deer herds. The Animal Health Board is a local government and farming body responsible for implementing the national pest management strategy for the disease. It has a goal to wipe out tuberculosis by 2013, and predicts the remaining populations of possums infected are likely to become more difficult to keep down to the low levels required to halt the spread.

The project was led by Landcare Research scientist Bruce Warburton and Dr Jens Dietrich at Massey's Institute of Information Sciences and Technology. Mr Warburton says the system will ensure people involved in possum control have ready access to expert knowledge.

There is a wealth of information available on control tools, strategies, possum behaviour, economics and legal constraints, but unfortunately most of this is found only in scientific papers, books and reports.

Many control contractors are Internet savvy, and use technology such as laptops and global positioning systems routinely, Mr Warburton says. With this system they can now go and check any concerns they may have on their planned approach from a large database of information. They can use it like a book.

The Possum Control Decision Support System is free and can be accessed at:
<http://possumdss.landcareresearch.co.nz/>

Date: 30/06/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; School of Veterinary Science





Mr Kahui is pictured with Dr Cullen and Professor McIlroy.

Music therapist wins Goal Setter award

From street kid to a Massey masters music student, Dennis Kahui's efforts to overcome obstacles and achieve educational excellence have been recognised with a \$2000 Goal Setter award from the Port Nicholson Rotary Club.

Mr Kahui (Ngāti Ruanui, Ngā Ruahinerangi), originally from South Taranaki, left school at 14, worked in construction, picked asparagus and lived on the street before enrolling in a music degree at Otago University.

Although he failed every course in his first year, he persevered and completed a BA in 2004 then came to Wellington, where he is in his second year of a masters degree in music therapy at the New Zealand School of Music, a joint venture between Massey and Victoria Universities.

Tertiary Education Minister Dr Michael Cullen, who today presented the award, said Mr Kahui, 34, has not had a stereotypical tertiary career; and one expects that nothing he will do in future will be stereotypical either. We congratulate him for his hard work, imagination, persistence and vision.

Massey's Wellington Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Andrea McIlroy, who is also a member of the Port Nicholson Rotary Club, says the award recognises outstanding individuals for their capacity to set goals and overcome barriers to achieve success in tertiary education.

Rotary established the awards in 1990 to recognise students who have overcome barriers and approached their studies as a stepping-stone to making a positive contribution to their community.

The school's Director of Music Therapy, Associate Professor Sarah Hoskyns says Mr Kahui is a great advocate for Māori approaches to music therapy. He integrates te reo Māori, kapahaka and tikanga Maori into his approach to therapy and with his clients.

Music therapists work with adults with intellectual handicaps, people with mental health problems, children with special needs, and elderly clients. Professor Hoskyns says although music therapy is rapidly becoming accepted as mainstream, there are just 25 registered music therapists in New Zealand, and they are in high demand.

Mr Kahui has flexible musical skills in the best aural tradition, which means he can be spontaneous and responsive to the music of his patients in music therapy. He is a natural, warm, playful communicator and he easily relates to the wide range of people he has met on his clinical placements.

Mr Kahui's special interest during his studies has been in learning and communicating cultural aspects of the work.

He says he loves what he does. As a Māori it feels a natural thing to do. It's awesome how music releases people to talk and express themselves.

Victoria University marine biology student Zoe Haws also received a Goal Setter award.

Date: 30/06/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Creative Arts; Maori



Dr Juliana Mansvelt, Dr Michael Cullen, Professor Judith Kinnear and Dr Mark Brown.

Top teachers honoured

Two Massey University staff members were honoured at Parliament yesterday at the fifth annual Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards.

These national awards recognise exceptional teachers who show outstanding commitment to their subject and demonstrate knowledge, enthusiasm and a special ability to stimulate learners' thinking and interest.

Educationalist Dr Mark Brown, Senior Lecturer at the College of Education; and geographer Dr Juliana Mansvelt, Senior Lecturer at the School of People, Environment and Planning, each received \$20,000 to further their teaching careers and promote best practice. Both are based at the University's Palmerston North campus.

This award is a great opportunity for me to pursue further research, said Dr Brown. It's important to recognise that teaching is just as important as research. He acknowledged the University for creating an environment where critical thinking could take place. The pursuit of knowledge for knowledge's sake is something we should never lose sight of. It's crucial for humanity. My philosophy is that light comes through the cracks.

Dr Mansvelt said, I love learning, and hope I can give a sense of that to my students. I want to pass on the passion that's what teaching is about. She said she gave her students the flexibility to choose their research topics, to encourage them to follow their interests and think critically about the world. She plans to use her award to further her research on teaching excellence.

Both Dr Brown and Dr Mansvelt earlier won teaching awards from the University. Dr Brown was praised for his innovative use of technology, high level of interaction with students and creative approach to assessment.

Dr Mansvelt's application was described as extremely impressive, including the linking of publications to teaching, very innovative resource materials, and responsive assessment processes. Tertiary Education Minister Dr Michael Cullen said all awardees were recognised for their innovative teaching methods, original thinking and outstanding commitment, by both their students and their peers within their profession.

I trust that you will take your awards both as a recognition for your years of hard work and as an invitation to provide leadership within the sector and enhance further its reputation for quality teaching.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear said, Teaching forms one of the core foundation activities of any university. I am delighted that, again this year, academic staff of Massey University have been acknowledged as premier teachers. While each year Massey acknowledges our outstanding teachers through the Vice-Chancellor's Teaching Excellence awards, these national awards are of much greater significance in identifying the quality of our teaching staff in a sector-wide arena. Warmest congratulations to Dr Juliana Mansvelt and to Dr Mark Brown. All of us at Massey celebrate with you.

The Prime Minister's Supreme Award of \$30,000 went to Karl Dodds, who is the principal lecturer in maths, physics and computing at the Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology.

Massey University has had sustained success in the Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards and last year also had two winners: Associate Professor Alex Davies and Dr Regina Scheyvens.

Date: 30/06/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Teaching



Larger whales take longer to die

A scientific adviser to the New Zealand delegation to the International Whaling Commission (IWC) says research shows that harpoons designed for the minke whale may be ineffective when used for the much larger fin whale.

As a consequence a second harpoon is needed to kill larger whales, they take longer to die, and are likely to suffer more, says Dr Craig Johnson.

Dr Johnson, an animal welfare researcher in the Institute of Veterinary and Animal Biomedical Sciences recently returned from the IWC meeting. He advised the delegation on a number of scientific papers presented by New Zealand researchers, including a paper co-authored by Philippa Brakes and Michael Donoghue analysing data provided by Japan's government.

The paper compares the frequency of secondary harpoons used with the size of the whales, using data on minke, Bryde's and sei whales. Secondary harpoons were required for more than 50 per cent of sei whales (the next largest to fin whales) hunted in 2003 and 2004. Data was not provided for the fin whales, but an extrapolation of data for the other three species shows the majority of fin whales would need a secondary harpoon, Dr Johnson says.

Dr Johnson says the fin whale, the second largest whale species, is the largest hunted under Japan's special permit. Last year they were hunted for the first time since the 1986 moratorium against commercial whaling and Japan has this year announced its intentions to continue hunting the species, which is commonly described as endangered.

He says the issue of whale welfare is secondary to that of ecological sustainability and the conservation of endangered species. He says some of the most useful data coming through on the status and biology of whales is that collected via non-lethal methods, from whale watchers and Southern Ocean researchers.

Date: 30/06/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; School of Veterinary Science



Shooting for trans-Tasman supremacy

When she is not co-ordinating conferences for Massey University, Diane Crow is likely to be sporting a high-powered, large-calibre rifle.

On Saturday Mrs Crow, along with former Massey student Kim Sharpe, also from Palmerston North, will fly to Brisbane with six other members of the New Zealand Ladies' Fullbore Rifle Team to defend the trans-Tasman shooting title, the Collinson Shield.

The teams event is part of a two-week tournament that occurs every 18 months, with the best women shooters from Australia and New Zealand competing also for individual titles. It is the fourth of the tournaments in which Mrs Crow has represented New Zealand.

Shooting and political correctness are hardly close bedmates. Not only are the teams on both sides of the Tasman still referred to as ladies, the shooting distances are still measured in imperial yards, ranging from 300 to 1000.

Fullbore refers to the calibre of the rifles used, with barrels measuring 7.62mm.

Mrs Crow, 52, began shooting 14 years ago because of her husband Darryl, then a New Zealand representative shooter and currently a national coach and one of three selectors.

It was a case of if you can't beat him, join him, she says. Actually I think I did it in spite at first but I've got quite a passion for it now.

She says the key to success in shooting is not only a good eye and a steady hand but also commitment and equipment.

You need to shoot a lot to get to international level, and you need to have good gear, not just the rifle but the scope, your shooting jacket, even the ground sheet is important. Everything can make a difference.

Getting the ammunition exactly right is also important. We load our own or Darryl does you weigh the powder, weigh the case and make sure it's the same every time.

Competing at the highest level does not come cheap. A competition rifle can cost around \$4500, with another \$1500 for the scope and \$1000 or more for other gear. Ammunition costs about \$1 a shot and Mrs Crow expects to fire up to 700 rounds in competition and training during the tournament.

Mrs Crow says her strength is in team shooting because the skill is in the wind picking and I don't always get that right. Teams events coaches assess the wind and adjust the rifle sights, whereas individuals have to make their own adjustments.

Her husband admits he might be accused of bias but believes Mrs Crow is one of the best team shooters in New Zealand and in the squad from which the national team of 16 shooters will be chosen to compete in the world championships in Canada next year. At least two others from the ladies team are in contention for the national side, which is selected purely on performance regardless of sex.

Over long ranges some results suggest she's among the best in New Zealand, men and women, Mr Crow says. She's a very good coached shot. The skill in that is you've got to work as a team. You have to have a very good rapport between the coach and the shooter because sometimes you only get a few seconds in which the wind remains constant to take your shot.

Date: 30/06/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Palmerston North; Sport and recreation

Fine-tuning fertiliser application

Watch the [THREE NEWS](#) item

A code of practice for the aerial application of fertiliser aims to improve the economic performance of farming systems and reduce environmental impacts.

Under development for the past decade in conjunction with the University's Centre for Precision Agriculture in Palmerston North, the Aerial Spreadmark Code of Practice was launched yesterday by Agriculture Minister Jim Anderton.

Centre director Dr Ian Yule says the code of practice is a quality assurance scheme to ensure that specialised fertiliser spreading machinery is working at optimum capability. With PhD students Rob Murray and Hayden Lawrence, Dr Yule examined and fine-tuned the methods of measurements applied in the code, and provided statistical analysis.

As well as the code of practice, a DVD called Fert-Smart and a Fertiliser Quality Council website were launched to provide up-to-date best-practise information about the use of fertiliser on the ground.

Mr Anderton says countries are coming under increasing pressure to prove that methods of agriculture production are climate friendly as well as socially and environmentally responsible.

"The way of the future will require fertiliser to be applied more accurately to meet the precise nutrient needs of a particular crop or farming system. Increasingly on farm quality assurance schemes are driven by the consumers desire to be reassured that the food that they eat is safe and free from harmful contaminants. This is driving traceability schemes where the farmer is required to be able to say that all on farm practices are carried out to a standard that ensures total safety of the food product.

"Society is raising the environmental standards for land users and is voicing concern about the water quality in our rivers and lakes. At the same time farmers are increasing the use of fertiliser and nitrogen on hill country to achieve greater productivity. To meet both of these demands the aerial spreading industry and farmers need to use the latest tools and knowledge available. These include nutrient budgets, GIS maps, aircraft GPS systems and the science that has gone into the Aerial Code of Practice.

Created: 21 June, 2006

Date: 30/06/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture

Council Report - June 2006

The June meeting of the University Council was held in Wellington, providing an opportunity to showcase the new Executive Seminar Suite and the building developments on campus.

Presentations were given by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Wellington) Professor Andrea McIlroy and Regional Registrar Liam Halpin, and Pro Vice-Chancellor of the College of Creative Arts Professor Sally Morgan. A presentation updating Council on the growing services to Extramural students and marketing to this sector was also received.

Chancellor Nigel Gould welcomed new Pro Chancellor Stephen Kos to the position and thanked Dr Liz Gordon for her contribution to the University in that role over the past years.

In her report to Council, Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear offered comment on the funding announcements relevant to the tertiary sector made as part of the Government Budget 2006. Of note was a further \$47.3 million to be spent over the next five years to improve research capability and research and development linkages between tertiary education institutions and industry, which included \$7 million over three years to increase research capability in areas identified as important to New Zealand's social and economic growth. These include three areas of particular interest to the University: nursing and associated disciplines of primary health care, rehabilitation and health maintenance; veterinary and large animal science; and information and communications technology.

Professor Kinnear noted the graduation ceremonies held in Palmerston North and Wellington since the last Council meeting. Highlights, she said, included the awarding of Honorary Doctorates to Geoffrey Baylis in Wellington and Emeritus Professor John Dunmore in Palmerston North.

Professor Kinnear told Council that the New Zealand Vice-Chancellors' Committee has advised universities that the total PBRF funds available for distribution in 2006 would be less than previously announced. She said this is because the total number of EFTS across the sector is down and therefore the final transfer of the research 'top-ups' to the fund will be less. The magnitude of the reduction will not be available until Semester Two enrolments are finalised.

Professor Kinnear advised of recent international developments including strengthening of partnerships with the universities of Peking, Shihezi and Wuhan. Massey University, represented by Professor Ray Winger, is a member of a New Zealand consortium that submitted a research proposal to the European Commission Research Directorate on a complementary network to stimulate consumer-focused research collaboration across food sectors in Europe and New Zealand.

Professor Kinnear also alerted Council to fellow Councillor Professor Sylvia Rumball's appointment to the new International Council for Science's policy committee on freedom and responsibility in the conduct of science.

Created: 10 April, 2008

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: University News

Categories: University Council



Dr Patrick Morel demonstrates computer simulation software for pig nutrition at the University's premier site.

Getting down to the business of breeding

The largest agricultural trade show in the southern hemisphere drew a crowd of 115,000 over four days of farm technology demonstrations, seminars and shopping.

The University's contribution to the National Fieldays at Mystery Creek, Hamilton, included a premier exhibition site, an alumni function, and sponsorship of the popular AgArtwear competition.

To fit the 2006 Fieldays theme of the Business of Breeding, the site highlighted the University's involvement with farmers and growers at the grassroots level, and with national research centres. Opportunities to prospective students were emphasised and secondary school students from the Hamilton region attended a breakfast function to listen to recent graduates in agriculture and horticulture talk about their time at Massey and their careers.



Student liaison advisers who staffed the Massey exhibition answered enquiries about University courses and extramural study, and provided take-home material. Animal nutrition researchers demonstrated software developed and commercialised by the University, and offered as a free trial for Fieldays.

One of the demonstrations, designed by Dr Patrick Morel and Ane Vissor, is a computer simulation program developed to design feeding strategies to maximise profitability for pigs.

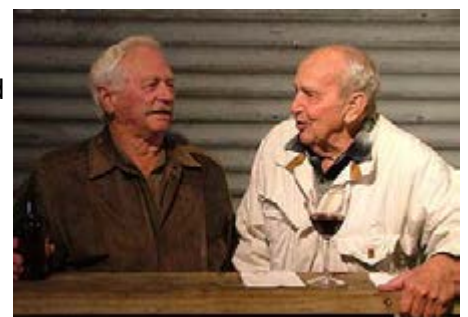
PorkMaster complemented the researchers' daily seminar on optimal pig nutrition.

Another software simulation product demonstrated by PhD student Jeremy Bryant has been designed for dairy farmers and determines whether a new system or addition of extra feed will be profitable.

The system, called MOOSIM, accounts for the age of the cow and its genetics, climatic conditions, and feed quality measures to predict on a daily basis factors such as the percentage of milk, fat, protein and milk-solid yield.

It was developed by Mr Bryant, Nicolas Lopez-Villalobos and Professor Colin Holmes in the Institute of Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Sciences.

A pasture sensor system developed by Dr Ian Yule in the Centre for Precision Agriculture and project partner C-DAX Systems Ltd, won an innovation award.



Trialled extensively last summer, the Rapid Pasture Development system has three different models of global positioning system (GPS) sensors that fit into sledges towed by a farm-bike. The sledge and sensor can be towed at up to 15km/h over rough terrain, wet pasture and mud, taking measurements every one or two

seconds.

The basic model calculates the average pasture cover between the stopping and starting of measurement. The intermediate level model stores the paddock number and collected data, which can be downloaded to a computer.

The most advanced model is linked to a GPS unit, and readings are geo-referenced. This allows for advanced mapping. If paddocks have been mapped, the GPS unit will recognise which paddock it is in, and the information can be directly downloaded to mapping and feed budgeting software.

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Alumni; College of Sciences; Exhibition/Show; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture



Dr Fiona Te Momo, musician and singer Whirimako Black, Radio Waatea announcer Kingi Taurua, Professor Tairahia Black, Kaiwhakahaere at Auckland campus Donald Ripia and seated, Anituatua Black launch Matua Reo Kaupapa at the Auckland campus.

Te Whakaterea i te Matua Reo Kaupapa Māori language policy launch

The University's Māori language policy, Matua Reo Kaupapa, was launched at all three campuses last week to coincide with Matariki, the Māori New Year.

Professor of Te Reo, Tairahia Black (Ngāi Tūhoe, Ngāti Tūwharetoa) says the policy outlines how Massey will recognise te reo Māori as an official language of the University.

Massey will be providing more support to improve proficiency levels amongst our staff. For nearly 14 years now, Massey students have been able to complete assignments and exams in the Māori language. However there is now a growing expectation amongst students that there will be more opportunities to learn in the language, Professor Black says.

The policy will also ensure some staff have a very high level of proficiency in the language and that there is support for staff who engage with Māori as part of their work and require some ability in the language.

The policy will also encourage staff and student participation in forums where policies and programmes for the Māori language are under consideration.

He says there will be more support for research in Māori language revitalisation and greater use of te reo in marketing and communications, and Māori will become more visible on campuses by increasing use of bi-lingual signage.

Te reo Māori has been an official national language since the 1987 Māori Language Act.

Implementation of the University's policy will be overseen by the Māori Language Advisory Group.

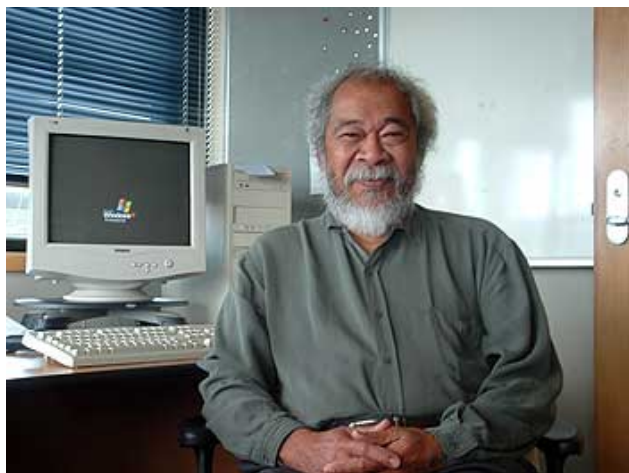
The Māori New Year is signified by Matariki, a small but distinctive star cluster whose appearance in the northeastern pre-dawn sky in late May, early June marks the start of a new phase of life.

The cluster of stars is also known by several different names including the Pleiades or Seven Sisters and traditionally for Māori signified a time to plant trees, prepare the land for planting new crops and rekindle family ties.

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Maori



Studying health impacts on older Samoans

The impact of beer-drinking, bingo nights, tobacco and the TAB on the health of older Samoans is being studied in the light of a projected population increase in this group.

Dr Ieti Lima, a sociologist with wide experience in researching Pacific Island health issues, is carrying out the study as a research fellow at Massey's Auckland campus.

He is interviewing up to 50 South Auckland-based Samoans, half of them aged from 50 to 64 and half 65 and over.

The Health Research Council-funded study will examine the perceptions, understandings and practices of older Samoan people in relation to drinking, smoking and gambling, says Dr Lima.

The study will determine how these three at-risk lifestyle behaviours impact on the health and well-being of participants as well as members of their families, he says.

Given the forecasts for a significant population increase among Pacific Islanders in this age group from 9000 in 2001 to 25,000 in 2021 it is vital for the health sector to have a better understanding how drinking, smoking and gambling relate to Pacific Island health issues, Dr Lima says.

There is very little baseline data available on the motivating factors that underpin Pacific people's health risk behaviours.

New Zealand's older generation of Samoans, mostly born in Samoa, often had conflicted views about alcohol.

They grew up being told alcohol was a forbidden, illegal substance, which only foreigners with a permit were allowed to obtain.

However, this did not prevent a clandestine home brew industry developing in Samoa.

Once they migrated to New Zealand, many Samoan men took to drinking alcohol to assert their masculinity in a culture that often condoned heavy drinking as a sign of male prowess.

Dr Lima is also interested in finding out what influence Pacific Island churches have had on drinking, smoking and gambling behaviour. He is aware that some Samoan men have stopped drinking alcohol as a result of pressure from church and community leaders concerned about the link between drinking and violence.

And determining whether an elderly Samoan woman who enjoys her weekly night out playing housie constitutes a potential health risk is also under question.

Most interviews will be held in the form of group discussions, with some in Samoan for those who are more fluent in their native language than in English. Participants are more likely to open up and speak freely about their experiences in a group setting, says Dr Lima, who has substantial knowledge in this area from his PhD, which explored Samoans' alcohol use and health.

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Pasifika

Party pills may need more regulation



Research on legal party pill use in New Zealand by the University's Centre for Social and Health Outcomes Research and Evaluation has been cited by both proponents and opponents of the pills to back their arguments.

Opponents want the pills either outlawed or their sales further restricted. Proponents argue the pills are a safer alternative to illicit drugs, such as speed and ecstasy.

The pills' main active ingredients are benzylpiperazine (BZP), which has an effect similar to amphetamine, and trifluorophenylmethylpiperazine (TFMPP) which has an effect similar to ecstasy.

Since June last year BZP has been classified as a class D drug under the Misuse of Drugs Act, restricting its sale to those 18 and older and prohibiting advertising in mainstream news media of products containing it.

The pills have been sold under a variety of names for more than a decade but have become increasingly popular in the past six years.

The aims of the taxpayer-funded survey were to identify levels and patterns of use and demographics of users, their use of other drugs, any harm or problems associated with use, to gauge availability, and explore the role of party pills both as a possible gateway into illicit drug use and as a possible alternative to or gateway out of using illicit drugs.

A random survey of 2010 people aged 13 to 45 years was conducted in February and March this year.

It found that one in five had tried legal party pills and two in five (40 per cent) of 18 to 29-year-olds. Men were more likely to have tried them than women (24 per cent, compared with 17 per cent) and Māori were more likely to have tried them than non-Māori (26 per cent compared with 19 per cent).

Study leader Dr Chris Wilkins says he is surprised at the number of people who have taken or are taking party pills. Based on previous research on amphetamine use, he expected a figure closer to 5 per cent.

The 13 to 45 age group is one most drug surveys concentrate on, Dr Wilkins says.

He is also surprised at the lack of awareness of many users of the instructions given by manufacturers of party pills on the recommended doses and other substances not to mix with party pills.

The fact that pro- and anti-party pill camps cited the survey to back their position was in some ways a measure of the success of the study and the data we collected, Dr Wilkins says. It demonstrates how balanced the research was. Some findings, like the level of use, surprised regulators while others supported somewhat what the [party pill] manufacturers are saying.

He says if legal party pills are creating a bigger pool of people who go on to try illicit drugs that otherwise wouldn't that's actually quite

a big deal. It could contribute greatly to illegal drug use in New Zealand, and that's something we're going to investigate further.

Dr Wilkins thinks a possible alternative to making party pills illegal would be to introduce more regulation relating to warning labels and what outlets can sell them, as well as enforcing the age restriction more strictly.

You don't have to go straight in and make them illegal. There's lots of things you can do like limiting the sales points, not selling them from premises that sell alcohol, having mandatory health warnings, or banning advertising completely.

The survey found of the 80 per cent who had never taken legal party pills, 72 per cent said they did not like them, 20 per cent said they were not in their social scene, 16 per cent said it was for health reasons and 5 per cent said they had never heard of them.

When asked whether they had taken the pills in the past year, the percentage of users dropped to 15 per cent, or one in seven, and one in 22, just under 5 per cent, had taken party pills in the previous month.

Of those who had ever taken party pills, 61 per cent said they had stopped taking them in the past year, 8 per cent said they were taking more pills than before, 15 per cent said they were using fewer and 16 per cent said they were taking the same quantities of pills in the past year as previously.

The most common reason given for taking fewer party pills was the hangover or come down (32 per cent), with 30 per cent saying they no longer partied as much and 15 per cent citing health reasons.

Of those who had stopped taking party pills, just over half said they either did not like them or had been just experimenting and 27 per cent said they stopped because of the hangover or after effect.

Those taking more party pills said they did so because they enjoyed the effect (32 per cent), they were partying longer (23 per cent) or it was part of the scene (15 per cent).

Rates of use showed nearly half (46 per cent) of those who had taken party pills in the previous year did so on no more than two occasions, 27 per cent had taken them on three to five occasions, 11 per cent had taken them approximately monthly and 6 per cent had taken them weekly or more.

On average men had taken party pills more than twice as often as women, and made up virtually all those who reported taking pills on 50 or more occasions in the previous year.

Most users reported taking one or two pills at a time, in line with common directions from manufacturers, but when asked what was the greatest number of party pills they had taken on one occasion, 42 per cent said they had taken four or more, 20 per cent said six or more and 11 per cent said eight or more.

The mean number of pills taken on a typical occasion was 2.6, with men taking more at 2.8 compared with 2.2 for women.

Virtually every respondent (99 per cent) said they typically swallowed party pills, with two reporting they snorted the powder and claiming to typically inject it.

Asked whether they had driven a motor vehicle under the influence of party pills, 67 per cent said no, 18 per cent said they hardly ever drove and 12 per cent said they had done some driving.

Although party pill manufacturers generally recommend they not be consumed with alcohol, 91 per cent said they had drunk alcohol in conjunction with pill consumption and of those 33 per cent said they drank more alcohol than normal, 40 per cent said they drank less and 28 per cent said they drank the same.

Other substances used in conjunction with party pills were tobacco (40 per cent of respondents) cannabis (22 per cent), and recovery pills (9 per cent). So-called recovery pills are often sold by the same retailers who sell party pills, and about 15 per cent reported taking them.

The most common illicit drug consumed in conjunction with legal party pills was ecstasy (MDMA), taken by 5 per cent, followed by magic mushrooms (2 per cent) and amphetamines (1 per cent).

The survey found that those who used legal party pills had much higher levels of illicit drug use than the wider population, with 61 per cent having used cannabis compared with 20 per cent of the general population aged from 13 to 45, and 21 per cent having used ecstasy compared with 3 per cent.

Asked about the role legal party pills played in their illicit drug use, 33 per cent said they had recently stopped taking illicit drugs, 28 per cent said they took party pills only when they could not obtain illicit drugs and 45 per cent said they took party pills as an alternative to illicit drugs.

Of those surveyed who had taken both party pills and illicit drugs at any time, half said they had stopped taking both and there was no relationship between their taking of party pills and illicit drugs.

Of the half who indicated there was a relationship, 14 per cent said they started out using legal party pills but now mostly used illegal drugs, 43 per cent said they continued to use both and their illegal drug use was not affected by party pills, and 44 per cent said they previously took illegal drugs but now mostly took party pills.

The characteristics of party pills users most reported liking were extra energy (53 per cent), the high/euphoria (45 per cent), the fact they are legal (23 per cent), cheap (21 per cent), and easy to buy (20 per cent).

Asked what they disliked most about them, 51 per cent said the hangover or come-down, 20 per cent said inability to sleep and 18 per cent disliked the purchase price.

The most common physical problems reported by users were poor appetite (41 per cent), hot/cold flushes (31 per cent), perspiring heavily (23 per cent) and stomach pains or nausea (22 per cent).

The most common psychological problems reported were trouble sleeping (50 per cent), loss of energy (18 per cent), strange thoughts (16 per cent) and mood swings (15 per cent).

The survey found one in 45 users (2 per cent) were classed as dependent on party pills, 74 per cent had no dependency, and 92 per cent had little or no dependency, 88 per cent said they never felt their use of was out of control, 97 per cent said the prospect of missing a dose of party pills never worried them, and 98 per cent said they would have no difficulty stopping taking party pills and could do so without assistance.

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: Research

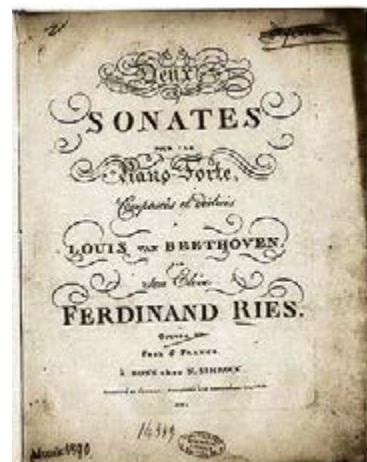
Categories: College of Sciences

Taking Viennese music back to Vienna

AUDIO Listen to a free MP3 track from the album. *Piano concerto in A flat major, Op. 151 'Gruss an den Rhein'*. (6.3mb)

Rare music that premiered in Wellington last year will be performed in Vienna, Austria, for the first time this month.

The Centre for Eighteenth-Century Music hosted a concert at Te Papa in December, at which flautist Uwe Grodd and pianist Matteo Napoli gave world premiere performances of two new musical editions of works by Beethoven and his pupil, Ferdinand Ries.



Grodd and Napoli will give a recital in Vienna this month devoted entirely to the works of Ries.

As far as we are aware, no concert of this kind has been held in Vienna in living memory, says centre director Dr Allan Badley. In fact one might even have to go back to Ries' own lifetime to find such an event.

This is of tremendous interest to the Viennese, but they are even more fascinated to learn that all the music in the concert has been published in New Zealand through the Centre for Eighteenth-Century Music.

The programme includes the Sonate Sentimentale in E flat, Op.169, edited by Dr Badley, first heard in Wellington last year, and considered the finest of Ries' sonatas for flute and piano.

Two other works will feature: Variations on a Portuguese Hymn (known throughout the English-speaking world as the tune of O Come All Ye Faithful) and an Introduction and Polonaise that Dr Badley describes as a riot.

The centrepiece of the programme is Ries' Piano Sonata in C, Op.1 No.1, composed in 1806 and dedicated to Beethoven.

Ries studied piano in Vienna with Beethoven in the early years of the 19th century, and quickly established himself as a formidable pianist and talented composer.

The C major Sonata is well worthy of its dedicatee, says Dr Badley. It is a large-scale composition, incredibly ambitious for a 22-year-old composer, and demands a high measure of virtuosity and musicality on the part of the pianist to reveal its many beauties. Its progressive qualities unnerved at least one contemporary reviewer but he was perceptive enough to see in it signs of a future composer of the first rank.

Wellingtonians will have an opportunity to learn more about Ries' sonatas for Beethoven in October, when Dr Badley will give a lecture on the works at the New Zealand School of Music. The lecture will include a performance of selected movements by pianist Diedre Irons.

You can find out more about this CD at: www.artaria.com or www.naxos.com. For information on the Centre for Eighteenth-Century Music visit: www.nzms.ac.nz

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Creative Arts; Exhibition/Show



Healthy food messages bombard modern mothers

A bombardment of messages about healthy eating and what to feed their families is causing anxiety in some women, particularly mothers, says health psychologist Associate Professor Kerry Chamberlain.

Dr Chamberlain says adults generally are becoming pre-occupied with food, much more so than their parents' generation.

Messages about good parenting, healthy eating and body image can make women especially susceptible.

And too much information may be the problem, rather than a solution.

Food, says Dr Chamberlain, is related to health both directly and symbolically in complex ways that have bearing on our sense of identity, social status and even our moral worth.

To the layperson, food has a multiplicity of meanings in addition to its significance for health, he says.

Choices about food consumption are not based merely on rational scientific formulations of energy, fat, vitamins, minerals and protein content, but also in terms of what food symbolises socially and culturally.

Furthermore, he says, because it is mothers who mostly shop for food and prepare it, worries around food are mostly the burden of women. As they shop, they're likely to be grappling with thoughts about good food, bad food and what it will or won't do for them or their families and how the choices that they make reflect on them.

Dr Chamberlain convened focus groups of mothers at the School of Psychology to research their thinking about food.

With postgraduate student Helen Madden he completed a report entitled Nutritional Health, Subjectivity and Resistance.

Listening to the groups showed the researchers that dialogue around nutrition caused a variety of concerns. They found it was problematic for the group as women, as mothers, as healthy eaters and as moral people.

If they do not engage in 'correct' dietary practices, the women are positioned as immoral, both as individuals and as mothers, says Dr Chamberlain.

Further, their ability to determine which foods are 'healthy' or 'unhealthy' is undermined though a distrust of 'facts' and scientific evidence.

In addition they are susceptible to exploitation through claims made for food as health-promoting.

He says these factors lead to anxiety around dietary practices and against a background of considerations like these, people will offer a variety of justifications for dietary practices, which may result in women sometimes showing resistance to nutritional health messages.

The women in the focus groups quickly demonstrated why being a moral person around food is largely an elusive position.

On one hand they recognised a need for a balanced diet but then said they used foods like chocolates and

biscuits to treat themselves and fuel their bodies. They battled with notions of self-indulgence and immorality.

As mothers they were struggling with the issue of wanting to give their children treats and balancing and balancing this against good mothering practices.

The findings from the group also showed a concern about being seen as too easily influenced by the health claims made about various foods from a wide variety of sources.

The findings suggest that healthy eating is not necessarily increased through exposure to knowledge around food and nutritional health.

For these reasons, Dr Chamberlain believes the nature of public health messages encouraging people to eat healthily, may need to be reconsidered.

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Explore - HEALTH



Film, a mirror and 48 hours

What do you do with an eternal optimist named Robin Slade, the words that's what I'm talking about , 48 hours and a mirror?

Make a scary movie! Alumna Bonnie Slater did, producing a seven-minute movie that won the Wellington final in the annual 48-hour film-making competition.

Inspired by the infamous Minnie Dean, the only New Zealand woman to be hanged, *The Baby Farmer* placed third in the national heat. Ms Slater's film-making team, Clean Slate Productions, drew the genre of 'monster movie' and, like more than 400 other teams, were given the un-made Slade character, the line of dialogue, the mirror prop, and 48 hours to shape and make their movie.

The Baby Farmer won the Wellington final, and also the awards for best cinematography and best directing. Carlos Slater, who has studied film-making at Massey, worked on the special effects. Clean Slate Productions was one of several teams of Massey alumni to enter the competition.

Graham Slater, a media lecturer in the School of English and Media Studies, says he is constantly impressed by the calibre of student film-making. He says the annual students' association film-making competition is often the first step for students who go on to bigger productions.

Ms Slater learnt how to write and produce for film at Massey, and gained invaluable team-work experience.

When we got given the monster genre, we all sat down as a crew and threw around possible ideas for the writers to take away. We decided we could never create a monster that was scarier than what the audience could imagine and that we did not want to make a parody. Instead we wanted to do something very rare in 48 hours, which is make a serious film, but do it well.

The creative team intended to scare, and were rewarded with screams from the audience at the Wellington screening.

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Alumni; College of Creative Arts; College of Humanities & Social Sciences



Prizewinners, from left, Claire Enright; Bin Jang; Sihui Jia; Cherie Luxton; Crystal Urquhart; Amy Waugh, and Manchun Xu.

What Palmy people really think: Marketing students get the low-down

Residents believe there is a 40 per cent chance of a serious earthquake striking the city in the next decade and 23 per cent chance bird flu outbreak in the next year.

Most are prepared for either eventuality, with items needed for a major emergency available in their homes.

But if a serious earthquake did strike, most could quickly become thirsty and smelly as just 35 per cent of households have access to emergency supplies of 10 litres of unpolluted water per person.

These and other findings are from a Department of Marketing survey conducted by final year students two months ago. Mail, telephone and face-to-face responses were sought, with 250 respondents, or 46 per cent of those approached.

A Recreational Lake

If a recreational lake were developed near Palmerston North, 65 per cent of those surveyed said they would use it.

The so-called Massey site beside Fitzherbert Bridge was preferred location for 40 per cent, while 30 per cent favoured the city council's planned site at Aokautere, 15 per cent favoured neither and 15 per cent had no opinion.

If average rates were to rise by \$100 a year to help fund the lake project, only 30 per cent would support the lake, whereas 55 per cent would oppose it (15 per cent had no opinion). Among ratepayers, opposition is even stronger, with 60 per cent opposed if the lake lifted rates.

The Mayor's performance

Of those who had an opinion, 40 per cent were satisfied with Mayor Heather Tanguay's performance; 25 per cent were dissatisfied, and 35 per cent were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied.

The proportion of respondents satisfied with Mrs Tanguay in specific areas ranged between:

- 65 per cent for maintaining a clean local environment
- 60 per cent for making the inner city safer
- 45 per cent for maintaining roads and footpaths
- 40 per cent for listening to residents' needs
- 40 per cent for promoting sport and recreation,
- 40 per cent for supporting local business growth
- 40 per cent for attracting students to Palmerston North
- 10 per cent for keeping rates down.
- Council Funding of Sports Teams

Many local sports teams require funding to compete at national level and one option is for teams to apply to the city council for a grant. Two-thirds of residents support such funding.

Among those who support the council setting up such a fund, the most commonly suggested fund size was between \$50,000 and \$100,000.

How much sponsorship a team already has, how well the team has performed in the past, and the number of spectators at the team's games were all considered important criteria for deciding which teams should get funding and how much they should get. Less important was how well known the team was locally or nationally.

Changing the Name of the City

Seventy-five per cent oppose changing the city's name, 10 per cent favour it and 15 per cent have no opinion.

Neither Manawatu City (75 per cent opposed) nor Papaioea (85 per cent opposed) is regarded as a desirable alternative.

Most residents (85 per cent) agreed that changing the name would be confusing for the general public, and the time and money spent on changing the name would be extravagant.

A Manawatu Anniversary Day?

Currently, Manawatu shares Wellington Anniversary on the Monday closest to 22 January. Palmerston North residents were split on whether to have a different public holiday, with 35 per cent support, 45 per cent opposition and 20 per cent neutral.

Marketing Department head Professor Phil Gendall says the survey not only gave students the opportunity to apply their knowledge of survey research, but also provided interesting insights into some important local issues.

The results have been shared with Mrs Tanguay, the council and local Civil Defence officials.

The students who conducted the survey received special book prizes donated by Bennett's Campus Booksellers.

The survey was part of a paper in applied market research, co-ordinated by Professor Gendall and Professor Janet Hoek. They say administering questionnaires can be a chastening experience.

This paper requires students to develop a series of research objectives, and then to design questions that will address these. By administering their own questionnaires, students may observe the sometimes gaping chasm between what they intended and what respondents have interpreted.

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business

Delusions of grandeur and international sport

Some small countries use sport as a way of trying to achieve power and influence on the international stage they would not otherwise have, according to a guest speaker at the first of a series of Massey winter sport seminars.



The seminar series in association with Alliance Francaise, entitled Sport@Massey, will start on 27 June with French philosopher and writer Professor Robert Redekerker's address The Myth of Sport a danger to the people?

Professor Redekerker describes sport as the most astonishing collective phenomenon of the past two centuries because of its scale and enduring nature. He believes it has an ongoing capacity for mobilising the masses. He says less powerful countries sometimes look to exist through sport, in order that it may bring them more power and influence than they effectively possess on the international scene .

As a result, the sports scene is one of substitution: The myth of sport generates an illusory scene. This substitution scene forms itself, unknowingly, like a parody: The IOC [International Olympic Committee] and FIFA [Fédération Internationale de Football Association] are as much a parody of the United Nations as is the utopia of a world government.

He also examines sport as a stage for entertainment. The sports scene is very international by nature.

It lends itself to media coverage, essentially television coverage of global proportions, in short a spectacular scene, an illusory scene of the power of nations. The second speaker in the series is the New Zealand Rugby Union's high performance manager Mike Chu. An alumnus of and former lecturer at Massey, Mr Chu has coached the national hockey team. His topic: Coaching in the High Performance Environment

Massey academics Dr Steve Stannard and Johann Edge are speakers for the third seminar, titled Alcohol, handbag, tights and rugby. Both are Exercise Physiologists with the Centre of Sport and Exercise at the Palmerston North campus.

Dr Stannard is a former member of the Australian road cycling team and current New Zealand Masters road cycling champion.

Mr Edge specializes in the area of training adaptations and team sport performance. He recently completed a study involving rugby players and tights.

The speaker for the fourth seminar is Bevan Erueti from Victoria University, on Māori Sport and Education.

He is also a Massey alumnus, graduating with both a Diploma in Teaching and Bachelor of Education. He taught for four years at Palmerston North's Queen Elizabeth College then returned to the University in the Department of Health and Human Development at the College of Education.

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business; Conference/Seminar



Photo courtesy of Cromwell Museum Collection.

Horse remains an unsung national hero

Since English missionary Samuel Marsden organised a shipment from Australia to New Zealand in 1814, horses have played a key part in the nation's development.

But history PhD student Carolyn Mincham, whose research is on New Zealand's equine history, reckons the horse is largely an unsung hero here, highlighted by the fact we have no official national breed.

From providing vital horse power for farming, logging, mining and transport in the early settler days and overseas wars' during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, to its enduring popularity for racing, sport and leisure in modern times, horses have been part and parcel of the past two centuries.

So why doesn't New Zealand unlike other post-colonial nations such as Canada and Australia have its own national horse?

This is one of the big questions for the Canadian-born horse-lover who alternates cleaning out stables and exercising her two horses Minnie and Zeb with examining and writing about the cultural history of the horse.

Ms Mincham surmises that while New Zealanders may have shrugged off much of their British colonial heritage, they've clung to British traditions when it comes to horses, with anglo-equine organisations and events such as pony club, hunting and racing ever-popular.

Canadians, however, have their very own little horse of iron called The Canadian, and Australia has developed its own unique Australian Stock Horse.

And although there was once a horse identified in the early 20th century as the New Zealander, as well as the existence of the mixed blood Māori horse as a possible contender for a national horse, we have shied away from making a hero of any particular breed.

Instead, individual racing and Olympic champion horses such as Phar Lap, Sunline and Charisma are revered for their sporting achievements.

Ms Mincham has explored the reasons why Australia and Canada decided to adopt national horses, noting that in the past 30 years, Mexico, Peru and Brazil have also celebrated a national horse.

Both the Australian Stock Horse and the Canadian Horse are officially recognized as heritage horses in their respective countries, with traits and histories that paralleled that of their people, she says.

Proclaimed by an act of Parliament three years ago, the unique Canadian horse is known for its compact but strong body, small ears, thick coat and mane that enable it to withstand the rigors of the Canadian winter.

Like the settlers, the Canadian horse is said to be hardworking, loyal and intelligent with a gentle nature, Ms Mincham says.

The Australian Stock Horse, which was on display to the world at the opening ceremony of the 2000 Olympics with whip-wielding stockmen riders to represent the country's outback heritage, is famed for being tough,

versatile and resilient.

Yet here in New Zealand, where the working horse, sporting horse, warhorse, wild horse, Māori horse and school pony have all had a role to play in building the nation, we have so far refrained from nominating a horse whose characteristics embody aspects of our heritage and values.

She believes part of the reason is that from early on, New Zealand horse traditions have been closely modelled on British equestrian traditions. Acquisition of horses became a symbol of success and upward mobility in the settler era, with racing, polo, hunting and mounted soldiery being embraced by the aspiring colonial gentry, says Ms Mincham.

Maintaining purebred British stock from Thoroughbreds and Clydesdales to Cleveland Bays and Shetland ponies became all-important in order to prevent leaving a stain on the pedigree of these valued horse breeds.

While some mixed blood horses were well-regarded, these tended to reflect local rather than national traditions, with the likes of the Mt Whikers, St James and Ihungia horses named after the stations they were bred on, as well as Gisborne Stationbred.

The Speight's-swilling Southern Man of advertising fame notwithstanding, it seems British is best in the conservative horse world, and that is part of the reason we don't have a national horse.

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences



Amy Van Luijk

Flair for colour earns trip to Belfast

Textile design student Amy Van Luijk has won a trip to Belfast in October for the finals of the Colour in Design competition run by the International Society of Dyers and Colourists.

The competition, sponsored by department store chain Marks and Spencers carries a first prize of £1000 and attracted nearly 400 student entries from 10 countries.

Ms Van Luijk, 20, is one of six finalists and the only one from outside Britain.

The brief was unrestrictive, stating simply that students produce work which illustrates a creative, imaginative and original use of colour to produce a distinctive piece of work.

Ms Van Luijk says her entry four samples of textiles for upholstery or soft furnishings was inspired by Wellington's city lights.

She is in the second year of a Bachelor of Design, majoring in textile design, and thrilled to be a finalist in the international competition.

It's an amazing opportunity, and I'm working hard to get my course work done before October.

She created her designs while studying the dyeing and colouration paper taught by textile lecturer Penni Wakelin, who says Ms Van Luijk has a natural flair for colour.

Five judges interviewed Ms Van Luijk by phone earlier this month. The winner will be announced on 13 October at the Society's Colour Conference, held in Belfast this year.

The Society of Dyers and Colourists is an international professional society specialising in colour in all its manifestations. Founded in 1884, it aims to advance the science of colour in the broadest sense.

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Creative Arts

Two dozen axes and a cuckoo clock

The lives and times of the missionaries who lived in New Zealand's oldest European buildings have inspired the latest work in progress by author Vivienne Plumb.

While at Massey as the current artist-in-residence in the School of English and Media Studies, Ms Plumb is working on a book of poetry researched on a trip to Kemp House and the Stone Store at the head of the Kerikeri River inlet.

The buildings are a unique remainder of the period of European settlement 20 years before the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi (1840). Among the material gathered in her holiday research, Ms Plumb has an inventory listing sickles, felling axes, cuckoo clocks and sacks of flour.

Interestingly, she has found that scissors were one the most repeatedly requested items from the Butler and Kemp missionary families, and the tools were duly sent from Paramatta, Australia by Reverend Samuel Marsden. As a visual reminder while writing, Ms Plumb has pinned up photographs of the walls in Kemp House which show peeling layers of newsprint, wallpaper, and pages of books.

The Wellington-based writer of poetry, prose and drama has held a Sargeson Fellowship (2001) and an International Writing Residency at the University of Iowa, USA (2004). Her most recent books are *Nefarious* and a collection of twelve linked poems in a small hand-sewn book, *Scarab*.

Her first book, a short fiction collection entitled *The Wife Who Spoke Japanese In Her Sleep*, was awarded the 1994 Hubert Church Best First Book Prose Award.

She has also been the recipient of the Bruce Mason Playwrighting Award, and has won first prize in the New Zealand Poetry Society's annual competition, second prize in The Listener National Poetry Day Competition (2000). Most recently she was awarded first prize in the 2005 Bronwyn Tate Manawatu Women Writers Association competition (for short fiction).

Dr Bryan Walpert, a poet and poetry lecturer in the School of English and Media Studies, says students benefit hugely from the help at hand of an artist in residence. Ms Plumb worked with extramural postgraduate poetry students on a recent block course, and has an open door to students who wish to discuss their work.

In her residency Ms Plumb has also been working on a play, to be workshopped and produced later this year, and is in the final stages of the publication of a co-authored collection of poetry. She launched a series of three literary evenings co-hosted by the Palmerston North City Library and the school, which concludes on 21 July with a reading by poet, children's writer and general practitioner Glen Colquhoun.

The artist in residency scheme is co-sponsored by the School of English and Media Studies, the Palmerston North City Council and the Square Edge Arts Centre.

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: Book; College of Humanities & Social Sciences





Pam Fleming (1970), Kevin Milne (1970), Linda Niccol (1991), Allie Webber (1967), Cathy Strong (lecturer), Liz Brook (1966), and Queenie Rikihana-Hyland (1967).

Journos reunite in Wellington

Publisher and writer Chris Cole Catley looks back on the early days of the School of Journalism.

Noel Harrison is the person we all honour when we think of the establishment of New Zealand's first journalism school.

I met Noel when we were both reporters on the Southern Cross, the Labour daily in Wellington.

Noel, always innovative, left journalism for teaching and in 1966 ran a pilot course of just 10 students at the new Wellington Polytechnic. The student I remember from this year was Fran Wilde who eventually became a cabinet minister and piloted the Homosexual Law Reform Bill through the House.



We were all also lucky in having Basil Potter as head of the Polytechnic.

He was imaginative and far-seeing and gave Noel and the rest of us tutors the freedom to devise the best course we could. Naturally, for a news course this meant freedom to seize the moment, to follow the news, even to anticipate it in the case of investigative journalism. Noel recruited me to teach from 1967 on, together with Bevan Burgess from the Press Gallery.

Bevan left after one year, for the exalted reaches of the Wool Board, and I took over. We were lucky to recruit Keith Gunn from the Evening Post and Tony Curtain from The Dominion.

I was determined we'd have only the best tutors possible, so by the time our numbers had swollen to 50 and we needed a fourth tutor, I arranged with management to be alerted for the job interviews during the summer holidays.

I was off in our yacht, and religiously listened to each radio call for messages. None came. Back in Wellington I discovered that a tutor had been appointed without reference to me.

Immediately I disliked even the thought of him. Well, within a minute of our meeting we had become friends, and friends and colleagues we remained until the end of his life in 2004. He was Michael King.

We had so little money and had to make do, even on tourism field trips. On one occasion we were all in sleeping bags on the floor of a school gymnasium in Queenstown. Proprietors of a nearby hotel were persuaded to donate us big containers of left-over food.

In those early years I also taught evening classes, often for young people already in the media. I think of John Newton and Derek Fox.

At this point I jotted down many scores of names, each with a story. Their faces, voices and bylines continually remind me of great days.

For every person who was accepted as a student, another four or five had applied. Who should we select? I'll mention just one. He almost certainly wouldn't have made it into the course except for my husband, Doug Catley.

We had finalised the next year's course by the time he applied, but he wrote quite a letter, saying he wanted to get out of his job in banking. When I mentioned this to Doug, he declared, Anyone who wants to get out of banking deserves to be taken on. So I interviewed him and did that. His name was Kevin Milne.



Technology brings era of 'Citizen' journalists

The rise of new technology and the advent of the citizen journalist have changed the face of journalism, says the head of news and current affairs at Australia's Special Broadcasting Service, Paul Cutler.

Mr Cutler was guest speaker at a dinner celebrating the 40th anniversary of the University's journalism school at Queen's Birthday weekend.

A graduate of the 1969 class, Mr Cutler spent six years at CNN and was working at CNN headquarters in Atlanta the morning of 11 September, 2001 terrorist attacks in the United States.

When breaking news occurs, the standard practice of CNN is to roll special titles, complete with pompous music, to alert the viewer that something important is happening, he told graduates.

But he decided against that.

I picked up the nearest phone, hit the master control button and shouted, 'Go all regions'. It was the sound bite of my lifetime.

Within seconds the footage, which included the second plane hitting the second World Trade Centre, was being broadcast globally.

Mr Cutler says the digital revolution has transformed the news industry, with the Internet, mobile phones and cameras allowing the public to report on events themselves, creating the citizen journalist, as demonstrated in London last year.

When the London Underground bombings occurred on 7 July, 2005, the BBC was overwhelmed by 20,000 emails, 3000 text messages, 1000 phone pictures and 20 video packages from people who witnessed the bombings.

Mainstream media are becoming savvy in adapting to these new trends, with many investing in advanced technology and interactive websites, he said.

Organisations are also now producing news for varying outlets, including newspapers, television, radio, magazines and the Internet.

He believes these initiatives are the future of journalism.

However, Mr Cutler stressed that traditional journalism will not die, as news needs to be investigated, questioned and explained by trained professionals. His address prompted much debate among the 140 former students, tutors and lecturers attending the dinner.

Among the high profile guests were Fair Go presenter Kelvin Milne, Close Up presenter Mark Sainsbury, TVNZ political editor Guyon Espiner, former Evening Post editor Rick Neville and former tutor Chris Cole Catley. 470

Mr Milne, a graduate from 1970, said the course changed his life, giving him much needed direction and from there everything went right .

Ms Cole Catley said her years tutoring at the school were the happiest in her life, and admitted her mouth was sore from grinning all night.

Current journalism lecturer and event organiser Alan Samson was thrilled with how the night went and the high turnout of guests. The place was abuzz.

Another speaker was former Dominion and Listener editor Geoffrey Baylis, who was presented with an Honorary Doctorate by the University last month.



Geoffrey Baylis



Pam and Rick Neville (both 1968) with their daughter Sophie Neville, who graduated in 2003



Sean Plunket (1983) and Mark Sainsbury (1980)



Founding head of the Journalism School Noel Harrison with Chris Cole-Catley, who headed the school from 1968 72

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Business; Wellington

Linking French and Kiwi film cultures

Nurturing links between New Zealand and France through films is both an academic pursuit and personal passion for Dr Simon Sigley, the University's newest Media Studies lecturer.

He hopes his current research into how French movie critics and academics view New Zealand through its films will ignite a flow of academic exchanges of film students, teachers and film-makers between the two countries.

Dr Sigley has brought his in-depth knowledge of French cinema to the Media Studies department, where he lectures on film language and documentary as well as teaching film-making.

But it is the French capacity to take film seriously as an art form, as much as French films themselves, that he's keen to encourage here.

Film in France is a valid form of cultural identity, not just a commodity.

Dr Sigley spent nine years living in France where he studied and worked, gaining a Maitrise in Cinema Studies at the Universite de Nancy II in the city of Nancy. He says it was a revelation to observe how ordinary people everywhere would discuss films in a knowledgeable, astute fashion.

"In France the air is inundated with people talking intelligently about film.

Bringing the attention of French academics to two New Zealanders who did just that in this country is the focus of a paper he will present to the New Zealand Studies Association Conference being held in Paris this month.

Titled Good or bad, it deals with life; antipodean thoughts on French film, 1930s-1950s, Dr Sigley looks at the influence that French films and French film culture had on two of this country's significant cultural 'gate-keepers.'

The first is Gordon Mirams, who was New Zealand's first paid film critic when he worked for the Listener from 1939 until 1949. His experience of French film culture deepened when he worked in Paris for Unesco on two separate occasions.

The second is John Reid, a conservative Catholic academic critic who taught literature at Auckland University, read French film criticism in French and was President of the New Zealand Film Institute from 1949-51.

Dr Sigley says that while Hollywood and British films have long colonised the imaginations of New Zealanders, French films have always been seen in New Zealand and represent a significant cinematic 'other' for educated New Zealanders.

While in Paris, he will take the chance to search French archives and meet French academics and film critics with an interest in New Zealand film culture. Material from these investigations will be used in his current research project examining the ways in which the French have imaged and written about New Zealand through its cinema. He will consider, through French eyes, films by Jane Campion, Peter Jackson and Christine Jeffs, among others.

Having studied film-making himself at l'Institut Internationale de l'Image et du Son film school near Paris, then made short films in France and worked as a professional video producer and editor in New Zealand, Dr Sigley is keen for his own students to learn about film by doing. They make and edit films using digital video cameras and an industry-standard computer-editing programme.

A recent film festival featured the latest French documentaries and last month a film club was launched for students, staff and the public for regular screenings and discussion of international films.

Study and teaching exchanges between film students and scholars in France and New Zealand are also envisaged.



Type: Research

Categories: College of Creative Arts



Professor Yusuf Chisti with the recently installed bioreactor facility

New bioreactor enables research advances

The recent installation of a \$250,000 bioreactor facility in the Institute of Technology and Engineering has boosted the research capability of the University's industrial biotechnologists and postgraduate students.

The facility's two cylindrical bioreactor vessels support a biologically active environment, where chemical processes involving organisms or biochemical substances are conducted.

Professor Yusuf Chisti, who leads the industrial biotechnology programme, says the new facility will enable advanced research to produce high-value products. Research is focused on using biocatalysts biotech microorganisms, animal and plant cells, enzymes, and subcellular components to produce novel bioactive substances, vaccines, potential therapeutics and diagnostic antibodies.

Professor Chisti says the new facility further enhances the University's capacity for collaborative research. Until its installation, many of his students have had to be located at research facilities of his collaborators in New Zealand and overseas.

Under his supervision, Malaysian-based PhD student Joan Chua is researching a potential process for producing antibodies to facilitate diagnosis of congenital adrenal hyperplasia, a genetic disorder of the adrenal gland. She is collaborating with the Malaysian biotech company Inno Biologics and the Malaysian University College of Engineering and Technology.

Professor Chisti is currently collaborating with visiting Professor Ashok Srivastava, head of the Department of Biochemical Engineering and Biotechnology, at the prestigious Institute of Technology, New Delhi, India. They are using the bioreactor facility to focus on the modelling and control of biotechnology processes.

He says the Institute contributes significantly to New Zealand's biotechnology sector, identified by the Government as an area of priority for economic development. One of the fastest growing industry sectors worldwide, biotechnology is behind products such as biopharmaceuticals, environmentally sustainable biofuels, bioplastics, biopesticides, replacement organs, and medical and forensic diagnostics.

Although New Zealand has relied on traditional biological resources for creating wealth, he believes the biotechnology sector has the potential to generate more wealth than almost any other sector.

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Centre at cutting edge of microchip design

A world-leading, ultra-fast, wireless broadband system is just one of several innovative projects under development at Massey's new Centre for Microchip Design.

Director of the Auckland-based Centre for Research in Analogue & VLSI microsystem design Dr Rezaul Hasan and his co-researchers Dr Tom Moir and Dr Fakhru'l Alam believe such projects could spearhead a dynamic electronics industry and make New Zealand an economic powerhouse.

Dr Hasan is currently designing a component for ultrawideband wireless communication, which he hopes will be patented for commercial use in several years.



Leading technology researchers are working on similar projects in the United States and Europe.

With a doctorate in Integrated Circuit Design & VLSI Design from the University of California in Los Angeles and 20 years' experience of work and research in the microchip technology industry, Dr Hasan says a properly-funded centre could produce a base of world-class expertise and research skills needed to attract foreign companies to New Zealand.

The Government must understand the need for proper funding for research in order to create a vibrant industry in this area, he says.

The centre, which opened this year, is the first of its kind in New Zealand. It was created in conjunction with the School of Engineering and Technology and the Institute of Information and Mathematical Sciences.

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences



Members of the Hopkirk Foundation inspect construction of the new facility

Prioritising the primary industries

Members of the Hopkirk Foundation have held their first meeting and toured the new building that will house the largest concentration of animal health scientists in the southern hemisphere.

Currently under construction, the Hopkirk Institute is a joint venture between the Institute of Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Science, and AgResearch. The foundation, a group of farming leaders chaired by Simon Beamish from Hawke's Bay, will help shape its direction and ensure its relevance to primary industries.

The foundation's inaugural meeting coincided with the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the University and AgResearch by College of Sciences Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Robert Anderson and AgResearch chief executive Andy West.

Dr West says the Foundation's contribution will be vital for the success of the Institute, which will have as its main focus infectious diseases endemic to New Zealand that threaten the productivity of the pastoral sector.

One of the Foundation's priorities is to engage with scientists in the Hopkirk Institute and the Institute of Veterinary and Animal Biomedical Sciences about animal health priorities that are so crucial to New Zealand's farmers and lifestyle-block owners.

The Institute's scientists will also continue to build on their combined expertise in animal welfare, sustainability of farming systems, food safety and market access for animal products.

Another priority for the Foundation is to communicate with the Government and funding bodies such as the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology, and to keep the spotlight on the importance of animal health research.

This is a very serious endeavour. Massey currently leads New Zealand in animal health teaching and veterinary science, and together with AgResearch, the Hopkirk Institute can lead the way in animal health research, Dr West says.

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture; Palmerston North; School of Veterinary Science



From left: Assistant Vice-Chancellor Māori Professor Mason Durie, Professor Sitaleki Finau, Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear and Professor John Raine.

First Director Pasifika welcomed

A stronger Pacific Island focus in academic life across the University's three campuses should become apparent with the appointment of the first Director Pasifika.

Top-ranked Tongan medical doctor and academic Professor Sitaleki Finau was formally welcomed to the Auckland campus on 2 June as inaugural head of the University's Pasifika strategy.

His brief is to develop a strategy aimed at encouraging more Pacific Islanders to take part in university life as students, staff and researchers, and also to promote research based on Pacific Island values, ethics and priorities.

The welcome, attended by about 100 people, encompassed the sounding of a conch shell by Pacific Island lecturer Tafa Mulitalo, powhiri and waiata by Māori and Pacific Island staff accompanied by representatives from local iwi Ngāti Whatua and speeches by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Judith Kinnear, and Mangere MP Taito Philip Field.

Professor Finau hailed the creation of the role of Director Pasifika as a first for any New Zealand university.

Tearful with emotion, he began his speech saying: This occasion is far too grand, far too momentous for a village boy who comes from Tonga, a village of about 200 and that includes birds, trees, chickens, pigs and everything else.

Dressed in traditional Tongan national costume, the tupenu, he added that in the Kingdom of Tonga there was an expectation that even a tiny village could offer something useful and helpful.

Pacific Islanders had been coming to New Zealand in search of a better life, not as colonialists or imperialists, he said.

They understood that education was the key to a better life, despite the fact that many lives were blighted with alcohol, gambling, obesity and diabetes.

Professor Finau said he was passionate about developing the goals of the strategy, which include creating stronger links between the University and Pacific communities in New Zealand and in the islands.

Just over 1000 Pacific Island students are currently enrolled at the three campuses, with 700 at Palmerston North, 200 in Wellington and 156 at Albany. About half are studying extramurally.

Professor Finau was most recently Professor of Public Health at the Fiji School of Medicine in Suva and has previously held academic appointments at the Universities of Otago and Auckland.

He has a medical degree from the University of Queensland as well as Fellowships from the Australasian College of Tropical Medicine, and the Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine.

His research portfolio deals largely with public health issues. He has in-depth experience in the tertiary

education sector as well as expertise in promoting higher education for Pacific peoples in New Zealand, Fiji and Tonga.

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Pasifika

Malls to get even more MEGA

The traffic chaos and shopping frenzy that marked the opening of the Sylvia Park mega-mall in Mt Wellington is just a sign of things to come, predicts retail researcher Associate Professor Andrew Parsons.

Dr Parsons, from the Department of Commerce, says New Zealand is likely to follow trends in the United States and Britain, with even bigger malls attached to big box complexes, more interactivity and entertainment, and add-ons such as gymnasiums, swimming pools and even schools.

As part of his research, Dr Parsons has tracked the development of shopping malls throughout the world.

He says developers closely follow the needs and changing shopping patterns of customers.



Malls have developed as large covered shopping areas that provide people with a pleasant, safe environment away from pollution, politics and the weather.

But the catch is that such an environment can be seen as very sterile and lacking in excitement. In most cases you can stand in a mall and not know where you are you could be anywhere in New Zealand or anywhere in the world for that matter. It's all the same.

He says developers and retailers have a keen sense of social changes and the role of malls in that change.

For thousands of years people have been going to such centres to socialise, exchange gossip and exchange goods. We don't have that concept any more but the malls are rapidly replacing it.

The centre of Manukau City is the mall and when New Zealand's largest covered mall opens here next to the Auckland campus at Albany, that will be the town centre.

Dr Parsons says there are different motives for shopping: You need to buy something, you want to browse and keep up with the latest trends, or you just want to get out of the house and get some exercise.

Then there is the social reason, the opportunity to meet other people, to exchange ideas with your peer groups.

Increasingly, people live by themselves and work in an office space by themselves. Going to a mall is one of the few ways available to interact with other people, to sit and socialise. Mall developers are tapping into this.

They are also aware of the growing popularity of warmer shopping experiences provided by farmers' markets, for example, apparently confirming that some people find malls sterile and lacking in adventure.

There is growing competition though from on-line shopping.

While in a large mall you might visit seven or eight dress shops and compare clothes and prices, you can effectively do the same on the net and make even wider comparisons.

Dr Parsons predicts mall owners and developers will attempt to counter this by building bigger and also by providing unique and interactive experiences for shoppers.

It started back in the late 1980s, when malls suddenly starting sprouting trees and it's now gathering real momentum.

The food courts, the attached movie complexes, the special shows staged for children in the holidays they're all part of extending the experience of a mall, and the time people spend in them.

He says from now on retailers will be encouraged to add excitement to the mall experience by letting people try out products in context.

Nike Town in the United States, for example, has full-sized basketball courts in its shops, so that customers can put on the clothes and the shoes and then have a go on the court before they buy them. Some golf shops already have mini driving ranges in store. Extend that to other products and you have a less passive shopping

experience.

At the moment malls don't like shops that sell musical instruments because they make too much noise as customers try out the products. But imagine how vibrant a mall would be if such experiences were encouraged.

Dr Parsons says in the future malls may even have schools attached. There are already crèches and pre-school centres for the children of both staff and customers. Why not schools? Overseas malls now have swimming pools, adventure parks, mini golf the sky's the limit. At the University of Alberta, where I worked for a time, the business school was attached to a vast mall which contained levels of shops and restaurants as well as student apartments.

Dr Parsons says new developments like Sylvia Park may seem bright, big, new and modern, but we're only just scratching the surface of what's to come .

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

E-learning's a breeze

Enabling staff to deliver live lectures to extramural students has occurred through a new web-based conferencing system called Adobe Macromedia Breeze.

The system also allows staff to put audio-enhanced PowerPoint presentations online, or on mobile phones that can connect to the Internet, so that students can view them anywhere and at any time.



The E-Learning Facilitator with the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Philip Roy, says the system was installed after a successful trial last year.

He says most users do not need to install anything to start using the system, as long as they have access to the Internet, and both dial-up and broadband connections are suitable for a good quality audio reception.

Dr Craig Prichard, a senior lecturer with the Department of Management has been using Breeze in postgraduate and undergraduate management papers and describes the system as a significant step forward.

We can engage in live lecture and tutorial-type presentations, bring in live or recorded guest speakers and can use the polling and quiz facilities to check progress and understanding, Dr Prichard says.

All these features significantly increase the interactive engagement of students with each other, the lecturer and the course materials.

Rachel Summers, a senior tutor in the School of People, Environment and Planning, has been using Breeze to hold online tutorials for extramural geographic information systems (GIS) students.

Miss Summers says the system is an essential learning tool that enables students' problems to be dealt with quickly.

The students use our GIS server to complete laboratory exercises and via Breeze, can share their desktop with us, allowing us to control their mouse and guide them through their problem.

More information is available at <http://elearning.massey.ac.nz>

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Extramural; Teaching



Wireless networks to cover campuses

[View the coverage map](#)

The first stage of a wireless networking service on the Turitea site in Palmerston North has been completed, part of an overall upgrade that will progressively become available across all the University's campuses this year.

At the same time another technological upgrade has enabled staff to deliver live lectures to extramural students via a new web-based conferencing system.

The wireless network allows staff and students to link to the Massey computer network, including the Internet, using laptops, personal digital assistants, and other wireless-capable devices.

Commercial wireless Internet services are also available for visitors to the University campuses in Palmerston North, Wellington and, in the next two months, Auckland.

The initial deployment of access points on Turitea provides coverage to the main student congregation areas, including the Student Centre, Library, AgHort and Social Science Lecture Blocks, as well as the Science Tower C and Vet Tower Foyers.

It is intended that access points will be installed into other areas on a case-by-case basis, to ultimately provide coverage to most academic, research and administrative areas.

The University is working towards a wireless networking service being available on the Auckland and Wellington campuses before the end of the year.

University Chief Information Officer Gerrit Bahlman says: The emergence of technologies capable of supporting true mobility provide a genuine opportunity to engage students in learning in new and vibrant ways.

Modern presentation techniques have resulted in informationally-dense and complex multimedia objects that simply cannot be conveyed using the 'chalk and talk' paradigm.

The adoption of wireless laptops by students is a natural progression in the enrichment of learning environments. Massey University's deployment of wireless technology on campus will allow students to fluently access the richer learning environments prepared by our academic staff and available electronically.

I am delighted that the University has supported this initiative and increased our capability to enrich the learning environments for our students.

A web site has been established to provide details on equipment requirements and configuration, coverage areas, and information on how to access network resources: <http://wireless.massey.ac.nz>

Date: 04/07/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Palmerston North

PhDs at Wellington

Carole Adamson Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work

Dr Adamson's thesis explored mental health workers' experiences with critical incidents and traumatic events in the workplace.

The thesis examined health workers' preparation for such events, their passage through the incidents, and organisational responses to the workers. It argues that an ecological framework can both explain and respond to traumatic events in mental health environments.

Sophie Jane Alcock Doctor of Philosophy in Education

Dr Alcock explored the playful and humorous communication of groups of young children in three early childhood centres.

The thesis argues that humour and playfulness are based in relationships rather than being individual qualities. Young children learn rules and roles by improvising and playing imaginatively and with them. Children play with the meaning, feeling, sound and rhythm of words.

This research suggests that young children in adult-controlled institutionalised settings need opportunities for such play. They need the freedom to communicate playfully and internalise social norms in meaningful ways.

Alan Coetzer Doctor of Philosophy in Management

Dr Coetzer's research examined the effects of managers on employees' learning in small manufacturing firms.

The research found that informal employee recruitment and selection practices in smaller firms have unintended positive effects on employees' learning. Significant positive associations were found between employee satisfaction with learning, and work environment conditions. This research contributes to an understanding of employee learning processes.

The research has implications for small business theory, policy development, and management practice.

Nathaniel Marshall Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health

Dr Marshall's thesis tested the effectiveness of a standard treatment for Obstructive Sleep Apnoea (OSA) where breathing stops many times throughout sleep.

Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP), which is a mask and air pump device worn when trying to sleep, is the standard treatment for OSA, but many patients find it difficult to tolerate. Two studies were conducted involving patients for whom CPAP has been recommended, but not adequately tested. A key symptom of OSA, daytime sleepiness, was not improved enough by CPAP to make the treatment worthwhile in all patients, although it did reduce their breathing pauses at night.

A third study tested a new device (C-Flex), which aims to improve comfort by lowering the air pressure during exhalation in patients with severe disease. Although findings were promising, larger scale testing will be required before this more expensive treatment can be recommended over conventional CPAP.

Created: 19 May, 2006

Date: 13/07/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: Graduation; Graduation (Wellington); Wellington

Milking marsupials

The first glimpse of a jellybean-sized wallaby joey was a bit of a shock for physiologist Dr Sharon Henare.

Born as an 'externalised foetus', the wallaby offspring completes its growth for a further 100 or so days in the protective membranous maternal pouch. The protein-rich milk they suckle is vital for their survival, and its bio-active components may benefit the treatment of premature human babies.

A researcher in the multi-disciplinary Riddet Centre, Dr Henare is studying the unique properties of marsupial milk, and the changes in the composition of the milk throughout lactation. Kangaroos and wallabies have the unique, and unexplained, ability to produce milk of differing compositions a high-protein blend for the joey in the pouch, and a blend with a higher carbohydrate content for an older sibling who lives outside of the pouch.

Dr Henare is part of a team in the Centre investigating the lactation and digestive systems of Australian marsupials, and of the Tammar wallaby in particular.

A protected species in Australia, there are several populations of Tammar wallaby in New Zealand where they are classified as a pest by the Department of Conservation.

With Professors Paul Moughan and David Mellor and Associate Professor Roger Lentle (IFNHH), Dr Henare is analysing the proteins and peptides present in wallaby milk, which have been found to stimulate the development of the gut of the joey.

Once identified in the wallaby milk, the protein may be synthesised in a laboratory or searched for in other types of milk.

Dr Henare says an understanding of the composition of wallaby milk may assist in the formulation of milk for premature babies, which is better suited to their delicate and underdeveloped digestive systems.

The research is funded by the Australian Geoffrey Gardiner Dairy Foundation.

Date: 13/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Māori newspapers aimed to colonise, assimilate

A new book by Māori history lecturer Dr Lachy Paterson shows how the Governments and churches used Māori newspapers to promote their policies, values and Christianity while discouraging traditional Māori spiritual and social practices.

Colonial Discourses: Niupepa Māori 1855 1863 looks at how nine bilingual newspapers provided a platform for propaganda and also how they were used as a forum by Māori and Pākehā to debate issues of the day.

The Government and the churches published most of these papers in both languages as a way of colonising and assimilating Māori into Pākehā society. They also used the papers to promote the sale of land, legislation and the advantages of the Pākehā way of living, he says.

Māori saw the power of the press and the benefits of using newspapers to spread their own messages. Two Waikato chiefs, Hēmara Rerehau and Wiremu Toetoe learnt how to use a printing press when they were invited to visit Vienna.

The Emperor of Austro-Vienna gifted a press to the chiefs, and on their return home they started up the Kingitanga newspaper called *Te Hokioi o Niu Tirenī*, which was also used to influence thinking and promote the Kingitanga movement.

Māori also contributed to the debates by writing in response. The viewpoints varied with some opposing the views presented and others supporting them. Māori also saw an opportunity to allow a wider audience to hear what had been said at hui, so whaikōrero and waiata at significant events were also published.

One of the issues about the bi-lingual nature of the papers is the sometimes incorrect translation into Māori for the benefit of Māori who could not read English. More often than not, the translation was a much 'softer' version of the English text and the full extent of the writer's intentions, or the reality was not realised.

Dr Paterson says both Māori and Pākehā leaders recognised the newspapers as a powerful mechanism. Ngāti Maniapoto chief Rewi Maniapoto was angered when a rival newspaper, *Te Pihoihoi Mokemoke* began publishing articles such as '*Te Kino o Te Mahi Kingi*' (The Evil of Kingite Activity) denigrating the Kingitanga movement, and he effectively put a halt to the publication.

He sent a band of warriors to shut down the newspaper and ordered the editor, Gorst the native commissioner for upper Waikato, to leave the district under the King's authority or suffer death. *Te Pihoihoi*'s press was returned to Auckland and *Te Hokioi* continued for a few more issues until war with the Government became imminent.

Dr Paterson says his book will be of particular interest to all those concerned with New Zealand's social, political and religious history. He believes that the Māori newspapers have been under valued as an historical record of Māori-Pākehā relations and provide a window into Māori society in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

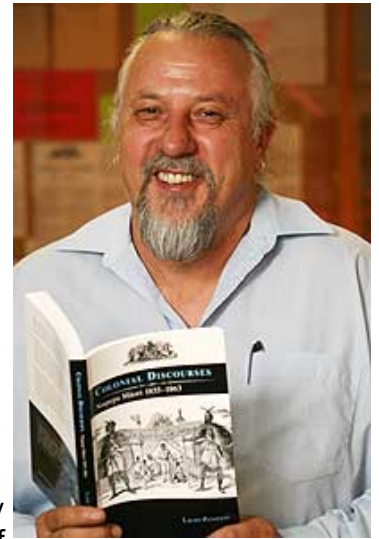
The book is based on an eight-year span of the newspapers from January 1855 to September 1863, covering a vital period in Māori-Pākehā relations, leading into the wars of the 1860s, when many of the papers ceased printing temporarily.

Colonial Discourses: Niupepa Māori 1855 1863 is published by the Otago University Press and based on Dr Paterson's PhD thesis.

Created: 7 March, 2008

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: Research



Native bats treated at Wildlife Ward

Veterinary surgeons at the University's NZ Wildlife Health Centre are trying to find the cause of a severe dermatitis damaging the ears of native short-tailed bats recently relocated to Kapiti Island.

Two of Kapiti's population of the endangered, endemic mammal are being treated for the condition, which affects bats' ability to echolocate.

The bats were brought to the Palmerston North-based ward by the Conservation Department, which has relocated short-tailed bats from a population in the Tararua ranges to Kapiti Island.

Surgeon Dr Brett Gartrell says the department's staff have been monitoring Kapiti's bat population since their relocation last year. Despite a loss of up to two thirds of their ears due to the dermatitis, the bats have maintained a healthy weight and continue to forage on the ground a unique behavioural characteristic of the species.

Dr Gartrell says the decision to bring two of the island bats to the ward for further tests was made when their condition was found to be worsening. Biopsies taken from each ear tip under general anaesthesia have not revealed the underlying cause of the dermatitis.

A possible cause is ear tip damage resulting from vascular injury, he says, and which is complicated by secondary infection. The Massey wildlife vets are continuing treatment and their findings are being used to treat the bats on Kapiti to reduce the scarring damage caused by the secondary infections.

Department spokeswoman Lynn Adams says the bats will return to Kapiti when they have made a full recovery, as part of the world-leading translocation programme to establish a self-sustaining island population.

The collaborative efforts of the department, Massey and Wellington Zoo wildlife veterinarians, along with private veterinarians, has been critical in successfully developing the techniques to transfer bats to Kapiti Island.

Background information on the translocation programme can be found at: www.doc.govt.nz

Bat facts:

- Long- and short-tailed bats are New Zealand's only endemic land mammals and both species are fully protected
- The endangered lesser short-tailed bat is an ancient species unique to New Zealand and is found only at a few scattered sites. A colony of around 300 short-tailed bats was found in the Waiohine Valley of the Tararua Forest Park in the late 1990s.
- Pups from this unique and isolated colony, born in captivity, have been transferred to Kapiti Island in an attempt to establish an insurance population in a predator-free environment.
- The short-tailed bat is listed by the Conservation Department as a species of highest conservation priority.
- They weight from 12-15g, have large pointed ears, a free tail and are a mousy-grey colour.
- Unlike most bats, which catch their prey in the air, the short-tailed bat has adapted to ground hunting and is one of the few bats in the world that spends large amounts of time on the forest floor, using its folded wings as front limbs while moving around.
- The bat's diet consists of insects, fruit, nectar and pollen.

Created: 7 March, 2008

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; School of Veterinary Science



Finance research rates highly

The University's Finance programme has shot to 25th place in an internationally respected measure of research quality and relevance.

Massey is ranked 25th amongst international business schools, as measured by the number of research papers downloaded from the eLibrary of the Social Science Research Network during the past 12 months.

The new ranking moves the programme up nine places in just four months and continues to place Massey at the top of the list amongst New Zealand and Australian universities.

The downloads a measure of the quality and relevance of the research were largely of papers by researchers from the departments of Commerce and Finance, Banking and Property.

The network is a website devoted to the promotion of scholarship in the fields of economics, finance, accounting, management and law. It was founded by Michael Jensen, a famous financial economist, and is run by him and other highly respected scholars. The eLibrary is co-hosted by Stanford University.

Last year the University's Finance programme was ranked 12th out of 170 universities in the Asia Pacific region for research productivity, based on research published in 21 of the world's leading finance journals from 2000 to 2004. The ranking was made in a research paper distributed globally in the Pacific-Basin Finance Journal.

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business

Attitudes to working mothers still entrenched

 [Listen to Prof. Gendall speak to Holmes on Newstalk ZB](#)

Most New Zealanders approve of married women working full-time but approval drops dramatically when women have children.

The New Zealand end of an international survey on men, women and work shows that attitudes to women and paid work depend critically on whether she has children and how old they are.

Eighty three per cent of respondents approved of married woman working full-time before they have children but only 2 per cent approve of full-time work when women have children under school age.

Approval is higher (30 per cent) for mothers of young children working part-time and increases to 14 per cent for women working full-time after the youngest child starts school.

A substantial number 40 per cent believe a pre-school child is likely to suffer if the mother works and the same number believe family life suffers when a mother has a part-time job.

The survey, by Massey University's Department of Marketing, traversed attitudes to job satisfaction and security, working conditions, and gender and work. It is part of the International Social Survey programme which involves leading academics in 40 countries in annual surveys on economic and policy issues, in seven-year cycles.

The New Zealand survey was taken last year. Lead researcher Professor Phil Gendall says it reveals mixed attitudes on gender issues, particularly working mothers. Despite the attitudes expressed above, 50 per cent still believe that a working mother can establish just as warm and secure a relationship with her children as a mother who does not work, and 46 per cent believe working is the best way for a woman to be an independent person.

Interestingly, a significant proportion (37 per cent) agrees that being a housewife is just as fulfilling as working for pay. This suggests many do not consider paid work to be the defining characteristic of a woman's role in the family.

The survey shows that in the home, traditional gender roles are changing slowly. In most households, women still do most of the housework, cooking, shopping and caring for sick children, while men do most of the repairs, putting out the rubbish and maintaining the car. Just under 50 per cent of respondents agreed that men should do a larger share of housework and childcare.

However, in more than a third of households, couples are likely to share responsibility for looking after elderly parents, doing the gardening and shopping for groceries.

Professor Gendall says in terms of attitudes to women and work overall, New Zealand is in a group of modern countries that includes Australia, the Netherlands, Canada, Sweden, Norway and the United States. This group contrasts strongly with "traditional" countries, including Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Russia and the Philippines.

The survey shows that most New Zealanders care less about what they are paid than whether their jobs are satisfying and interesting. However, 85 per cent sometimes, often or always experience exhaustion when they come home from work. This is partly attributable to the fact that half of the respondents sometimes do hard physical work but stress at work also appears to be a major contributing factor, says Professor Gendall.

All the same, most New Zealanders (80 per cent) are satisfied with their jobs and proud of the work they do and the firms and organisations they work for. A substantial number (65 per cent) said they were willing to work harder than required to help their firms succeed.

Workplace relationships are generally good and most have some flexibility in how their daily work is organised and when they start and stop. Job security is not a major worry.

Professor Gendall says by far the most important characteristic of a job is that it is interesting. Ninety seven per cent regarded this as important compared with 70 percent who cited high income. The opportunity to work independently, to help other people and be useful to society also rates highly.

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business; Video Multimedia

Food industry advocate challenged to debate obesity issues

Marketing researcher Professor Janet Hoek has rejected claims by Food Industry Group chairman Jeremy Irwin that her call for more regulation as means of curbing obesity is part of a personal agenda.

Unlike Mr Irwin, I am not paid to promote a particular position or to advance the interests of my organisation's membership. If Mr Irwin wanted to find personal agendas, he would have had more success had he started his mission closer to home.

Professor Hoek says her views are based on research findings, not prejudice, vested interest or financial gain, and, more importantly, they are shared by many other academic researchers from around the world.

Internationally-recognised groups and researchers, such as Professor Gerard Hastings, Director of the UK-based Institute for Social Marketing, the US Institute of Medicine, the International Association of Consumer Food Organisations, the Washington-based Centre for Science in the Public Interest, and the World Health Organisation, have documented the role marketing plays in contributing to obesity.

In New Zealand, researchers from the University of Otago, the Wellington School of Medicine, and the University of Auckland have also called for greater regulation of the marketing practices used to promote foods high in fat, salt and sugar.

The evidence is compelling, and it is there for those who wish to see it. Attempts to label this debate as a personal agenda suggest a lack of awareness of the international work supporting calls for greater government intervention in this area.

I agree with Mr Irwin that simple measures, such as regulating advertising alone, are unlikely to work. This is precisely why we have called for a comprehensive approach that includes not only advertising, but sales promotions, sponsorship and supply arrangements.

"History suggests that those who launch ad hominem attacks do so because they lack the ability or arguments (or both) to engage in rational discourse. It is most unfortunate that Mr Irwin has chosen this route instead of debating the issues we have raised.

Created: 18 August, 2006

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business; Explore - HEALTH

Massey consortium wins contract for new tertiary teaching centre

A Massey University-led consortium has won a \$20 million Government contract aimed at boosting the quality of teacher training across the tertiary sector.

The consortium will establish New Zealand's first Centre for Tertiary Teaching Excellence and run it for five years.

The centre will focus on supporting the development of teaching expertise across the tertiary sector. Based at Massey's Wellington campus, it will have regional hubs in Auckland, Christchurch and Palmerston North.

The consortium includes AUT University, the University of Canterbury, Christchurch College of Education, the Universal College of Learning, and Manukau Institute of Technology.

Gordon Suddaby, Director of Massey's Training and Development Unit, who is leading the project for Massey, says the aim is to provide support for teaching in the tertiary sector and create the best possible outcomes for students.

Mr Suddaby says the centre will have a strongly collaborative approach. Its establishment board includes representatives from wananga, polytechnics, private training establishments and other tertiary education providers.

He says about half the \$4 million annual budget will be spent on projects, while some of the money will be spent on research, and monitoring and evaluation of effective teaching.

The centre will have a director, and that appointment will be one of the first tasks of the establishment group, while each of the hubs will have just over one full-time equivalent staff member.

Centre functions will include building the teaching capabilities of all tertiary institutions, providing advice to the tertiary education sector and government agencies.

It could be simple things but it could be more intensive, something like how to address student issues or Industry Training Organisations might want to do surveys to establish what are the needs or particular industries, Mr Suddaby says. It's a really exciting initiative. I see it as an opportunity to provide the support and some direction and coherence to the sector that hasn't always been there.

Australia has a similar organisation called the Carrick Institute in Sydney while Melbourne also has a government-funded training provider. Britain's Higher Education Academy has a much bigger brief that crosses into what the Tertiary Education Commission does here. We will build our model ourselves, says Mr Suddaby.

That process started this week, with the centre establishment group holding its first meeting in Wellington. Massey Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear congratulated the group on the successful bid.

Professor Kinnear says it is important that the centre be relevant, linked to practitioners and outcome-driven but, at the same time, research-informed.

This is a far-sighted initiative by the Government that overseas experience suggests will quickly reap rewards for New Zealand across all spheres of tertiary education.

She had called on her own contacts among staff involved in the Carrick Institute and the Higher Education Academy to help to support the bid and says the centre will utilise those links in future, including for collaborative research.

Mr Suddaby is delighted that Massey gave such strong support to the project, with Professor Kinnear taking an active role, including in the selection interviews conducted by the Tertiary Education Commission.

He says it was good to work collegially with such a wide range of partners and acknowledged particularly the contribution of Alison Holmes from Canterbury and Associate Professor Neil Haigh from AUT.

All the collaborative partners and their vice-chancellors have been very supportive. In our bid we tried to make it

practitioner-driven and practitioner-based. The people involved in it were all involved in staff development activities.

The establishment group is now looking forward to developing a wide range of collaborative engagements with the whole sector to realise the vision of best learning outcomes for all students.

Professor Tom Prebble from Massey, a former Director of Extramural Studies and Professor of Higher Education, has been given the role of interim director and project manager.

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Teaching



Signs of external involvement in kidnaps may be a ruse

[▶ VIDEO](#) [Watch the Campbell Live item](#)

Indications that the kidnappings of Steve Centanni and Olaf Wiig in Palestine are influenced by outside forces may be a deliberate ruse by a disaffected cell from the Hamas military wing, says Middle East politics expert Dr Nigel Parsons.

A Palestinian security officer is pointing to external involvement while other Palestinian sources are suggesting the people behind the kidnaps, calling themselves, the Holy Jihad Brigades, are actually much closer to home, Dr Parson says.

He says the possibility that the kidnappers are somehow linked to al-Qa'ida cannot be discounted.

It is certainly true that Israel's systematic deinstitutionalisation of Palestine over the past several years has created an opportunity, just as the United States' deinstitutionalisation of Iraq has created an opportunity there.

He notes the kidnapping is distinct in two respects: It is of unusually long duration (today is the 10th day), and the internationalisation of the issue by making demands of a party other than Israel, in this case the United States.

There has been no explicit mention of an al-Qa'ida link in the Palestinian press, although sources in Palestinian security have suspicions that external factors may be behind the abductions.

Another theory is that the abductions are the work of a disaffected cell from the Hamas military wing, the Izz al-Din al-Qassam Brigades, whose true aim is to secure the release of cell members held in Palestinian Authority jails.

This may explain Olaf Wiig's call for pressure to be applied to local authorities. In this case, the Islam-isation and internationalisation of the incident would be a clever ruse.

Dr Parsons was in the West Bank in June researching Fatah, the formerly-dominant political faction, which lost its majority to Hamas in January's parliamentary elections. He also studied the Palestinian Authority's security apparatus.

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Top scholarships for Massey PhDs

Four Palmerston North-based Massey PhD students have been awarded the Government's top scholarships with a total value of more than \$357,000.

The Minister for Tertiary Education, Dr Michael Cullen, announced the 24 recipients of the Top Achiever Doctoral Scholarships today.

They are:

Karl Shaffer: \$90,537. A PhD student in the Institute of Fundamental Sciences

Mr Shaffer will investigate the potential of proton sponges as binders for beryllium . Beryllium is an attractive metal in the aerospace, automotive, telecommunications and computer industries as it is lighter than aluminium and six times stiffer than steel when alloyed with metals such as copper. It is, however, one of the most toxic non-radioactive elements and its inhalation can cause the often-fatal lung disease berylliosis. One solution to reduce environmental contamination by industrial beryllium is to identify molecules which can bind and separate beryllium, such as a class of molecules called proton sponges .

Susan Cunningham: \$91,212. A PhD student in the Institute of Natural Resources

Ms Cunningham will investigate how native birds, and in particular the kiwi, detect prey with their bills. She will also investigate the degree of convergent evolution (the evolution of similar characteristics among unrelated species in separate ecosystems) in prey-detection mechanisms between species, and between species that share an ecological niche. Her PhD combines the fields of functional morphology and behavioural ecology, and aims to further researchers' understanding of the ecology of foraging and the morphology (the structure) of bird bills.

Sophie Pack: \$89,658. A PhD student in the Institute of Fundamental Sciences

Ms Pack will construct monotone, domain decomposition algorithms to solve linear and non-linear singularly perturbed convection-diffusion problems. These types of problems occur regularly in mathematical models describing processes in physics, chemical kinetics and mathematical biology. Most of these problems cannot be solved using standard analytical methods they need to be solved numerically.

Qing Wang: \$86,129. A PhD student in the Department of Information Systems.

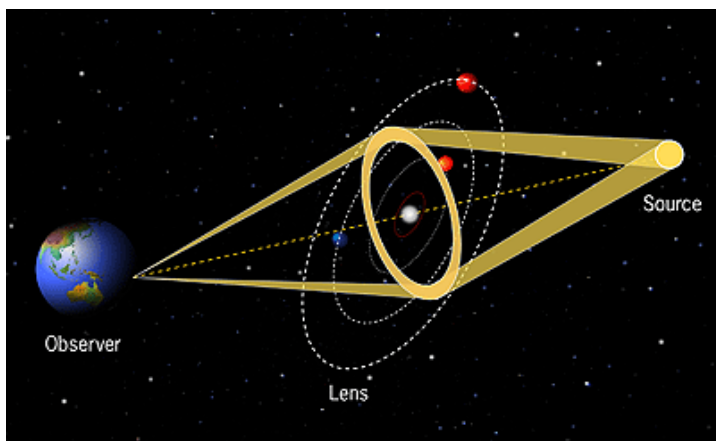
Ms Wang Will investigate the logical grounds of database transformations for complex value databases in which data is represented by trees. Research over the last few years has aimed to understand the expressiveness and complexity of query languages for such databases, and Ms Wang will extend this research in two directions. First, she will investigate general database transformations that encompass both queries and data updates. Second, she will examine the form of the trees.

For further information about the scholarships go to: <http://www.tec.govt.nz/funding/scholarships/>

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Scholarships



Parent star to new planet identified

The host star to a distant planet discovered in 2003 from the Mt John Observatory in Canterbury by a team of New Zealand astronomers has been identified using NASA's Hubble Space Telescope.

Dr Ian Bond, an astrophysicist at Massey's Auckland campus, says the results are a significant breakthrough in planetary formation theory.

We now have a technique that can provide crucial tests of theoretical models of planetary formation. If in the future, giant planets continue to be discovered only around higher mass stars then this will confirm these theories. On the other hand if we start seeing them around low mass stars then a rethink of the theories would be necessary.

Dr Bond was part of a NZ/Japan collaboration that first identified the planet using a new technique called gravitational microlensing.

At the time, the merged light from the planet's host star and the background star could not be separated using telescopes at Mt John so Dr Bond requested further observations using the Hubble Telescope.

We essentially had a planet we couldn't see, orbiting around a star we couldn't see, so needed the Hubble Telescope to have any chance of isolating the host star of the planet, Dr Bond says.

The telescope is based 380 miles above the Earth's surface, and data is collected by the Space Telescope Science Institute at the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland.

The high imaging resolution capabilities of the telescope enabled the separation of light from foreground and background stars by observing the subtle colour differences between the two stars.

As a result, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and New Zealand astronomers have now determined that the planet is approximately two and half times the mass of Jupiter orbiting a star about 65 per cent the mass of our own Sun.

The leader of the Hubble team, David Bennett of the University of Notre Dame in the United States, says identification of the host star was critical for a complete understanding of planets discovered by microlensing.

The newly discovered host star is catalogued as OGLE-2003L-BLG-235/MOA-2003-BLG-53L.

Dr Bond says the microlensing technique takes advantage of the random motions of stars.

Stars are typically too small to be noticed without precise measurements, but if one star passes precisely enough in front of another star, the gravity of the foreground star acts like a giant lens, magnifying the light from the background star.

Dr Bond says a planetary companion around the foreground star can produce additional brightening of the background star. This additional light can reveal the planet which is otherwise too faint to be seen by telescopes.



Images and additional information about this research are available on the Web at:
<http://hubblesite.org/news/2006/38>

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Old rivals meeting on and off the rugby field

Massey will next month host the second of the revived rugby matches between it and Lincoln University for the LA Brooks Cup.

The rivalry between the two former agricultural colleges in the form of a rugby game between students went into hiatus for nearly 40 years after being contested from 1952 to 1966.

Last year the Massey Ag XV ventured down to Lincoln University for the resurrection of the competition but lost the game 24-7. This year the team will be out to settle the score with the home ground advantage of the Sport and Rugby Institute on Saturday 2 September.

Apart from the LA Brooks Cup, named after the donor who was the mother of a former Lincoln student called Harold Brooks, the winning team also receives the Mog Shield, a wooden trophy bearing a remarkable resemblance to a toilet seat.

Massey Alumni Relations Manager Leanne Fecser says as well as the rugby match between students there will be an old rivals dinner at Wharerata on the Friday night.

We've already had a lot of interest from former students and staff keen to come along and swap stories and rekindle the battles of the past, Mrs Fecser says.

No doubt some of the old players will have plenty of advice for the current crop.

All past and present students, staff and supporters would be most welcome to come along and support Massey sorry, both teams.

In fact that was the case last year at Lincoln when some of the spectators, who were graduates of both Universities, found themselves with divided loyalties.

Lincoln's Vice-Chancellor Professor Roger Field and his Massey counterpart Professor Judith Kinnear plan to attend both the dinner and the match, which kicks off at 2pm.

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Alumni; Palmerston North; Sport and recreation

Prison literacy programme aims to connect families

Children will join their fathers in Wanganui Prison as part of a Massey University family literacy and learning project that may be extended other prisons throughout the country if successful.

Adult literacy researcher Dr Franco Vaccarino, from of the Department of Communication and Journalism, says children will visit the prison to spend one-on-one time reading books with their fathers.

We are encouraging reading between parent and child. We want the father and child to bond through sharing books and other literacy activities.

Overseas research has shown that inmates who spend more time with their families have much better post-release success, he says.

Children will spend quality time with the parent that they wouldn't normally get, and learn at the same time.

A family learning programme is currently being run at a local primary school, and a similar programme is due to start at the prison in September or October. The University's project team and the Corrections Department are working out a schedule for the visits.

The programme had never been done before in New Zealand, but would be developed if it proved successful, Dr Vaccarino says.

The programme will be offered to Year 1 and 2 pupils who have fathers in prison.

Dr Vaccarino, who has prior experience working in prisons, will run workshops for fathers on how to share books and literacy activities with their children.

The children will each choose a book to share with their fathers, and fathers will also select a book for the half-hour sessions, he says.

Dr Vaccarino will observe the sessions and collect feedback from fathers, children and prison staff.

"Individuals who are in prison are not just inmates they are still parents, he says. When a child's parent is incarcerated, that child's life is turned upside down. It is difficult to ascertain exactly what the effects on children are, but what is certain is that it can be traumatic and have lifelong effects. Visiting a parent in prison is important, as it can calm children's fears. They see that Dad is alright and that he still loves them.

Dr Vaccarino says results from the prison family literacy and learning programme will be available early next year.

The family literacy and learning programmes are part of the larger Literacy and Employment Project, running in Wanganui since 2004. The University and the Wanganui District Library are partners in the project. The larger project's objectives are to examine the learning needs of adults and look at learning and employment barriers they face. The Foundation for Research, Science and Technology funded the \$2 million research project. It is led by Associate Professor Frank Sligo of the Department of Communication and Journalism.

<http://literacy.massey.ac.nz/>

Created: 10 August, 2006

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business



Research, Science and Technology Minister Steve Maharey, GNS Science chairman Con Anastasiou, Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear and GNS Science chief executive Dr Alex Malahoff.

Disaster research centre established

A new research centre established by the University and GNS Science aims to better prepare New Zealand against natural disasters.

Based at the School of Psychology on the Wellington campus, the joint Centre for Disaster Research concentrates the skills of psychologists, sociologists, planners, geologists, risk assessors, Māori researchers, and economists from both organisations.

A function to celebrate the establishment of the centre was held at the institute's Lower Hutt office last week with Research, Science and Technology Minister Steve Maharey witnessing the signing of an agreement.

Mr Maharey says the new centre would put New Zealand at the leading edge of hazards research.

New Zealand is vulnerable to natural hazards, so it is essential our research and science community has a strong focus in this area.

Institute chief executive Dr Alex Malahoff says New Zealand's vulnerability to natural hazards was the main reason for setting up the centre.

It will help to ensure that there is improved uptake of GNS Science's natural hazards research so it is integrated with Massey's work on preparedness and reaction to disasters, Dr Malahoff says.

Recent events in Indonesia and New Orleans provide strong evidence for the relevance of bringing a focus to this area where the physical and social sciences intersect.

Dr Malahoff says New Zealand had been spared the pain of a significant mass casualty natural disaster since the 1931 Hawke's Bay earthquake, resulting in a degree of complacency and incomplete understanding of the devastation of natural hazards.

The Pro Vice-Chancellor of the University's College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Professor Barrie Macdonald, says the centre will concentrate the expertise of both organisations.

This is a valuable partnership that will draw on the University's established strengths in earth sciences, planning for mitigating the effects of natural disasters, and the building of resilient communities.

Professor Macdonald says the benefits of the centre include improved support for risk reduction activities, and a better understanding of how to recover from natural disasters.

Centre staff will work with a range of agencies to improve New Zealand's capabilities to respond to natural disasters. They will focus on research, postgraduate teaching and commercial consultancy.

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: Research



Stu Baker at the Athens Olympics, where he worked as a drug tester for the IOC.

Sport Management graduates off to Asian Games

Four graduates of the Sport Management programme have key roles in the Asian Games in Doha, one of the world's biggest sport events.

Fresh from directing the World Junior Squash championships and the opening game of the Manawatu Turbos' Air New Zealand Cup rugby campaign in Palmerston North, Stu Baker leaves for Doha at the end of this month. He will manage venue operations for the games. Mr Baker is not only a Massey alumnus but has supervised students in his roles at Sport Manawatu and the Arena.

The 15th Asian Games, also called the Asiad, run from 1 to 15 December. They are staged every four years, attracting athletes from all over Asia, under the supervision of the International Olympic Committee. Asiad has 10,000 athletes from 45 countries, and 39 sports. As a comparison, the Melbourne Commonwealth Games had 4500 athletes from 71 countries, competing in 17 sports.

Mr Baker will join three other Sport Management graduates who are already in Doha. Aaron Palmer is the spectator services manager, after taking a similar role at the Melbourne Games earlier in this year. Aaron is a former Massey prizewinner for his work in developing the Small Blacks programme at Manawatu Rugby.

Brendan Bourke, who also worked at the Melbourne Games, is in Doha working on venue logistics. He will be assisted by Delwyn Sanson, who was awarded a University prize last year for her work with Manawatu Rugby on the local Lions match.

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; College of Business; Institute of Sport and Rugby; Sport and recreation; Student profiles

NZ agri-food research falling behind

Countries like Canada are stealing a march on New Zealand in the research and development required to tap the huge export potential of the agri-food industries, says Professor Paul Moughan.

Professor Moughan, a nutritionist and Co-director of the Riddet Centre, recently returned from the University of Saskatchewan where he is an adviser to a major R&D project investigating the absorption and metabolism of the amino acid methionine from foods and feedstuffs.

He describes the Saskatchewan facilities as world-class, boasting what is arguably North America's most successful university-based science parks and one of the world's most advanced synchrotrons, a giant microscope.

Saskatchewan's economy, like New Zealand's, is dependent upon agriculture. At the University agri-foods holds pride of place, with very impressive up-to-the-minute facilities.

The Canadian Government recognises the need for ever-greater innovation in agriculture and added-value food development and is investing heavily, says Professor Moughan.

They are also attracting the best and brightest research scientists from throughout the world. They want to move away from commodity trading, to the production of high profit margin novel foods and food ingredients.

Similar messages have been preached in New Zealand for more than a decade but Professor Moughan says the difference is that Canada is walking the talk.

New Zealand can do just as well as Canada but we need to get moving in promoting innovation as a business concept and in investing in targeted R&D or we will completely miss our chance.

He hopes the current deliberations of the NZ Trade and Enterprise Food and Beverage Task Force, which has been proactive in addressing this issue, will provide the much-needed catalyst.

Professor Moughan's formal appointment to the five-year project furthers his linkages with Canadian science. He is also a member of the College of Reviewers for Canadian Research chairs and was recently appointed an Honorary Fellow at the University of Guelph in Ontario.

The Riddet Centre is a Massey-led partnership including Auckland and Otago Universities involving advanced scientific studies in food and beverage development.

Created: 7 August, 2006

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture; Government Policy commentators

Higher profile for SME research

The University has established a new chair in Enterprise Development to complement the ground-breaking work of the Wellington-based Small and Medium Enterprise Research Centre.

Professor Claire Massey has been appointed as the inaugural holder of the new chair. She remains as Director of the Small and Medium Enterprise Research Centre and also becomes head of the Department of Management and Enterprise Development, replacing Dr Andrea McIlroy who is now Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Wellington).

Professor Massey has also taken two leading roles in international groups set up to promote, research and support the interests of smaller companies.

She has been elected as president of the Small Enterprise Association of Australia and New Zealand and vice-president (Research) of the International Council for Small Business.

She is the first New Zealander to hold either position.

Dr Massey was elected to the new roles at the 51st annual conference of the International Council for Small Business, held recently in Melbourne.

She was also presented with the President's Award for services to the international council, and was one of three international speakers at the pre-conference policy forum. Dr Massey spoke on business compliance.

She says her own successes at the conference validate the work done by the Massey research centre and the relevance of its research international as well as to the New Zealand small business sector.


There are obviously differences between countries in the environment in which small companies operate, including levels of government support. But there are also similarities and plenty of common ground.

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Evaluating volcanic risk for the future

 Watch the ONE News item: [Dialup 56k](#) or [Broadband 128k](#)

Volcanologists, earth scientists and natural hazard planners from throughout New Zealand are meeting today in Palmerston North to share research results and develop a research plan for the next two years.

The symposium is hosted by the University's Volcanic Risk Solutions research group, and the researchers will identify new areas of collaboration among national organisations. They will also discuss the best way to coordinate the recent influx of doctoral and masters students across New Zealand, in order to make the most of their thesis research and ensure the present gaps in the knowledge of volcanic hazards are addressed.

Among the Massey scientists presenting today are:

Ian Chapman: Assessing the volcanic risk to the Taranaki energy distribution sector.

A hub of petroleum exploration and natural gas products, the Taranaki region is also overshadowed by the threat of volcanism. Given society's reliance on electricity and natural gas, what impacts would a typical eruption have on the Taranaki energy distribution sector, including the network of Powerco? What practical steps could be taken to mitigate this risk? This analysis extends beyond damage to the electrical network, to include the wider implications to hospitals, critical industry, cell phone towers, gas gates and other essential infrastructure.

Dr Jerome Lecointre: Taranaki Awakens! An emergency management eruption scenario.

An eruptive scenario for Mt Egmont has been developed specifically for Taranaki Regional Council Civil Defence authorities to provide a practical emergency management tool that can be used during a scenario-based exercise. The scenario is based on the development of an eruption over a period of more than 69 days. Its volcanic activity matches geological data covering the last 1,000 years of volcanic activity. It will help decision makers to focus on areas of increased vulnerability and key infrastructure in sectors directly affected by the eruption (dairy plants, pipe lines, petrochemical production facilities, roads and bridges).

Professor Vince Neall: Ascertaining volcanic risk to infrastructure in Taranaki.

The main events in the history of Egmont Volcano are published in a 1:100,000 map. They are now relating this information to understand the volcanic risk to infrastructure in Taranaki. Infrastructure data has been combined into a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) database which was cross-referenced to a volcanic hazards map. This analysis was made available to participating local government authorities and key industries, and one result of this analysis was the recognition of a large number of vulnerability points.

Susy Cole: Understanding the internal dynamics of lahars using geophysical techniques.

Lahars, or water-containing mass flows, pose a great threat to communities that live near river channels on volcanoes. The internal dynamics of these lahars are not well known, mostly because it is impossible to see inside a moving lahar. New monitoring or imaging systems to address this were tested earlier this year at Semeru, Indonesia. The fieldwork also allowed for the experimentation of the effectiveness and reliability of the equipment to be installed in the Whangaehu River, Ruapehu. Several problems were highlighted with equipment installation, which will aid preparations for the anticipated lahar at Ruapehu.

Dr Karoly Nemeth: Lessons for volcanic emergency management from the 2005 Ambae caldera-lake eruption in Vanuatu.

After a dormancy of 90 years, Ambae volcano erupted in November 2005. The volcanic lake at the summit, which is five times larger than that of Mt Ruapehu's, threatened to form lahars as a result of the displacement of water and mud. Eruptions did not reach the size needed to trigger lahars, and despite a low level of scientific concern, local authorities organised themselves rapidly and conducted a four-week evacuation of 3,500 people. This was driven by the fear of public and local authorities, along with a lack of recent experience in volcanism, and perhaps also a strong and overbearing interest from international media.

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: Research

Another pointer to falling home ownership

The latest survey from the University's Real Estate Analysis Unit appears to confirm a growing shift from home ownership to rental accommodation.

The residential rental market quarterly survey shows an increasing rental population, based on tenancy bonds recorded by the Department of Building and Housing. Year to year figures show that new tenancy bonds have increased from just over 100000 in 1995 to well over 150000 in 2005.

That is an average increase rate of 4 per cent a year compared with average population growth of 1,16 per cent over the same period.

Professor Bob Hargreaves, who prepared the survey, says the results of the five yearly census, due out later this year, will provide the most reliable data on the percentage of households renting and those owning. He says the most likely scenario is an ongoing decline in ownership.

That decline is already showing up in statistics in the unit's rental market surveys. In the absence of hard data from the census, there is a clear trend emerging in the bond centre data, he says. The statistics show rental tenancies increasing at a faster rate than the rate of growth in the population. From a policy perspective this trend, likely to be confirmed by the census, has implications for home ownership.

The release of the rental figures follows a report based on A.C. Nielsen research showing a drop in home ownership of 12 per cent in the 12 months to March 2006. It also follows the announcement of a new government advice service on home ownership, highlighting concern about falling rates.

Professor Hargreaves says a further interesting issue is future changes in the affordability of renting compared with owning. The Real Estate Unit's latest survey uses figures from the recent Massey University Home Affordability Index to make a comparison with rental affordability, based on the median national recent divided into average wages. It shows that since mid 2004 renting has become relatively more affordable.

Over the last quarter the median national rent remained unchanged at \$260 a week and was up only \$10 or 4 per cent on the same period in 2005. Rents in the large North island cities were relatively static. Dunedin and Christchurch showed gains and small increases were recorded in some North Island cities.

Professor Hargreaves says overall the figures show that rents are still flat-lining. But he says there will be keen interest in where they go from here, driven by demand, as home ownership levels fall, and by variables such as net migration.

Created: 3 August, 2006

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Turbo-boost from wax packs

What more could you want? The beer, the burger and the Brazilian oh and four tickets to the Manawatu Turbos' long-awaited return to first division rugby.

Christopher Long, a third year Bachelor of Business Studies student majoring in sport business management and marketing communications, has helped ensure several hundred extra supporters will be at Arena Manawatu tomorrow and for the teams other home matches of the season by selling \$20 Turbos packs on campus and around Palmerston North.



Today he hopes to sell the last 45 of 500 packs he prepared as part of his practicum assignment. The packs contain Manawatu Rugby Union merchandise a green poncho, a green glove and a Turbos wristband, along with vouchers for a Big Mac McDonald's burger, three cans of beer from the union sponsor Speight's and a voucher from Palmerston North beauty salon Studio 31 for a Brazilian wax.

Mr Long, 20, who plays senior club rugby for Marist, is in no doubt what the major selling point was for the packs: Definitely the Brazilian voucher. My girlfriend Jess said the pack needed something that appealed to women, although the vouchers can be used by anyone.

He reckons about half his sales have been to women. And a lot of guys have bought them for their lady friends. While Speight's-maker Lion Breweries and McDonald's Restaurant in Rangitikei St, Palmerston North, were already supporters and sponsors of Manawatu Rugby, getting Studio 31 involved was his initiative, Mr Long says.

"When I went in there I was hoping they'd give me a discount voucher, like 20 per cent off or something, but the owner Wendy Newth is so confident she will get repeat customers once they've had their first wax she was happy to do the whole thing free.

Several other students from the same sport business management course have worked with Manawatu Rugby as part of their practical studies and will be responsible for match day entertainment as well as behind-the-scenes activities at FMG Stadium.

So how does Mr Long expect the team to perform? Tomorrow, if they can score a try against Auckland or put points on the board it will be a huge step for rugby and hopefully draw people back.

"Manawatu's such a proud rugby province and has been for years, I think if they can play with pride the community will be happy with that.

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Music and campus life; Palmerston North; Sport and recreation

Study indicates genetic damage incurred by Vietnam vets

A significant difference in the DNA of Vietnam War veterans has been found in a study by Massey molecular scientists.

The analysis of 25 veterans was conducted by Masters student Louise Edwards under the supervision of Dr Al Rowland, and the results of a genetic analysis are now in the hands of the veterans.

Ms Edwards and Dr Rowland from the Institute of Molecular Biosciences studied the rate of sister chromatid exchange in the cells a test which analyses the way chromosomes self-replicate. A comparatively higher level of sister chromatid exchange identified in the study indicates genetic damage.

Dr Rowland says the sample is statistically small, but is significant in that it shows the group, who were exposed to a harmful environmental agent, may have incurred genetic damage. The sister chromatid exchange assays conducted on the sample suggests that the men have been exposed to a harmful clastogenic (an environmental agent which results in damage to DNA) as a result of service in Vietnam.

The chromosomal reproduction of the 25 veterans was compared with a control group of 25 former servicemen who did not serve in Vietnam. Dr Rowland says the factors of smoking, alcohol consumption and the use of medical x-rays were taken into account when comparing the DNA of the two groups.

In April this year the Nuclear Test Veterans Association released the results of a similar study conducted by Dr Rowland. It involved the analysis of the DNA of Navy veterans exposed to nuclear radiation during Operation Grapple in 1957 and 1958 where nuclear bombs were detonated at Christmas Island and in the Malden Islands in Kiribati.

Created: 31 July, 2006

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - HEALTH

Combating Campylobacter with common sense

A ban on the sale of fresh chicken meat is not the answer to preventing outbreaks of campylobacteriosis says food microbiologist Associate Professor John Brooks

He says the media focus on the comparatively high incidence of campylobacteria outbreak in New Zealand has been triggered by incomplete information.

No clear mode of transmission has been established between chicken meat and humans. Campylobacter is also found in cattle and sheep, ducks and domestic pets, and water and dairy farm effluent have also been found frequently to be contaminated.

The call by a University of Otago researcher for a ban on the sale of fresh chicken in favour of frozen will not eliminate the contamination says Dr Brooks.

Freezing may not provide the hoped-for protection from food-borne illness. The number of bacteria needed for infection to occur differs. For many types of bacteria this is in excess of 100,000 bacterial cells, but for campylobacter the infecting dose may be as low as six cells.

He says there is also confusion about the contamination of chicken carcasses in the food processing chain. Campylobacter cannot grow below about 30 degrees Celsius, which means it can't grow during processing. The bacteria are found in the gut of animals and birds, so spillage of faeces onto the carcass or cross contamination during processing is the most likely route.

Dr Brooks says the Poultry Industry Association and poultry farmers have made strenuous attempts to eradicate campylobacter in chicken flocks - a difficult feat as campylobacter cells are also found in flies.

Infection spreads through a rearing house like wildfire, and birds are transported to the processing facility in cages, so further cross contamination can occur.

In the kitchen, thawing of frozen chicken can have its own hazards the release of moisture can cause cross contamination of surfaces and other foods. Dr Brooks says the thorough cooking of chicken will destroy the campylobacter.

We don't know how many of the reported cases of campylobacteriosis were caused by undercooking of chicken on the barbeque, but we do know that it is difficult to ensure even heating of chicken pieces. This is quite different from barbecuing slices of red meat, which are essentially sterile on the inside and so can be cooked rare with no risk to the consumer.

He says education must be a priority for the control of food poisoning.

It is common for raw foods to contain pathogens, and the consumer must take some responsibility for controlling food poisoning by preventing cross-contamination in the kitchen and cooking raw foods properly.

Created: 31 July, 2006

Date: 30/07/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - HEALTH



Peter Black's photographs of protestors on Rugby Park, Hamilton, on 25 July 1981.

'81 Springbok tour images on show

Photographs of the 1981 Springbok Tour once considered too sensitive to show Commonwealth leaders are on show at The Engine Room gallery until 13 October.

The Tour is Here was originally intended for exhibition at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Melbourne in 1981 but, according to gallery manager Kim Paton, was intercepted by Customs apparently over concerns it would embarrass the New Zealand Government.

The exhibition, featuring works from leading New Zealand photographers including Patrick Reynolds, Ans Westra, John Miller, Kapil Arn, Jim Bache, Steven Penny and Mark Hantler, went on to tour the world with the United Nations for several years.

The Tour is Here opened last week in conjunction with the Expanding Documentary conference being held at the University from 22-24 September.

The conference is aimed at New Zealand and international film and videomakers, photographers and artists. It presents documentaries along with academic papers.

Date: 16/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Creative Arts; Exhibition/Show





Celebrating a bright future for Massey research

The achievements of researchers help set the tone for the performance and standing of a university nationally and internationally and it is an area in which Massey staff and students have excelled again this year.

For the third year, Massey News devotes an issue to record the stories and celebrate the achievements of the growing number of top-line researchers, who have been recognised not only by the University but also externally.

Massey people recently shared in more than \$6.3 million in Marsden research grants from a pool of just over \$39.1 million allocated annually by the Royal Society.

Internally, the University has commended and provided tangible support for more than a dozen established and emerging researchers in a range of fields from sciences to humanities, business, education and creative arts.

This year the University's most prestigious research awards, the Massey University Research Medals, have been won by Professor David Lambert Individual; Professor Robyn Munford Supervisor; Dr Barbara Holland and Dr Sarah Ross Early Career; and the Centre for Public Health Research has won the Team medal.

Other research awards announced in this issue include Māori awards, Women's awards, postdoctoral fellowships, research fellowships, Technicians' awards and a new category of college research awards.

Many of names of the recipients will be recognised from previous years and a large number were also recipients of the recent Marsden and Fast-Start awards. Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear says this is a tribute to their sustained excellence in their various fields and their abilities to collaborate with others both in New Zealand and internationally, and to remain at the cutting edge of knowledge and discovery.

Equally exciting, she says, is the crop of young and emerging researchers. This is an area Massey prides itself in. An example of that future potential is that Massey had the second highest number of Marsden Fast-Start awards of all New Zealand tertiary organisations, as well as the third largest number of overall grants and the third highest value of total grants.

Professor Kinnear is adamant about the importance and value of supporting and promoting research excellence as an essential element of our core business of research training.

By undertaking fundamental research we create better universities, she says.

The opportunity to pursue fundamental research is one of the incentives that persuades our best and brightest to choose university careers over other often better-paid options.

Their teaching is informed by their research. Their postgraduate students will take with them into industry or society more generally the technical and problem-solving skills that fundamental research is uniquely suited to providing.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research Professor Nigel Long, says modern research demands collaboration to make the most of the expertise that lies in the tertiary education sector, government research organisations and the private sector.

In the interests of New Zealand's advancement it makes more sense to share knowledge and expertise, and it makes economic sense to share expensive capital items rather than to duplicate them, Professor Long says.

He cites the Hopkirk Institute, a \$16 million state-of-the-art research and teaching facility on the Palmerston North campus, which marries the expertise of scientists from the Institute of Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Sciences and AgResearch as one example and the \$1.5 million microscopy research centre, which will be used by research groups throughout the Manawatu region as another.

Nobel winner to front Research Medals awards dinner

The 2006 Massey University Research Medals and Teaching Awards will be presented at a gala dinner to be held in Palmerston North on 5 October.

A highlight of this year's event, the third annual dinner held to pay tribute to research and teaching excellence, will be guest speaker Nobel Laureate, Professor Peter Doherty.

Professor Doherty, an Immunologist from St Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, was jointly awarded a Nobel prize in physiology/medicine in 1996 with Rolf Zinkernagel for their discoveries concerning the specificity of the cell mediated immune defence research undertaken while employed at the John Curtin School of Medical Research in Canberra, Australia.

As well as giving a short speech about his work, Professor Doherty, whose first discipline was veterinary science, will present the medals to this year's recipients.

Date: 16/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: Any



Capability building exercise pays dividends

The next generation of social scientists is now being groomed by the network charged with building the country's research capability in the social sciences.

The Building Research Capability in Social Sciences network is a collaborative venture between universities hosted by Massey and formed two years ago with an \$8 million grant from the Tertiary Education Commission.

The chairman of the network's management group, Professor Paul Spoonley, says it is already having an impact on the contribution of the social sciences to the social and economic future of New Zealand.

The development phase saw the establishment of an access grid at each university and all Massey campuses, with technology to enable easy discussion and the exchange of information between members.

The grids combine audio and video conference software and can link multiple sites for meetings and conversations.

It means we can talk from wherever we are, exchange ideas and hear from experts in the field internationally or nationally, says Professor Spoonley.

At the same time, the network has been active in developing the skills of graduate and early career researchers.

An important challenge is to replace an ageing workforce in the universities and to make sure that new research leaders are being upskilled. There are new people with new ideas who are the next generation of social scientists. It's important to make sure they are contributing to the economic and social well-being of the country. To make sure this happens successfully, new paradigms and methods are required.

From Massey University, Professors Robyn Munford, Chris Cunningham, Sally Casswell, Paul Spoonley and Dr Tim McCreanor have all contributed to establishing the network and its first full year of operation.

Pictured above: Members of the management team, from left: (back) Dr Tim McCreanor (Massey), Dr Nick Lewis (Auckland) Dr Charles Waldegrave (Family Social Policy Centre), Professor Richard Bedford (Waikato) Professor Richard Le Heron (Auckland) Professor Chris Cunningham (Massey), Professor Paul Spoonley (Massey); (front) Professor Janis Paterson (AUT), Professor Geoff Kearsley (Otago), Professor David Thorns (Canterbury), Professor Jenny Neale (Victoria) Professor Robyn Munford (Massey).

Date: 16/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Hothouse business flowers bloom

Five years after the establishment of the University's e-centre, six fledgling companies have grown strong enough to take wing from this business incubator into the big wide business world.

More are poised to follow this year. The e-centre itself, is now well through start-up and rapidly ticking up success stories.

Established specifically to nurture and grow entrepreneurial technologies companies, the e-centre is a partnership between the University, North Shore City Council and the Tindall Foundation. The vision is of an entrepreneurial community based on innovation and the commercialisation of research and development.

The young companies that have come into the e-centre are typically a one- or two-person operation with a technology-based business idea and a strong entrepreneurial streak.

The centre provides support in many aspects of business development but also provides links to expertise in other parts of the University.

Early startups under the wing of chief executive Steve Corbett are now well on their feet and making inroads into world markets.

The two most recent graduating companies, Zeald.com and Quantel, are classic successes stories from the incubation programme. Zeald.com has franchised its business model for generating growth from website development. Quantel now has 10 staff and clients in six countries for its computer-based business evaluation system.

The first e-centre graduate company CleanFlow has also developed an impressive list of world markets. With significant assistance from the University's Institute of Information and Mathematical Sciences, this company developed a remote control system to examine the interior of underground pipes. It was a development hailed by those charged with the maintenance of drains and sewers the world over.

Other clever concepts are on the boil at the Auckland-based e-centre, at different stages on the path to success. Currently there are 20 businesses under the e-centre wing including six one-person operations still in what is known as the start-up room.

Mr Corbett says a typical e-centre company is knowledge-based with the potential to grow. They are encouraged to stay in the e-centre during their critical growth phase, then to move on and re-locate to nearby sites.

To be accepted into the centre the applicants and their proposals also have to match the ability of both the centre and the University to add expertise. The e-centre becomes a shareholder.

It is a mixture of equity and royalty, says Mr Corbett. The value that we add lives on in terms of investment for the University.

In the hot house of the incubator the mantra these days is Global from day one and the push for rapid progress includes developing a business plan in just one day.

Last year the e-centre became a subsidiary company of the University's Massey Ventures.

Business Development Manager Dorian Scott also came on board and he set in motion a number of new initiatives to develop and cement connections with business and industry.

We can expect to see much greater interaction between industry and academics. We are providing companies with easy access to the specialized expertise within Massey University in areas like design, mechatronics, computer science and engineering, information management, product development and mathematics, says Scott.

In partnership with the Trade and Enterprise Connect project, the e-centre has begun hosting a series of technology briefings to showcase leading-edge research. The most recent of these was based on the mobile computing group research, which attracted strong interest from industry, various agencies and from established entrepreneurs.

As well as putting academics and their expertise in front of industry, new connections have resulted and commercial projects are starting to follow.

Both Mr Corbett and Mr Scott are satisfied that Massey's profile has been lifted by their initiatives and that corporate Auckland is seeing the depth of expertise within the University.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Rising house costs leads to more renters

The latest survey from the University's Real Estate Analysis Unit appears to confirm a growing shift from home ownership to rental accommodation.

The residential rental market quarterly survey shows an increasing rental population, based on tenancy bonds recorded by the Department of Building and Housing.

Year to year figures show that the numbers of tenancy bonds lodged with department have increased 50 per cent since 1995 to more than 150,000 last year.

Professor Bob Hargreaves, who prepared the survey, says the results of the five-yearly Census, due out later this year, will provide the most reliable data on the percentage of households renting and those owning. He says an ongoing decline in home ownership is most likely to be revealed.

That decline is already showing up in statistics in the unit's rental market survey for the June quarter.

In the absence of hard data from the Census, there is a clear trend emerging in the bond centre data, Professor Hargreaves says.

The statistics show rental tenancies increasing at a faster rate than the rate of growth in the population. From a policy perspective this trend, likely to be confirmed by the census, has implications for home ownership.

The release of the rental figures follows a report based on research by AC Neilsen showing a drop in home ownership of 12 per cent in the 12 months to March 2006. It also follows the announcement of a new government advice service on home ownership, highlighting concern about falling rates.

Professor Hargreaves says a further interesting issue is future changes in the affordability of renting compared with owning.

The Real Estate Unit's latest survey uses figures from the recent Massey University Home Affordability Index to make a comparison with rental affordability, based on the median national recent divided into average wages. It shows that since mid 2004 renting has become relatively more affordable.

Over the past quarter the median national rent remained unchanged at \$260 a week and was up only \$10 or 4 per cent on the same period in 2005. Rents in the large North island cities were relatively static. Dunedin and Christchurch showed gains and small increases were recorded in some North Island cities.

Professor Hargreaves says that overall the figures show that rents are still flat lining. But he says there will be keen interest in where they go from here, driven by demand, as home ownership levels fall, and by variables such as net migration.

The full report can be found at: <http://property-group.massey.ac.nz/index.php?id=1068>

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Research professor elected to Royal Society

Professor Peter Schwerdtfeger has been elected to the Royal Society of New Zealand council.

A Professor of Theoretical Chemistry in the Institute of Fundamental Sciences based at the University's Auckland campus, he replaces Chemistry Professor Andrew Brodie, who was not eligible for re-election after serving on the council for four years.

The other Massey member of the council is Professor Gaven Martin, who represents mathematical and information sciences. Professor Schwerdtfeger joined the University two years ago and leads the Centre of Theoretical Chemistry and Physics.

In Germany he attended Stuttgart University and moved to Auckland University in the mid 1980s.

Highlights in his academic career include: the Alexander von Humboldt Feodor Lynen Award (1987); the SGS prize for excellence in basic research from the New Zealand Institute of Chemistry (1994); Fellowship of the Royal Society of New Zealand (1997); Fellowship of the New Zealand Institute of Chemistry (1998); Hector Medal (2001); James Cook Fellowship (2001-2003).

He has also attracted substantial funding with Marsden Awards in 1996 worth \$570,000, in 1999 (\$590,000) and in 2003 (\$630,000).

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences

Farmers' markets research wins award

Farmers' market watcher Dr Alan Cameron has been a busy man, in the media and at conference podiums.

The growth of the markets has created a new focus for growers and other producers and this, in turn, has created a need for support organisations, including the new Farmers' Market New Zealand Association.

Dr Cameron won the award for best presenter at the association's inaugural conference in Havelock North in June for his paper called Farmers' Markets: Trends and Developments.

Last week he was in Auckland to give a presentation on Farmers' Markets: a Viable Alternative? to the (also) inaugural Horticulture New Zealand Conference.

News media interest in farmers' markets has also been intense and Dr Cameron has featured as one of the nation's few experts.

It's a colourful story which provides plenty of photo opportunities, he says. And to some extent I think media and public interest in the growth of farmers' markets reflects a bit of a backlash against the sterility of supermarkets and malls. For example, many of the stories ran just as the Sylvia Park Mall was opening in Auckland, apparently in contrast.

But the main thing is that people really want to see these markets flourish, for lots of reasons including their desire to buy good, fresh food and support their local economy at the same time.

There are now 26 authentic farmers' markets in New Zealand. The first was started in Whangerei in 1998. After a slow start numbers have accelerated recently with 75 percent of farmers' markets started in the last four years. Nine markets opened in 2005. Four have opened in 2006, including the big Moore Wilsons market at Porirua, and another eight are in the pipeline.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business

Asking questions gives better math results

Getting Māori and Pacific Island children to ask questions in class is thought to be the key to lifting their performance in numeracy.

College of Education lecturer and researcher Bobbie Hunter says this group of children needs to be taught to speak out and make enquiries in the classroom. They tend not to, possibly for cultural reasons.

There is widespread concern among educators about the comparatively lower level of numeracy among Māori and Pacific children.

Working with a teacher, and a class of year 8 11 pupils, including Māori and Pacific Island children, Ms Hunter saw a significant improvement in maths once children were taught how to question.

For her work, she has won a prestigious early career research award. Her paper Structuring the Talk Towards Mathematical Inquiry received the award from the Mathematics Education Research Group of Australasia.

It is recognised among teachers that this group of children does not ask questions or argue a point, Ms Hunter says. We need to teach them to do what European children do automatically.

Ms Hunter, who is part Cook Island Māori, says to achieve this, some teachers will need to change their views about their role in the classroom.

In the past five years at least two national reports on numeracy in Māori and Pacific students have raised concerns over the achievement gap between them and their European and Asian classmates.

Her paper suggested establishing teaching practices in which pupils are explicitly taught the mathematical language of inquiry and argument.

This included being able to engage in making mathematical explanations, justifications and generalisations within a community of learners. These practices may be learned and used implicitly by some children.

However if we don't teach them explicitly to all children, mathematics acts as a gatekeeper, shutting out specific groups in accessing mathematics at a higher level.

What my project showed was that by developing the voice of this group, they were able to accelerate their achievement in mathematics.

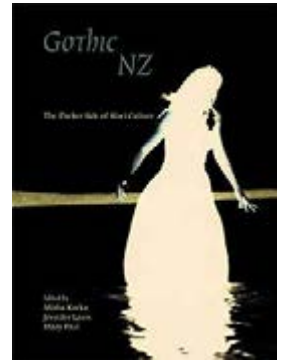
Created: 11 August, 2006

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Education

Book reveals Gothic darkness in Kiwi culture



One version we have of our national identity is a clean, green country whose inhabitants embrace sun, sport and the great outdoors, but there is a flipside.

English lecturers Dr Jenny Lawn and Dr Mary Paul have explored this other side in an intriguing new book of essays *Gothic NZ the Darker Side of Kiwi Culture*.

It features a host of well-known film-makers, artists, writers, photographers and cultural figures including Peter Jackson, Jane Campion, Vincent Ward, Bill Manhire, Maurice Gee and popular artist and fashion designer Misery.

Just what is meant by the term 'gothic' in contemporary New Zealand?

Is it more than a reference to the fringe youth cult of gaunt, gloomy 'goths' who wear black, look pale and read the complete works of Edgar Allen Poe while playing Leonard Cohen and Sisters of Mercy records?

Normality with a twist, suggests Dr Lawn in her introduction to the book. She reckons that gothic influence is not an easily definable, fixed, tangible quality.

One cannot say what gothic is, in the sense of a positive entity, a definitive catalogue of artists and texts, or finite set of scenes and effects. Gothic works in a manner more akin to a shifting warp of the familiar.

A trick of the light, a figure tantalisingly unfocused, a pose held too still, a lowered angle of perception.

In short, it's about mood. Yet one doesn't have to look far for vivid examples, she says.

New Zealand literature and film churn out a welter of what we might term 'gothogenic' zones: The farm shack, with Allen Curnow's dog dragging his chain and the evacuated land stripped of native bush (and people); the suburban bungalow with the manicured front lawn; the Scarfie flat; the beach, the bach, the gravel pit; abandoned freezing works and rotting meat; the roadside crosses looming in the headlights, and the child; the sacrificial child, the mute child, the beaten child, the good boy, the God boy.

While the term 'gothic' as applied to modern life in New Zealand has its own specific characteristics and expressions, it also springs from identifiable gothic traditions of 12th century art and architecture in Europe's medieval period.

Gothic revival literature of 18th century England was typified by popular novels of fantastical tales involving entrapped heroines, the supernatural, sublime raptures, and Catholic depravity, Dr Lawn says.

Gothic influence pervades much of New Zealand art, film and fashion, from Peter Jackson's film *Heavenly Creatures*, Vincent Ward's *Vigil* and Jane Campion's *The Piano*.

Gothic infuses everyday habitats, from tattoos to television advertisements, says Dr Lawn, who says it can also be whimsical and teetering on the hilarious.

Contributor to the book Martin Edmond, she says, offers the simplest answer to the question, where is gothic? It's in your neighbourhood, just around the corner.

Another co-editor was Auckland University media lecturer Dr Misha Kavka and the publisher is Otago University Press.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: Book; College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Defining 'Pacifians' a focus for conference

Research on parenting, economic success, social work, visual arts development and health were among papers presented by Pacific academics at the University's inaugural forum for Pasifika research last month.

And a decision on defining the word Pacifian a central term in relation to the University's Pasifika Strategy was formally made during the conference.

Massey's Director Pasifika, Professor Sitaleki Finau, described it as a an innovative, landmark decision on defining the Pacifians to be included in the Network.

The Network defines a Pacifian as 'an individual who self-identified with a Pacific country, nationality and or biological descendant from a Pacific ethnicity'.

This definition of the network membership will enable Indo-Fijians, Hawaiians and Pacific people of Australia, New Zealand, America or other nationalities to participate, Professor Finau says.

The research forum was part of the Pasifika@Massey network annual conference held at the Palmerston North campus the fourth such conference since the network was launched three years ago. The gathering will now be known as the Whenua Pasifika Consortium.

The focus will be on the promotion and celebration of Pasifika research, and translation of results into practice for Pacific community development.

The range and scope of the presentations was evidence of a momentum in Pacific-oriented research, and a testament to the growing strength of Massey's Pasifika Strategy.

The onus is now on Pacifians, in and outside of this institution, and the Massey University leadership and operation managers to lead a teething process to latch on to the economic transformation in Aotearoa towards a knowledge-based economy, he says.

Other research papers featured at the forum included a case for a Contemporary Pasifika Arts centre dedicated to a university level of study of Pacific visual art and design (by Massey Visual Arts Education lecturer Dr Herman Pi'ikea Clark), a study by Health Research Council Pacific Post-doctoral Research Fellow Ridvan Firestone on how Obstructive Sleep Apnoea Sydrome affects Pacific people, and a study by Pasifika Development Advisor Sione Tu'itahi on the nature of economic and social success for Tongans in New Zealand.

College of Education senior lecturer Lesieli McIntyre presented her study on how Tongan mothers contribute to their children's education in New Zealand, while Dr Tracie Mafile'o spoke on her study exploring Tongan social work practice.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Conference/Seminar; Pasifika

At-risk Pacific women focus of health research

From suffering depression, attempting suicide and witnessing violence, statistics show that Pacific teenage girls in New Zealand are in many ways at greater risk than their male counterparts or pakeha women.

Doctoral student and researcher, Karlo Mila, is investigating why this is and what can be done to improve the situation.

Ms Mila, who won an award for the best first book of poetry at this year's Montana Book Awards for *Dream Fish Floating*, has been examining data from the Youth 2000 survey of 10,000 teenagers who responded to over 500 questions about their lives and experiences.



While data on other ethnic groups has been scrutinised, the responses by Pacific adolescents has not, says Ms Mila.

Initial findings show that Pacific girls have higher rates of depression, suicide attempts, unprotected sex and other concerning behaviours, she says.

The data reveals that 22 per cent of young Pacific Island women have experienced depression, compared with 12 per cent of Pacific Island male teens, 13 per cent of European female teens and seven per cent of European males in their teens.

Initially Ms Mila was planning to examine the differences between New Zealand-born and migrant Pacific youth. However, the trends for Pacific girls were compelling.

Part of her research will involve a strengths-based approach to Pacific youth experiences in which she hopes to interview some successful Pacific people who have negotiated the tricky terrain of teenage-hood as well as bi-cultural dilemmas.

I want to look at resilience, and find out what were the positive influences on their lives, she says.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Explore - HEALTH; Pasifika



Māori sports awards for Massey lecturer

Dr Farah Palmer (Ngāti Mahuta) from the College of Business has been awarded the Hineahuone Senior Māori Sportswoman of the Year and the Albie Pryor Memorial Māori Sportsperson of the Year award at the recent Māori Sports Awards in Auckland.

It's the second time that Dr Palmer has won the Senior Māori Sports Woman award, the first time was in 1998 after the first world cup win.

Dr Palmer has just stepped down as Captain of the Black Ferns after taking the team to three World Cup wins. She says the double trophy win has given her a sense of accomplishment and pride for the Black Ferns.

As the captain of that team, I'm often the person people associated with the Black Ferns. There are lots of amazing athletes in that team, and it was great to receive acknowledgement on their behalf. It was also a great way to cap off my career as a rugby player.

Winning these awards is recognition of the ongoing success the Black Ferns team have achieved. Because I was retiring, I think it threw into the limelight what a great run the team has had with three wins in a row. No person is ever bigger than the team, and the team will continue to advance.

The finals game against England was also one of the toughest games we've faced, and I think that indicated to New Zealand that this is a serious game, that we can play highly skilled rugby, and that we are just as passionate as the men about playing rugby, representing our country, and winning.

I think women's rugby is slowly winning over more and more supporters because of the success the team has experienced, and because of the skill level that people are finally getting to see in closely contested games at a high level.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business; Maori; Sport and recreation



Massey student Lucy Ellis (second from left) with Australian students for an Anzac gathering.

Study in Sweden opens doors to the world

Being able to drop into lectures by Nobel Prize-winning academics in between her usual courses was one of the highlights of a year-long study exchange at Sweden's Uppsala University for arts and business student Lucy Ellis.

The 20-year-old, who is completing double-degrees in majoring in sociology and economics, says the multi-disciplinary approach to learning in Sweden was profoundly different to the New Zealand system.

And it has proved to be profoundly life-changing for Ms Ellis, who has set her sights on international humanitarian research and practical work in the future as a result of her experience.

Awarded a Study Abroad grant last year, she says she found the more flexible, interdisciplinary approach to university study enriching. Uppsala is the oldest Nordic university, built in 1477.

A course on economic sustainability embraced sociological, technological, cultural, economic and scientific approaches to the issue.

If you only study in one discipline, say sociology, you don't have an appreciation of the whole picture. You can't always understand the complexity of an issue, she says.

Likewise, an economist might view an issue only from an economics-oriented, rationalist viewpoint, ignoring more complex, less rationally-measurable sociological factors, she says.

Both the style of teaching and the range of courses available to her from learning about development in Central Asia to international political economies has given her new insights into the very notion of what being educated means.

Swedish students are less preoccupied with assignments, exams and marks and more focused on learning for its own sake. She believes this is partly due to assessment methods being less rigorous.

They like to teach you how to argue, she says. Lecturers weren't as bothered about students' grammar or sentence structure, it was their ideas that were seen as most important.

As well as courses on public health and humanitarian assistance, she attended free lectures by internationally-renowned academics, including the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize winner Mohamed ElBaradei and 2005 Nobel Economics Prize winner Robert Aumann.

She plans to complete her undergraduate degrees at Palmerston North next year then pursue further study overseas.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research



Te Rau Puawai bursars and staff at Te Putahi-a-Toi, Palmerston North.

Another green light for Māori scholarships

The University has secured further funding to continue to provide Māori mental health workforce scholarships under a programme known as Te Rau Puawai Workforce Development.

The programme between Massey and the Ministry of Health has been operating for seven years and aims to increase the professionalism of the Māori mental health workforce by providing bursaries for students who are seeking to start or complete a Massey qualification related to Māori mental health.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori) Professor Mason Durie says initiatives will be offered to help some students fast-track completion of degrees.

The majority of students currently receiving Te Rau Puawai scholarships work full-time and study part-time, so the accelerated programme will enable quicker completion of qualifications, Professor Durie says.

The scholarship will enable them to return to employment with a university qualification as well as alleviating the pressures of balancing work, whānau and study.

The board will be negotiating with employers of students to secure leave with pay or a proportion of pay, guarantee of job retention after graduation and contributions to living and relocation costs so that students are not affected adversely by studying full-time.

Applicants for the accelerated programme have to be current bursars and have the support of their employers.

Other scholarships offered include the Advanced Scholarships targeted towards postgraduate students who are in their final year of Masters or PhD theses studying part-time and working. Partnership scholarships will also be offered to Māori mental health providers in areas with a high Māori population where more mental health workers are needed. Te Rau Puawai will continue to offer bursaries to other undergraduate and postgraduate students.

The scholarships are offered to those who study psychology, nursing, rehabilitation studies, social work, social policy or Māori studies.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Any



Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear, Gordon Suddaby, and Dr Bill Anderson at the Wellington symposium.

VC's Symposium highlights value of e-learning

The University's principal training and information programme for management, academic and general staff this year focused on innovations in the rapidly developing field of e-learning.

About 300 staff attended symposia on each campus last week. The two plenary speakers, Dr Bill Anderson from the Department of Learning and Teaching and Dr Lynn Jeffrey from the Department of Management, are both leaders of major e-learning Collaborative Development Fund projects awarded by the Education Ministry.

Dr Anderson discussed trends in national e-learning policies and related aspects of these specifically to the University, examined why e-learning continues to be worth developing and drew on his research to demonstrate how e-learning adds value to the student learning experience.

He says e-learning is characterised by one or more of the following: Media-rich, collaborative, interactive and personalised. Dr Jeffrey focused on research on e-Learner profiles identifying the diversity of student needs, learning styles, demographics, experience of and attitudes to e-learning.

As well as providing a campus-based focus, the symposia aimed at highlighting Massey's position nationally. In a section entitled Approaches to Engaging Students, National Tertiary Teaching Excellence Award winner in the area of teaching innovation, Dr Terry Stewart, discussed the work he has been doing across New Zealand, showcasing the cognitive tools, technology and best practices for the effective design and delivery of e-Learning.

Dr Mark Brown wound up sessions with a lecture entitled e-Learning is Messy: Beyond Single Metaphor Solutions, in which he identified some of the misconceptions about e-learning and barriers to its implementation, and how Massey can provide pathways for the future.

Training and Development Director Gordon Suddaby says there was a specific focus on the University's own innovation.

The Symposium programme presented great opportunities for staff to participate, learn and take away successful and innovative ideas for adding an 'e' dimension to teaching and learning, and enhancing outcomes for Massey students, Mr Suddaby says.

Participants were invited to share their stories about engaging students with e-learning, challenges, successes and ongoing goals. A poster-session provided a showcase for more than 20 Massey staff to talk about innovations and initiatives.

These generated a great deal of interest and provided a showcase of Massey expertise, Mr Suddaby says.

All presentations were recorded on Mediasite by Matt Alexander from Information Technology Services and will be available on the VC Symposium website <http://vcsymposium.massey.ac.nz> in the next month or so.

As a follow up to the symposia, a range of workshop and showcase sessions will be organised by the Training Development Unit next year.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Teaching

Direct route to Indian market for e-centre

The University's e-centre is opening a direct route to the enormous Indian market through a joint venture with one of India's largest IT corporations.

The e-centre has just announced the new venture with CMC (previously IBM) in India. The corporation is one of that country's largest operators in computers, software and services and deals with government and India's infrastructure companies.

The newly created CMC Technology Export Centre (CMCTEC) is based in Albany and is already fielding strong interest from New Zealand technology-based companies interested in accessing the Indian market.

The e-centre CEO, Steve Corbett, was a key figure in pulling together this collaboration and says the venture provides a direct line to the Indian market.

CMC with revenues of over \$300 million, 3500 employees and being part of the global TATA group has significant resources and is able to bring global capability to opportunities.

New Zealand companies lack scale but have creative cultures which allow them to respond to innovative solutions quickly. By combining the strengths of both sides, we see it very much as a win-win.

Hundreds of international businesses have already set up offices in India which has the distinct advantage of being an English speaking country, unlike other emerging super- economies.

Through our new technology export centre, CMC can outsource innovation to us, while we outsource the marketing of New Zealand created technologies to them.

Technology companies here can get a deep understanding of the opportunities in the Indian market without setting foot on a plane.

Already through this initiative a company developed at the e-centre, QLBS.com is in India, successfully marketing its benchmarking technology.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Business

Romanian doctorate for Prof Chisti

Professor Yusuf Chisti has been awarded an honorary doctorate from the Technical University of Iasi, Romania.

Based in the Institute of Technology and Engineering, Professor Chisti is a world-renowned expert in biochemical engineering with international experience in biotechnology manufacturing, research and education.

He was nominated by Iasi University's Faculty of Industrial Chemistry and traveled to Romania for the award last month. Among the people who attended the honorary doctorate ceremony were professors from the Technical University of Denmark, the Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands, Lund University in Sweden, and Claude Bernard Universite in France.

Professor Chisti received his doctorate in chemical engineering in 1988 from University of Waterloo, Canada. He is the author or co-author of nearly 200 publications and is currently the editor and editorial board member of several international research journals and encyclopedias. He is a Fellow of the Institution of Chemical Engineers, Britain, and a member of six other professional societies.

In 2004 he took the lead of the first Government-funded national programme aimed at upskilling industry in biotechnology by providing high-level, enterprise-specific, modular workshops. The programme's content was developed in consultation with industry and is focused in four areas: biotechnology science, processing, regulatory compliance and business.

Professor Chisti has held visiting appointments in Spain, Canada, Thailand, and Nigeria, and has consulted for companies and governments in 12 countries. He recently received commemoration certificates for 25 years of membership in the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, Washington DC, and the Society of Chemical Industry, London.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences

Industry hotline for College of Business

The College of Business has set up a hotline to business, with a new advisory board headed by Business New Zealand chief executive Phil O'Reilly.

The college wants to ensure it is giving the business sector what it wants, in research, and graduates with business qualifications.

The board has representatives from Auckland, Wellington, Palmerston North and Wanganui selected from sectors aligned to programmes, including aviation, finance, leadership development, retail, property development, marketing, accounting and small business.

Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Lawrence Rose says the board will help the college provide graduates and research that are relevant to industry needs.

The board will have an outward focus, enabling the college to better engage with business and industry stakeholders, Professor Rose says. We expect members to help us achieve our goals of continuous improvement in the quality of our research as well as programmes and graduates.

Members will be asked to participate in programme and department reviews, and to suggest research topics that will build closer relationships between industry and academics.

We will also continue to pursue appropriate international accreditations, as a signal to the market that our services are internationally benchmarked. Work is well under way towards accreditation with the United States-based Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business and we are also looking at other affiliations.

Business New Zealand is the country's biggest advocacy group representing more than 70,000 businesses. Mr O'Reilly says one reason he readily agreed to chair the board was its makeup of real business people, at the coalface .

He believes it is part of a transformation that will eventually see the business and university sectors working more closely, something that has been much debated in the context of the Government's planned reforms to the tertiary education sector.

All public tertiary education institutions are legally required to have business representatives on their governing bodies, he says, but this has not always translated into close relations with industry.

The question is, how do you get trusting, empowered and productive dialogue between business and the universities?

In some cases, particularly in the universities, links to the business community are more a matter of goodwill than process. Connections between business and universities rely to a significant extent on personalities and individual decisions.

Massey University has an excellent history of liaising with industry, beginning with its early close links to the agricultural sector. It is in the University's DNA.

Members will hold their first meeting on the Auckland campus in February.

Other members are: Dorenda Britten, managing director of Design Industry, Christchurch; Alan Cassidy, manager of the Executive Development Centre, Wellington; Alistair Davis, general manager of Toyota New Zealand, Palmerston North; Carmel Fisher, managing director Fisher Funds Management, Auckland; David Frith, former chairman New Zealand Meat Board; Colin Harvey, chief executive Ancare NZ, Auckland; John Heng, former Vision Manawatu chairman; Paul Hocking, chief executive of Institute of Finance Professionals, Wellington; Doug Matheson, professional director, Masterton; Captain David Morgan, Air New Zealand, Auckland; Edwina Neilson, Ezibuy marketing manager, Palmerston North; David Ritchie, chief executive Provenco, Auckland; Greg Smale, director Smales Farm, Auckland; Annah Stretton, Stretton Clothing, Morrinsville; Vijaya Vaidyanath, chief executive Rodney District Council; Keith Wedlock, president of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Dr Roger Wigglesworth, SME director, Ministry of Economic Development.

Date: 24/08/2006



Type: University News

Categories: College of Business



When the boat comes in: New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

New research centre to assist in disaster preparation

New Zealand needs a better understanding of the human impacts of natural disasters, says the director of a new Centre for Disaster Research.

Associate Professor David Johnston says recent disasters in New Orleans and Indonesia show we need to better understand how communities are affected by such events.

The University and GNS Science have opened a joint Centre for Disaster Research to better prepare New Zealand against natural disasters. Based at the School of Psychology, the joint centre concentrates the skills of psychologists, sociologists, planners, geologists, risk assessors, Māori researchers, and economists from both organisations and other collaborating groups.

Director of the centre, Dr Johnston says it will undertake multi-disciplinary teaching and research aimed at learning about the impacts of disasters on communities.

We want to improve the way society manages risk, and enhance preparedness, response and recovery from the consequences of natural, man-made and environmental hazard events.

Dr Johnston recently visited New Orleans and other communities impacted by Hurricane Katrina.

Visiting New Orleans in the wake of the last year's hurricane brought home to me how land-use planning and building physical defences needs to be complemented by effective emergency management planning, that address the myriad of community welfare issues that need to be dealt with following a disaster this scale, he says.

Centre staff will work with a range of agencies to improve New Zealand's capabilities to respond to natural disasters. They will focus on research, postgraduate teaching and commercial consultancy.

The joint centre is part of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, and is based at the Wellington campus.

Key initial areas for research include emergency management planning, community resilience and welfare issues, and the role of public education and warnings in disaster preparedness, response and recovery.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Andrea McIlroy, says the new centre is a welcome addition to the campus. It joins a growing list of leading research centres in Wellington.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Holding the pedal from the metal

Resisting the racer's urge to accelerate, Massey competitors in the 2006 AA Energy Wise rally drove a 1600km circuit using as little fuel as possible within time limits.

Postgraduate students Stefan Fortuin and Anne Jakle took turns behind the wheel of a borrowed diesel-fuelled VW Golf 1.9 TDI. Massey's second entry, a VW Caddy run on a 5 per cent biodiesel blend, was driven in different stages by Dr Jim Hargreaves from the Institute of Technology and Engineering, Professor Ralph Sims, director of the University's Energy Research Group, and Gerda Kurschel from the Auckland Regional Council.



Ms Jakle, a Fulbright scholar from the United States studying the eco-efficiency of New Zealand's hydroelectric power stations, says a lot of concentration is involved over such large distances.

You have to remember to keep your foot off the accelerator, which cuts fuel to the engine, and to drive steadily at just below the speed limit, Ms Jakle says. At the end of the first leg from Auckland to Palmerston North, Ms Jakle and Mr Fortuin were well inside their target consumption rate.

We drove about 518km on 24 litres, which is a third of a tank of diesel, which is pretty impressive.

Professor Sims drove the VW Caddy on the second leg from Palmerston North to Wellington where he was the MC at a Parliamentary function hosted by MPs David Parker and Harry Duynhoven. At the function Mr Parker, Minister for Energy and Climate Change, released a discussion document on a mandatory fuel-economy labelling scheme for vehicles at point of sale.

Professor Sims, who is a board member for the Energy Efficiency Conservation Authority and a veteran racer of all three Energy Wise rallies, says the authority has been researching a labelling scheme for several years.

Surveys indicate that consumers are taking notice of the labelling, and as petrol prices fluctuate, it is highly likely that car buyers will take a similar scheme for cars into consideration, Professor Sims says.

It will mean people will have more information to guide their decision-making, but it must be stressed that the way in which people drive their cars has a huge impact on their fuel-efficiency. The rally is held every two years.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Visiting museum studies scholar

A scarcity of English-language academic writing about the history of Chinese museums has kept visiting scholar Weihua Lui busy in conversation with Massey museum studies researchers.

Susan Abasa, a senior lecturer in museum studies, says she and programme co-ordinator Dr David Butts have been struck by the similarities in the challenges that museums in both countries face.

In her year as a visiting scholar to Te Pūtahi-ā-Toi (School of Māori Studies), Ms Lui has toured museums, met with staff in museum management and marketing, and written a mountain of academic papers in both Chinese and English.

Ms Lui is a senior researcher at China's Hebei Museum, famous for archaeological treasures such as the Han Dynasty burial suits of Lui Sheng and Dou Wang. Excavated in the 1970s, the suits are largely made of nephrite jade disks strung together with gold thread.

In New Zealand Ms Lui has made a special study of the cultural value of pounamu/greenstone, a type of nephrite jade. She has visited greenstone artists' workshops in Hokianga and would like to visit South Island rivers where the stone is sourced. She is especially interested in the beliefs behind its use as an object, and says Chinese jade and New Zealand pounamu are very similar in this respect.

In China nephrite jade is a magic stone, called the 'stone of heaven' that sits between earth and heaven, Ms Lui says.

At first it was used practically because it is such a hard stone, and then because of its beauty began to be used for ornamental purposes, and was incorporated into religious ritual.

She says the status of jade as an epitome of beauty is illustrated in its ubiquity in Chinese colloquialisms.

A beautiful lady is a 'jade lady', the most magnificent building is a 'jade building' and to have a 'jade hand' is like having a 'golden touch' in English.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences



Step on it for health and fitness

Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear is getting behind an initiative to help improve the fitness of all staff. The 12-week programme 10,000 Steps @ Massey: Hikoi a Hauora involves teams of five walkers from workplaces across the university who will join a 5 million-step virtual walk around New Zealand.

Throughout the walking phase step counts will be taken daily with a pedometer, and each week the team leaders will return team step counts to the 10,000 Steps @ Massey Staff. Team totals will be plotted on a map of New Zealand and prizes will be awarded for different categories including the first team home, the most improved walker and the best team name.



The programme is an initiative by two health researchers at Massey, Professor Chris Cunningham from Te Pūmanawa Hauora Research Centre for Māori Health & Development and Dr Stephen Stannard from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health.

The idea for the programme originated in Japan to encourage daily physical activity as a part of a healthy lifestyle, professor Cunningham says.

The programme challenges people to walk 10,000 steps every day and to monitor their progress using a pedometer. Staff can add to their daily count by taking the stairs instead of the lifts and walking around campus instead of driving, says Professor Cunningham.

When your team registers with the 10,000 Steps @ Massey:Hikoi a Hauora Programme, you will each get a Yamax pedometer with a 12-week log booklet, a safety strap, and a lifestyle health assessment and report. All participating staff will also receive regular newsletters with information on walking events, physical activity tips, and maps of walking tracks around each campus with the corresponding estimates of steps.

Dr Stannard says an important aspect of the programme is the lifestyle assessments undertaken at the start and end of the 12-week walking phase.

Participants will be given an individual assessment including measures of height, weight, girth, blood pressure, and self-assessed stress levels. In addition, a more comprehensive assessment will be offered which includes an analysis of blood markers fasting glucose, insulin and lipids. These assessments will allow participants to gauge the positive effects of the programme, says Dr Stannard.

During the programme a number of related events will be held on each campus. These will include lectures on injury prevention, nutrition and exercise. There will also be celebrity walks hosted by the Vice Chancellor and Campus Deputy Vice Chancellors and on each campus walking routes will be mapped and sign-posted, Courtesy of Regional Facilities Management.

Timeline for Hikoi-a-Hauora:

Registrations: 15 November 2006 20 December 2006

Pre-programme Assessments: Mid-Late February 2007

Massey Walk: Late Feb Late May 2007

Post Assessments Late May 2007

Prizegiving and Evaluation June 2007

Timing will be confirmed on each campus

Enrolment forms can be downloaded from <http://10000steps.massey.ac.nz>

Intending teams should consult with their cost centre managers prior to registration.

For further information e-mail: 10000steps@massey.ac.nz The first 50 teams who register will receive free t-shirts.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Auckland; Palmerston North; Sport and recreation; Wellington

Medieval French in the 21st Century

An edition of a French translation of a work by fifth and sixth century Roman statesman and philosopher Boethius has been published by Professor Emeritus Glynnis Cropp.

Le Livre de Boece de Consolacion, which dates from 1350-1360, was the most widely known French translation of Boethius' *Consolatio Philosophiae* in the 14th and 15th centuries.

An Honorary Research Fellow in the School of Language Studies, Professor Cropp says the anonymous translation survives in 65 manuscripts.

Boethius wrote the *Consolatio* in prison, before his execution in 524-525. Throughout the Middle Ages, it was well known in Latin and in various vernacular translations.

She says New Zealand libraries hold about 200 medieval and renaissance manuscripts, but the publication of an edition of one of these manuscripts seldom occurs.

Professor Cropp worked with a manuscript from Sir George Grey's Collection held in the Auckland City Library, and used a second manuscript of the same translation, held by Massey University Library, as a control manuscript in establishing the text.

Published by the Librairie Droz, Geneva, this edition includes extensive critical and interpretative material.

The one illustration of the Auckland manuscript, showing the author dictating to a scribe, is reproduced on the cover.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: Book; College of Humanities & Social Sciences



City the ticket for new travel writing course

Never mind the bulging backpack, malaria tablets and the ticket to Tibet or Tahiti, all students will need to start a new travel writing course is a pen, a pad and an Auckland city bus ticket.

The level-three paper, to be launched next year by the English Department on the Auckland campus, will take a broad approach to the idea of travel writing, says course convenor Dr Jack Ross.



He and fellow lecturers Dr Mary Paul and Dr Jenny Lawn want to encourage their students to think of travel writing as more than commercially-driven accounts of overseas trips aimed at glossy magazines.

To me travel writing is basically anything you look at when you step outside your door, says Dr Ross. Given that we can't actually give all our students a plane ticket and tell them to go off in the break to a far-off place and write about it, we are going to give them bus tickets to go across town.

This will constitute one of the course assignments, with students being asked to travel by public transport to part of the city they've never seen before and to write about what they see.

Students will explore the subjective nature of writing about places and people.

We'll ask what does an anthropologist see when they look at a landscape, what does a political scientist see, what questions do you ask when you meet a person.

Having had a spell of OE is not a prerequisite for the course, but studying travel writing by practising techniques of careful observation as well as reading well-known writers of the genre and hearing from travel journalists as guest lecturers will be good preparation for those intending to embark on a journey, he adds.

Reading for the course will include the writings of explorers such as Marco Polo and Captain Cook, as well as the Lonely Planet Guide to New Zealand and even the newer anti-travel genre, in which writers go to the dullest, dreariest, most ignored places they can find and write about them.

The fascination is in going to a place to find out what it's like, says Dr Ross. Nothing is uninteresting, at least potentially, which is the attitude of the anti-travel writers.

If they find that their own back yard is the most interesting place to write about, I think that is a perfectly valid choice.

The new course means that students at Massey's Auckland campus now have a creative writing option at all levels, with creative writing in the first year, life writing in the second year and travel writing in the third.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Bringing 21st century myths to new fiction

A just-released anthology of mythical stories by New Zealand writers is the third book to be published this year by English lecturer, author and editor Dr Jack Ross.

Reframed Māori, Polynesian, Greek and Aztec myths as well as apocalyptic visions of post-global warming survival and an urban tale of an over-achieving financial dealer whose life goes into reverse all feature in this intriguing collection titled *Myth of the 21st Century* (Reed).

The idea for the book came about when Dr Ross and co-editor and author Tina Shaw decided to ask some well-known writers to wrestle with the notion of creating myths for the 21st century.

The word 'myth' has this kind of attraction and depth. Nobody really knows what it means, so the book gives people the chance to think about what it means, says Dr Ross.

Writers either re-invented existing myths, created new ones or mused on the very idea of myth.

Contributors include Patricia Grace and Charlotte Grimshaw, who he says both emphasise the relevance of traditional Māori legends to the new condition .

Others are Anthony McCarten, whose story *Futures* evokes the madness and inhumanity of modern materialism, and award-winning poet and Massey PhD student Karlo Mila, who explores spirituality from Tongan and Pākehā perspectives.

While there is humour and poetic beauty throughout many of the 14 stories, there is also an undercurrent of darkness and foreboding, as one might expect in contemplations of a century faced with melting icecaps and environmental disaster.

Dr Ross says that myths can have a dual and contradictory role in society.

Myths are, on one hand, agreed-upon fictions, essentially harmless ways of arranging an experience we all share but cannot easily express .

Conversely, they are monstrously damaging illusions, concerted denials of the actual nature of things such as myths of racial and male superiority.

I think the variety in the writing reflects a truth about New Zealand. It's a jangling, complex place, mythologically as in every other sense.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences



Pacific concert opens doors to community

A recent Pacific-flavoured concert at the University in Auckland may have helped break down cultural and social barriers that deter Pacific Islanders from enrolling at university, says the Director Pasifika Professor Sitaleki Finau.

The Brass Band & Classical Pasifika @ Massey University concert at the end of October was held in a lecture theatre and featured the combined Tongan Methodist Choir of North Shore choir and North Shore Brass Band, along with numerous young opera and instrumental soloists and Pacific youth performance groups.

Many of those in the 300-strong audience including family members of the performers had had no knowledge of or contact with the university before, he said.

I was quite surprised to find that most Pacific Island people (at the event) had never been to Massey before. They didn't know their children could go there, he said. They thought Massey was for middle-class Pakeha people.

Professor Finau, a Tongan-born academic with an extensive background in health and education research and policy-making, said the concert was part of the Pasifika Strategy launched by Massey this year to promote and enhance the participation of Pacific Island students at Massey. He was appointed as Director Pasifika in June this year.

Professor Finau plans to forge further links with the North Shore Pacific Island community by going to speak to churches and high schools about study opportunities at Massey.

Massey University has also been one of the key players in working towards the establishment of a North Shore Pasifika Forum, to be launched on December 6 by the North Shore City Council and followed by a Pasifika festival on December 9 in Northcote, North Shore.

The forum would provide a networking opportunity and chance to profile Massey as the primary university for Pacific people here on the North Shore, the first catchment for our Auckland campus, says Sione Tu'itahi, Massey, Pasifika Development Advisor Auckland Campus.

Sione has been working with Pacific church and community leaders of the North Shore, in collaboration with the Office of the Mayor of North Shore City and some central government agencies to set up the forum.

The forum will be a representative body and united front to lead the socio-economic and cultural advancement for Pacific people on the North Shore, adds Sione, who works with Professor Finau to implement the Pasifika@Massey Strategy across the three campuses.

The three other Auckland cities, Counties-Manukau, Central, and Waitakere have already got their Pacific bodies to advise their city councils and central government agencies. It is timely for Massey to participate in building the North Shore equivalent, says Sione.

Professor Finau says plans were underway for another Massey-based Christmas concert featuring choir and orchestral performances from a range of Pacific Island groups on the North Shore.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Auckland; Pasifika

Strong communities best for Auckland

An Auckland super-city with strong community boards is the best way to achieve economic growth while maintaining strong democracy and community representation in local government, says public policy specialist Jeff Chapman.

Mr Chapman, who teaches at Massey University's School of Social and Cultural Studies in Auckland, believes a single council with at least 20 community boards should replace Auckland's current four city councils and three district councils.

However, he believes Wellington-based central Governments are fearful of the power a united Auckland would wield nationally and will find ways to stop it happening.

Local body politicians are attempting to agree on a proposal by Christmas for legislation to restructure the region's government, following the controversy over the plan hatched by Auckland's four big-city mayors to restructure Auckland into three enlarged local bodies under one greater Auckland council headed by an elected Lord Mayor.

This would have replaced the existing four city councils (Auckland City, North Shore, Waitakere and Manukau) and three district councils in the region. Although this plan was recently abandoned, the region's councils are still debating what the region's future governance structure should be.

Some regional representatives are pushing for a plan by Christmas to introduce legislation early next year that would strengthen regional government in time for next year's local body elections.

Meanwhile, the Auckland Regional Council is promoting its own campaign The Auckland Metro Project to encourage co-operation between the region's cities and districts in the management of services and infrastructure.

Mr Chapman says the Government would probably need to legislate for change to enable a more coherent form of governance for the fast-growing region of nearly two million people, which has been plagued by roading and transport problems for years.

It is not economic to have seven different roading networks and seven different water supply networks in one region whose population is expanding south and north with little regard to current political boundaries.

The Auckland region that is, Bombay Hills to Warkworth is New Zealand's only true metropolitan region. Nothing elsewhere in the country matches the size and complexity of Auckland.

Thus, any proposals for reform need to take into account this factor and recognise that models of local and regional governance which may well be perfectly satisfactory for the rest of New Zealand, may not be suitable for the Auckland region, he says.

Any changes must ensure that nothing would weaken the community boards, he says, because these reflected the interests of citizens locally, adding that the most democratic form of government is that which is local.

But the super-city model will cost more, he warns.

Unfortunately, it is probably the most expensive option in terms of financial, human and other costs to implement, says Mr Chapman.

For this reason and the fact that MPs in Wellington are afraid of a strong Auckland local government, it is unlikely to get the political go-ahead.

To read the full report: http://masseynews.massey.ac.nz/2006/Massey_News/issue-19/stories/Auckland-Supercity-Paper.pdf

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Award for Stead biography-in-writing

Dr Judith Dell Panny, a research associate in the School of English and Media Studies, is one of two writers to receive a Copyright Licensing Ltd Writers' Award.

Worth \$35,000, the annual awards allow recipients to research and work a specific non-fiction project. With the working title *Plume of Bees*, a Literary Biography of CK Stead, Dr Panny's book will be 12 chapters in length, three of which she has completed.

The following is an excerpt of Dr Panny's description of the project:

Stead's fiction and poetry are outstanding in quality, but his achievement in these fields has frequently been undervalued.

Response to contentious aspects of his literary and social criticism has sometimes disrupted or prevented a balanced appraisal of his work.

Writers of literature who become social critics generally recognised the need to proceed with care, using the medium of fiction and speaking through jesters, fools, the mentally deranged or children.

Alternatively, critical perspectives may be hidden in parody, allegory or irony. Stead's approach, however, has not been covert.

Social criticism has not been confined to his fiction, but has usually appeared in essays that conceal neither his identity nor his message.

Directness characterises his work as a critic. Expressed in the finest prose, with arguments lucidly developed and supported, some of his views have occasioned intense, widespread disfavour, rather than stimulating healthy debate. The phenomenon is intriguing psychologically and in terms of our literary history.

My work explores the literature and criticism of a remarkable writer. It will examine changing academic, social and cultural attitudes in New Zealand that form a backdrop to Stead's life and writing - and a backdrop to the disquiet his opinions have sometimes provoked.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Nearing the Neanderthal genome

As the reality of a complete Neanderthal genome draws near, Massey's Distinguished Professor David Lambert adds his voice to the commentary in Nature magazine about what the world is about to learn from ancient Neanderthal DNA.

Professor Lambert is widely recognised as a leading researcher in evolutionary biology and in the latest issue of the top science publication Nature he is the reviewer of two papers that have been hailed as helping to answer some central questions on human evolution.

These papers are perhaps the most significant contributions published in this field since the discovery of Neanderthals 150 years ago, writes Professor Lambert with his fellow researcher at the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution, Craig D Millar (Auckland University).

The Neanderthals were our closest hominid relatives and they became extinct about 30,000 years ago. The latest research is based on sequencing ancient DNA, recovered from fossilized Neanderthal bones. It is being carried out at Max-Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Germany by researcher Svante Pääbo who studied under the late Allan Wilson at the University of California, Berkeley in the 1980's.

Professor Lambert says that although the latest research will not immediately answer many of the questions about the biological differences between Neanderthals and humans, they do foreshadow an exciting development the recovery of the complete Neanderthal genome.

The full Neanderthal genome will provide a precise assessment of differences between us and our closest relative. It may also help to resolve a debate that started more than 20 years ago, when studies of ancient DNA began: in evolution, how important are mutations in genes that result in structural and physiological changes, compared with mutations that affect the regulation of those genes?

More fundamentally, these combined studies show that, when predicting the limits of science, one should never say never, write Lambert and Millar in Nature magazine's latest News & Views columns.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Architect explores gender and interior design

New York architect Joel Sanders was the guest speaker at the launch of a new interior design book on 20 November.

Intimus: Interior Design Theory Reader, is edited by Massey University interior design lecturer Julieanna Preston and Victoria University architecture lecturer Mark Taylor.

Intimus is an anthology of theoretical writing covering the interdisciplinary nature of interior design. It explores the intersection of social, political, psychological, philosophical, technological and gender discourse with practice issues, such as materials, lighting, colour, furnishing, and the body.

Interior design has emerged relatively recently as an academic discipline, says Ms Preston. Our book is an attempt to give it some grounding in theory and research.

Joel Sanders is an architect practising in New York city and teaching at the Yale School of Architecture. He edited Stud: Architectures of Masculinity, an exploration of the role architecture plays in the construction of male identity. Stud critically analyses the spaces that we habitually take for granted but that quietly participate in the manufacturing of maleness.

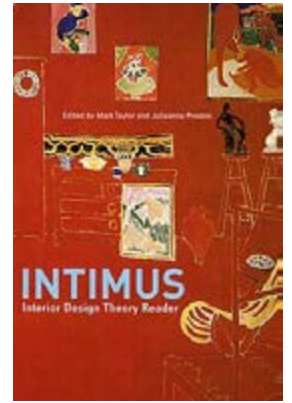
Prior to joining Yale, Mr Sanders taught at Princeton University and the Parsons School of Design. His work has been exhibited widely, most recently in Unprivate House at New York's Museum of Modern Art.

Joel Sanders' public lecture will be held at the Museum Building theatre at 4pm on 20 November. His lecture is entitled Making sense: space, technology and the body.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: Book; College of Creative Arts



Sociology researcher on rates inquiry panel

Dr Christine Cheyne from the School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work has been appointed as one of three members of a panel that will conduct an independent inquiry into local government rates.

Local Government Minister Mark Burton says the panel members, David Shand, Graeme Horsley and Dr Cheyne, were selected on the basis of their combined experience relevant to local government and their skills and expertise in rating systems, taxation and financial management, governance, and community participation and well-being.

Dr Cheyne has specialised in research on the community welfare aspect of local government, including community planning, representation, participation and wellbeing, and has contributed to publications on local government leadership, decision-making and governance.

She is an environmental sustainability representative on the Horizons Regional Council regional land transport committee, and is a member of the Taranaki-Whanganui Conservation Board.

She previously worked in planning and research for the Palmerston North City Council.

The panel will report to the Government by 31 July 2007 and will make recommendations to improve funding mechanisms used by local authorities.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Auckland



Car demand a barrier to transport change

More city wilderness and nature zones may be needed in future to encourage city-dwellers to take to the roads less often in search of far-off open spaces. So says co-author of a Massey University report into Aucklanders' attitudes towards car use and public transport.

The qualitative study by Auckland-based public health researcher Dr Karen Witten and her team is part of a larger five-year, government-funded \$2.7 million Opus and Massey programme which aims to find out more about the nation's transport demands as a step towards reducing fuel emissions.

The just-released Opus and Massey study shows that throughout the country, the most common use of the car is for social and recreational trips.

These accounted for 30 per cent of all private vehicle kilometres traveled, compared with 25 per cent for commuting to work.

Research leader Darren Walton was reported as saying that the level of recreational car use identified in the study would make it much harder to cut carbon dioxide emissions.

The Auckland study carried out by Massey researchers as part of the larger study highlights the particular affection Aucklanders have for their cars, and the difficulty in increasing public transport patronage because of the enduring popularity of the car, says Dr Witten, a public health researcher with Massey's Centre for Social & Health Outcomes Research & Evaluation (SHORE).

We were raised in cars, we were raised to like them, said one participant in the study.

The findings of the study indicated the high value Aucklanders place on access to genuine wilderness spaces and bush areas. But city-dwellers may not feel so compelled to drive long distances for fresh air and natural surroundings if more walkable open spaces are created in the city and suburbs, said Dr Witten.

Despite the much-publicised frustration of motorists at peak hour traffic congestion and increasingly clogged roads, Aucklanders still favoured car travel to taking the bus, train, cycling or walking to work, as well as for after-school and weekend sporting events and activities. Buses were portrayed as down market, infrequent and unreliable.

The car was seen to provide a personal mobile space in which the driver can attend to their personal needs, eat, work, sing and be entertained freedoms that are not available in public transport, the researchers say.

While Auckland's unique geography and dispersed urban development contributed to high rates of car ownership and poor use of public transport, the predicted population increase of 18,000 more people every year and a 25 per cent growth in traffic volume by 2016 underscore the urgency of change in travel behaviour, the study says.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences



Lizard relocation part of conservation study

With many New Zealand lizard species threatened or declining in numbers, Massey conservation biologists are mounting a study to add to the slender body of knowledge on these little creatures.

The Auckland based Ecology and Conservation Group, led by Associate Professor Dianne Brunton is launching a study on lizards and how they fare after translocation. New Zealand has more than 60 species of lizards either geckos or skinks all of them protected.

Studies of animal dispersal and recovery within New Zealand have provided important information on survival rates and social organisation but have been mostly based on birds.

Under the supervision of Dr Brunton, masters student Chris Wedding is now preparing to re-locate a group of shore skinks from Tawharanui Regional Park near Leigh to Tiritiri Matangi and Motuora islands in the Hauraki Gulf.

Mice are a predator of skinks and the study will work to determine the impact mice have on the re-located populations and how well the skinks can establish themselves in new homes. The outcome of the study is expected to be valuable to ecologists in future design of reptile translocations.

Three sites will be set up, two with mouse control in the form of traps and poison.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Aviation innovation given further funding

The School of Aviation has won more Government funding to extend delivery of its programmes to a student market across Southeast Asia.

The funding of \$85,332 was awarded in the latest funding round of the Export Education Innovation Programme, which supports education projects focused on opportunities in Asia and the Middle East. The programme also awarded funding to the school last year, to assist with the first phase of the Southeast Asia project.

School General Manager Captain Ashok Poduval says the first phase included the signing of an agreement with the Singapore Aviation Academy for delivery of the Bachelor of Aviation Management.

He says this started last year and has already proved highly successful, attracting strong enrolments. We now intend to build on this success by establishing other centres in the region.

The Civil Aviation Training Centre in Thailand will be our next partner, under a new agreement similar to the existing one with the Singapore academy.

The second phase will also involve introducing postgraduate programmes in Singapore. Captain Poduval says students in Singapore have expressed considerable interest in both the Post Graduate Diploma in Aviation and the Master of Management (Aviation) programmes.

Tertiary Education Minister Dr Michael Cullen describes the three projects selected for funding as an investment in New Zealand's future.

The projects will help showcase the abilities of New Zealand's tertiary institutions to the world and add to our growing reputation as a quality provider of tertiary training, Dr Cullen says.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business; Explore - Aviation

International aid under scrutiny

The structure of international aid projects is about to come under the scrutiny of Massey University organisational psychologist, Professor Stuart Carr.

Professor Carr, from the School of Psychology, will investigate the issues that he says are a consequence of the big gap in salaries paid to international aid workers and the locals they work alongside. His research project on aid salary discrepancies will be funded by a grant from the British based Department for International Development in conjunction with the Economic and Social Research Council.



Professor Carr is known for his argument that organisational psychology should take a key role in the mix of knowledge and resources that create foreign aid strategies.

He has made an extensive study of aid projects and aid workers.

The issue of salary discrepancy is like the elephant in the parlour. Everyone can see it's there, but no one talks about it. It needs to be addressed in the context of organisational psychology.

Nevertheless the huge discrepancy between what international and local aid workers are paid causes many difficulties for all parties and impacts on the outcomes of their work. It causes tensions and eradicates trust, it impacts on loyalty and makes it very difficult to build teams. Sometimes pay related hostilities between aid workers lead to occupational mental health issues and create ambivalence towards international aid.

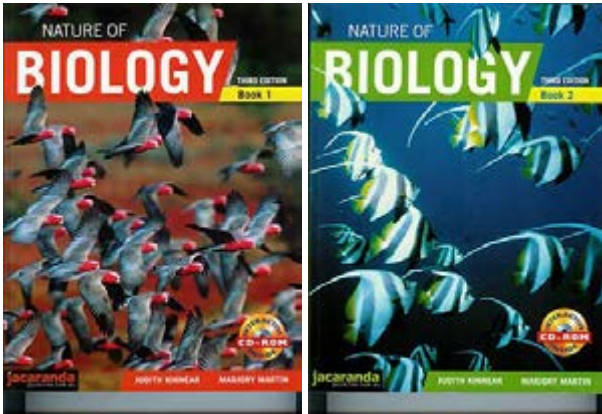
Professor Carr initiated the formation of the Poverty Research Group at Massey and works in collaboration with researchers at Trinity College in Dublin. He is thought to be the first New Zealand based academic to attract funding from this prestigious source.

He recently received an award established in honour of Professor Bruce Jamieson of Canterbury University at the joint conference of the Australian and New Zealand Psychological Societies in recognition of contributions to organisational and industrial psychology.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences



Sexy subtitles and monsters in textbook

Enticing subtitles and abundant illustrations have proved a winner for two biology textbooks co-authored by Vice-Chancellor, Professor Judith Kinnear.

The third editions of the award-winning textbooks written for students in the final years of high school were published earlier this year and include researcher profiles featuring Dr John Holland and other Massey researchers.

With attention-grabbing headings such as Sex at Sea and Sea Monsters of the Deep , the two books Nature of Biology 1 and 2 were co-authored with Professor Marjory Martin of the Faculty of Science and Technology at Deakin University in Australia for an Australian curriculum.

The profiles of biologists and researchers aim to increase student awareness of career opportunities, as well as extend their knowledge of applications of biology in commercial, research, forensic and social settings.

The books include treatment of latest technologies, such as techniques of robotic surgery and advances in microscopy, to provide a view of current developments, as well as archival material to provide a sense of historical developments in the biological sciences. Illustrations include cartoons to complement the text.

Each book comes with interactive CD-rom resources that include the entire contents of the text in pdf format, with bookmarks for navigation.

Nature of Biology is published by John Wiley & Sons (Australia) and details can be found at: www.jaconline.com.au

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Any



Academy members, from left: Liam Napier (rugby, Bachelor of Communication), David Hughes (rugby, Bachelor of Sport and Exercise), Stephanie Hamblyn (barefoot waterskiing, Bachelor of Sport and Exercise), Louis Booth (rugby, Bachelor of Technology product development), Mollie Fitzgibbon (hockey, Bachelor of Food Technology), Max Pearson (rugby, Bachelor of Sport and Exercise), Natalie Thomson (equestrian, Bachelor of Science), Ben Sutton-Davis (athletics, Bachelor of Business Studies), Kelly Rofe (Academy of Sport Co-ordinator), Richard Munn (hockey, Bachelor of Veterinary Science). Absent: Blair Landers (squash, Bachelor of Science).

Sports students praise Massey academy

The first intake of the Massey Academy of Sport held an end-of-year lunch recently, at which there was high praise from the young athletes for the academy concept and the support and opportunities it provides.

Launched in March, the academy offers first-year students, who are accomplished athletes in their fields, practical assistance to enable them to study while participating in sport, often at national and international levels.

The academy provides free access to personal trainers, recreation centre facilities, the high performance laboratory, physiotherapy, nutritional information and academic advice.

Nineteen-year-old rugby player Max Pearson, from Upper Hutt, is in no doubt of the benefits of winning an academy bursary. It was fun meeting others interested in different sports and also getting to know the teachers and staff, he says. It made it easier to be a first-year.

Mr Pearson played on the wing for Varsity A, made the Manawatu Under-20 representatives and the Manawatu Rugby Academy.

Our academic advisers gave us someone to go to for advice on our study programme and juggling that with sport and training.

National barefoot waterskiing champion Stephanie Hamblyn, 18, enjoys meeting others in the academy as crazy about sports as I am and will extol the advantages Massey offers to young people while home in Wairoa over summer.

Both Ms Hamblyn and Mr Pearson say they will definitely be back at Massey next year.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Palmerston North, Professor Ian Warrington told students, academics and parents at the lunch he made no apology for being biased toward young people who aimed to be both top sportspeople and top academics. He paid particular tribute to Academy Co-ordinator Kelly Rofe.

You have my commitment to continue to grow the academy and encourage and support sport scholarships, Professor Warrington said.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Academy of Sport; Sport and recreation

Radio selection thanks to Pirate Friday

David Collins' first radio play will air next year to more than 50,000 listeners who tune in to National Radio's drama programme on Sundays.

An experienced actor and director, the Massey arts graduate was recently named Performer of the Year and Artist of the Year in the Student City Arts Awards for his contributions to the Festival of New Arts, Summer Shakespeare and the Massey University Drama Society.

His 15-minute play, *The First Friday of Every Month*, is one of three selected for 2007 from the participants of writing-for-radio workshops toured by Radio New Zealand this year. As well as being an excellent opportunity for young playwrights, the workshops are a way of finding and fine-tuning fresh talent.



Mr Collins says he worked solidly for two days to write the 14-page play, which is now in the hands of a producer who is making it more radio-friendly. Writers are kept in the loop and invited to sit in on the recording and production process. However, a radio playwright, like a screenwriter, must be prepared to let go of their work once it is in the hands of a producer.

There is a very strict gap between writing a play and its production and its eventual broadcast, which is hard, but it's great to see a piece take shape, Mr Collins says.

In particular, the producer has focused on keeping the energy of the piece flowing towards a strong ending.

You work to the same rules that apply to stage theatre. Endings are important because you are asking a lot of an audience to sit through a play, and if they're investing that much, then you want to grip them right through to the end.

Mr Collins has written plays for stage, and says a radio playwright has to be a little cleverer when it comes to writing dialogue and setting a scene through sound. The actions of an invisible character are still important to a radio play, he says.

You can hear the difference in the voice of an actor who says something while standing up and pushing their chair back, and that of an actor who remains seated.

A film audience can see characters' actions and reactions, and a reader can read thoughts or a stream of consciousness. How then, does a playwright build up a listener's impression and understanding of a character's personality?

With *The First Friday* I cheated a little and used voice-overs to provide more information. Otherwise it's the same rules that apply to writing fiction. You show what a character is like through what they notice and how they notice it. My character interacts quite a bit with people at his office, as well as through the phone calls he takes.

Based on a true-life experience, *The First Friday of Every Month* is set in an office where staff are obliged to participate in themed Fridays in this case, it's Pirate Friday.

Student City Arts Awards

The inaugural Student City Arts Awards were held recently at the Globe Theatre in Palmerston North to celebrate the success of students who have contributed to arts in the Manawatu region.

The University's art and performance awards have traditionally been celebrated as part of the Blues awards for sports, but this year a separate celebration was arranged by Student City a partnership between the region's tertiary institutions, the City Council, student associations, Vision Manawatu and core student business providers.

The results are as follows:

Club Awards:

Best New Club Massey Fire Club

Most Improved Club Massey Netball

Best Event SIFE Launch Initiative

Individuals of the Year Geoff Walker Massey Alpine Club; Amy Thompson - Amnesty@Massey; Ryan Luckman Massey Debating

Best Club Massey Alpine Club

Student City Art Awards:

Performer of the Year David Collins

Performance/Event of the Year 4th Latin American Film Festival, Latin American Student Association

Literary Artist of the Year Emma Dodson

Visual Artist of the Year Kristen Forster

Cultural Group of the Year Massey Fire Club

Outstanding Contribution Award Hannah Pratt

Artist of the Year David Collins

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Exhibition reveals untold migration story

The story of the last and greatest of all migrations, across one third of the planet the Pacific Ocean has been Professor Kerry Howe's academic focus and passion for three decades.

His book *The Quest for Origins* (Penguin 2003) was a landmark in updating knowledge of Pacific migration and settlement.

Now, the dramatic tale of how these early voyagers deployed their technical knowledge and navigational skills to sail outrigger canoes and discover unknown islands across such a vast area is about to be unleashed on the wider public with the opening in December of a major exhibition *Vaka Moana, Voyages of the Ancestors* at the Auckland War Memorial Museum.

Professor Howe, who teaches history at Massey's School of Social and Cultural Studies in Auckland, has played a main role in the creation of this ground-breaking event, from conceptualising its content to writing storyboards for the exhibition as well as educational material for a website for school students.

He has also edited and co-written two chapters in a large, scholarly and lavishly illustrated book to accompany the exhibition.

Although busy with last-minute preparations as well as overseeing the final draft of the book, the renowned historian takes time to reflect on the significance of *Vaka Moana*.

Comprising nearly 300 artifacts and objects from Auckland Museum's Pacific and Māori collections and other New Zealand and international museums, *Vaka Moana* will not only unveil the most recent academic research into Pacific migration, he says, but will also tell indigenous Pacific migration stories and myths passed on through generations through oral traditions.

One of the important themes is to have indigenous voices coming through, says Professor Howe.

The central thesis behind *Vaka Moana* is to fully reveal the Oceanic people as the greatest navigators of all time, and to show how they used their knowledge and survival skills in a way that defined them as astronauts of an earlier age .

The exhibition to be housed in a brand-new wing of the museum before touring major cities around the world for the next four to five years is the brainchild of the museum's director, Rodney Wilson.

Vaka Moana is organised around eight themes the ocean, island people, search for origins, navigation, vaka, landfall, two worlds, and renaissance (modern experimental and cultural voyaging).

Life-sized replicas of sailing vessels, as well as a variety of visual and aural displays such as photographic murals, film footage, soundscapes, interactive displays, exhibits of sculptures, tools, carvings, early fishing implements, artwork, clothing and maps will enable spectators to gain a vivid appreciation of the magnitude of Pacific migration.

As Professor Howe explains in his educational overview for *Vaka Moana*: The Pacific Islands were the very last places on earth to be settled by humans.

The story of their migrations through the ocean is not just a magnificent Pacific event, it is also the last chapter in the story of the human settlement of the entire Earth.

By the time humans settled the remotest islands in the Pacific and that was only about 700 years ago they had reached the end of their habitable world.

Vaka Moana will reveal the different types of craft used for long distance voyaging and shorter distance sailing, along with the extraordinary non-instrument navigation technologies of Micronesian and Polynesian explorers, he says.

These were based on careful observation of stars, sea conditions, and wind and weather patterns.

But by the mid-20th century, it was assumed that these navigational and boat-building skills had disappeared, says Professor Howe.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Exhibition/Show



Mechatronics students show off designs

Students graduating from the University's product development and mechatronics degree majors are mounting their first public show.

A group project this year includes a racing car that is expected to be the first of many if dreams come true in the workshop.

The project marks the University's first step towards competing in the Formula, SAE competition, an international challenge for student designers that originated in the United States. Every year more than 100 student designed and built racing cars meet in Detroit, Michigan, to put their creations to the test on the racetrack. The race and project is backed by the United States Society of Automotive Engineers and is a hotly contested challenge for university-based teams in Britain, Canada, Mexico and the United States.

The Massey prototype will not make it to the next race but it is hoped that future models will. The student designers are Adrian Burden, Warren Garton, Nicol Botha and Barry Manon.

One of the graduating mechatronic students, Ben Langley, has done his degree while in the Navy, where his brief was to design, construct and implement a system to measure the true airspeed of the vehicle when in operation.

The navigation of an aerial vehicle is highly dependent on the accuracy and reliability of the airspeed sensing system.

Student Rob Murphy designed and developed an ergonomic chair for his final project. The chair has been designed for multi-user workstations.

It is controlled by computer and can remember the positions of previous users and can adjust itself to the appropriate position.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Features

Categories: College of Creative Arts

New pilot to benefit ESOL students

Students for whom English is a second language will benefit from a pilot project introducing web-based material and audio-visual technology to enhance standard academic texts.

Averil Coxhead and Dr Judy Hunter's project aims to smooth out some of the shortcomings identified in tertiary English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses.

Ms Coxhead and Dr Hunter, researchers in the Schools of Language Studies (Palmerston North) and Social and Cultural Studies (Auckland) respectively, focused on English for Academic Purposes, an undergraduate ESOL paper that has been revised after the 2002 Massey University ESOL Review.

The programme of audio-visual material the researchers have developed for this paper is designed to innovate the current curriculum and approaches to ESOL teaching. It provides samples of up-to-date language relevant to first and second-year language learners' needs, and will support materials that are geared specifically to first year university level work, appropriate to students' initial academic knowledge and experience.

The researchers say their findings highlighted the distinctive characteristics of the New Zealand cultural and academic environments that affect tertiary second language learners.

For example, we found instances of expressions and references to historical and current events, as well as widespread use of a variety of teaching technology. These findings have provoked our thinking about the delivery of the ESOL paper and encouraged us to look more closely at technology use in the tertiary environments and its effect on second language learners, Ms Coxhead says.

The programme includes information and instruction about roles and responsibilities of lecturers and students; purposes in the classroom, the course and the broader university context; the ways language and text features interface with context; as well as linguistic features such as text structures, structural markers, and language choice.

Ms Coxhead and Dr Hunter received funding from the Fund for Innovation and Excellence in Teaching for the pilot project. They recently presented the project at a Community Languages and ESOL conference in Napier, and a book chapter written about this project is soon to be published.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Teaching

International grant for Finance research

An international research centre established by investment company PricewaterhouseCoopers has made a rare grant to support research by two Finance, Property and Banking academics.

Dr Ben Marshall and Dr Hamish Anderson have received funding from the company's Global Competency Centre, which fosters research that will be of interest to academics and practitioners throughout the world.

It is the first grant the centre has made to researchers in New Zealand.

The grant of 4000 Euros (about \$8000) will help fund a research project titled What is the Relationship Between Investor Protection and Takeover Returns? Evidence from Europe.

The project also involves Massey graduate Ryan Wales, now with Auckland investment bankers Giffney and Jones, and is partly based on preliminary analysis he conducted in his Masters thesis, under the supervision of Dr Anderson and Dr Marshall.

The Global Competency Centre was established in 2002. The head of Finance, Banking and Property, Professor Chris Moore, observes that since then it has made only one or two grants a year which makes the award to the Massey researchers all the more prestigious.

He says the panel that approved the award was notably high powered.

It included Simon Benninga (Professor of Finance at Tel-Aviv University and the University of Groningen and Visiting Professor of Finance at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania); Michael Brennan, Irwin and Goldyne Hearsh Professor of Banking and Finance at the University of California, Los Angeles, and Professor of Finance at the London Business School; and Wim Holterman who is a Partner with PricewaterhouseCoopers and head of the Global Competency Centre.

Dr Anderson and Dr Marshall say the fact that their research will have validity and application for practitioners as well as other academics would have had appeal for PricewaterhouseCoopers.

They say they have chosen an area that is so far under researched internationally: There is a growing amount of research on the relationship between regulation and securities markets but very little related to mergers and acquisitions. We set out to help fill that gap, they say.

The research was started in June this year and is due to be finished by January next year.

Dr Marshall is a senior lecturer in finance who has presented his research at leading international finance conferences and had his work published in high ranked journals.

Dr Anderson is a qualified chartered accountant. He completed a PhD in finance in 2004 and has published in both academic and practitioner finance and accounting journals.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business

Turning waste to energy on the farm

By developing an effective method for producing and collecting methane gas from effluent ponds for conversion to heat and electricity, a Massey study will demonstrate the technology behind an energy-efficient farm.

Dr Steven Pratt, a researcher in the Centre for Environmental Technology and Engineering, says most New Zealand milking sheds (the largest energy sink on a farm) have the potential to be self-sufficient.

He and project leader Dr Andy Shilton aim to have a model methane collection and conversion system running on the University's Number Four dairy farm within a year.

By developing the science behind a working, on-farm system, the researchers aim to demonstrate a solution relevant to every farmer with a pond system.

They say the significance of this project to the dairy industry is substantial.

It aims to provide a solution to inevitable future regulations against the daily emission of tonnes of this severe greenhouse gas by the thousands of dairy ponds nationwide.

They say the project will demonstrate the opportunity for dairy farmers to capitalise on a costly methane problem by producing a sustainable energy resource with a rapidly increasing value.

Our feasibility calculations indicate that there is the potential to save approximately 60 million units of electricity every month.

Combined with basic electricity efficiency measures this could see the New Zealand dairy farm become self-sufficient in power.

Although the price of gas-to-electricity generators is decreasing, the cost of working with a large volume of wastewater is substantial, so the researchers are using the microbiological environment of the bovine stomach as a basis for improved pond design.

They say existing anaerobic ponds (unaerated effluent ponds that inevitably become anaerobic and emit methane) compare unfavourably to a cow's stomach, which can achieve a high efficiency of digestion in a fraction of the volume used for anaerobic ponds.

A more compact system will allow farmers to cost-effectively cover their ponds, providing for economic gas capture while preserving the inherent simplicity of operation which, of course, was the reason that thousands of farmers originally adopted pond technology.

Funded by a \$197,000 innovation grant from Dairy Insight, the project includes input from AgResearch scientist Dr Graeme Attwood who will lead the fermentative pathways aspect of the research.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences



Visiting honours student Sébastien Valade (left) and Dr Jérôme Lecointre test and record lahar flow with an experimental model.

Testing behaviour of clay-laden lahars

Unlike the watery lahars and debris flows that threaten the Ruapehu region, not much is known about the heavy clay-rich lahars typical of volcanoes like Taranaki.

Vulcanologist Dr Jérôme Lecointre, with visiting engineering geology student Sébastien Valade from the Institut Géologique Albert-de-Lapparent near Paris, are studying the physical behaviour of this type of potentially-devastating lahar.

Known as cohesive debris flows, the muddy lahars often begin as an avalanche of volcanic debris on the characteristically steep and unstable flanks of stratovolcanoes, also known as andesitic cones.

Dr Lecointre, a researcher in the Volcanic Risk Solutions group in the College of Sciences' Institute of Natural Resources, and Mr Valade have built a 3m artificial flank on which to test and record the flow of muddy lahars they create from different compositions of industrial clay, sand and gravel.

The mixture is released from a spring-loaded gate and recorded in real-time by wireless cameras located above the model and connected to a laptop. It is the first time New Zealand earth scientists have attempted to recreate in the laboratory this type of lahar, unusual in its complex, time-dependant rheological behaviour.

Dr Lecointre says the heavy clay-based flows are surprising because although they behave like a visco-plastic medium, they travel fast, and then stop suddenly.

They flow like a big plug, do not transform or dilute once they are flowing, and stop suddenly and cleanly. They can travel further than ordinary lahars, and the area they cover can be quite enormous, Dr Lecointre says.

The researchers can apply the physical rules of dimensional analysis when modelling the flow in a controlled experiment, and can adjust the slope of the run, and the composition of the mix.

Dr Lecointre says the clay is the main factor in the mix. Smectite clay acts like a sponge, to swell and store large amounts of water to double in volume. It's typically the result of a volcano's hydrothermal fluids changing the mineral composition of the surrounding rocks to form smectite.

Active geothermal systems developed in andesitic volcanoes generate a lot of these acidic fluids that alter large chunks of the volcano, making it unstable. The Ketetahi hot springs, on the northern flank of Tongariro, mark one of these very active areas.

He says volcanic cones are also unstable because they are made of pyroclastic debris (loose rocks) and an earthquake can trigger an avalanche that transforms quickly into a lahar.

A clay-rich lahar was generated on Mt Tongariro 55,000-60,000 years ago and there are similar deposits, characterised by the same type of clay present, on Mt Ruapehu. It is difficult to predict the occurrence of such lahars however, because they can occur without volcanic activity, which is usually monitored.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences



Adapting to Western life a health challenge

Coming to grips with Western food and health practices is a big challenge for some Chinese migrants, says a Massey health psychology researcher studying the issues affecting the migrants' adaptation to New Zealand.

Because both Chinese foods and Chinese medicines are so very different from what they encounter in western countries, the health of this migrant group has been identified as being potentially at risk.

Food and healing systems are among the most important characteristics of a culture and they are closely related to health and illness, says Juan Chen, a researcher in the University's Psychology Centre.

Ms Chen, who migrated from China in 2002 to do postgraduate study, is interviewing other migrants aged between 30 and 75 who live on the North Shore.

People seek various ways to deal with food and healing to maintain health and treat illness, she says. The understandings and practices of health and illness vary across cultures and societies.

Although people are very adaptable, many Chinese migrants are concerned about the impact a different diet will have on their health.

She says a substantial body of research has suggested that migration is associated with changes in disease patterns.

Migrants are found to have increased incidences of coronary heart disease, diabetes and certain cancers compared to people still living in their country of origin. Research into Chinese migrants' dietary changes shows that Chinese migrants have an increase in fat and cholesterol intakes while decreasing carbohydrate and fibre intakes, after migrating to Western countries.

She says that although migrants learn to find a balance between the two cultures, traditional Chinese knowledge still plays an important role in their health-related practices in Western countries.

Despite the wide differences in cultural approach, Ms Chen says Chinese migrants seem to find a balance between both Western and Chinese food, understanding both to have healthy and unhealthy aspects.

In traditional Chinese culture, the understanding of health and illness is surrounded by the notions of balance and harmony. Qi, yin and yang are believed to be the most central and direct constructs for Chinese people to interpret health and illness. The smooth flow of qi and balance of yin and yang is viewed as the key to a good function of the body.

Illness is considered to be caused by insufficient flow or blockage of qi that results from disequilibrium between yin and yang. In traditional Chinese culture food is an important source of qi for the body, and it is subject to the hot/cold or yin/yang dichotomy. Food that is believed to produce heat or yang in the body, for example lamb, ginger, or chilli is classified as yang food. Foods like leafy green vegetables and most fruits are believed to generate cold or yin in the body.

In traditional Chinese understanding, food is vital to maintain health and prevent illness. By contrast, in

contemporary Western societies nutritional knowledge from scientific research dominates understandings of how food is related to health and illness.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences



Bronze standards tower over historian Therese Crocker, in artist Paul Dibble's workshop.

Historian's role in London memorial

Historian Therese Crocker knows all too well that her role requires more than just collecting facts from an archive.

The Massey graduate recently worked alongside sculptor Paul Dibble on Southern Stand, the Memorial for New Zealand in London's Hyde Park.

Her research for the project now sees her jetting off overseas to attend the installation's official dedication on 11 November. Ms Crocker, worked alongside Mr Dibble, his wife Fran, and architect John Hardwick-Smith, on the striking memorial that commemorates the enduring relationship between New Zealand and Britain.

The memorial by Mr Dibble, a former Massey visual artist, was chosen from 12 designs short-listed from a field of 68 expressions of interest. Mr Dibble and Mr Hardwick-Smith's winning design consists of 16 cross-shaped vertical bronze standards set out in formation across the north-east corner of Hyde Park.

Each standard weighs up to 700kg and is adorned with individual text, patterns and small sculptures of historical and iconic significance which Ms Crocker had only a few months to collect.

It all had to happen in a condensed timeframe, she says. In June 2005 we travelled to London to present the concept for planning consent to members of Westminster Council for approval.

By February 2006, all the historical material needed to be ready for Paul to place and allocate.

Ms Crocker's double major in English and history came in handy when compiling the material, which is both a literal and iconic reflection of New Zealand modern and historical values.

We took extracts from Katherine Mansfield's notebooks, and using a Polymer CG process, were able to reproduce them in bronze, in her exact handwriting, which is something very special.

We included poppies, tracings from ships and aircraft, and we found a handwritten copy of For the Fallen, by Lawrence Binyon. It is a real privilege to have these stanzas included, she says.

Ms Crocker's job was not just to collect and source material a task that in itself would have been no small undertaking but to assess and interpret each, evaluating the contribution it could make toward the installation.

Paul made it clear from the start of the project that the outcome was to be an artistic interpretation rather than an historical bill-board.

The memorial needed to evoke a feeling, reflecting a sense of sacrifice, not only in two world wars, but also for those New Zealanders away from home, and tapping in to what sacrifice means to them.

Ms Crocker regards her involvement in the project as both a privilege, and an opportunity to show that the roles of historians are much broader than simply research and collation.

Fran and Paul knew me from previous work I had been involved with, and we also have a family connection. They wanted to know if some material they were considering was accessible enough to be included and they

asked me.

I jumped at the opportunity to be involved, and from there, never looked back.

It's been a great pleasure to work with Paul and Fran on something that will leave a lasting legacy that all New Zealanders can be proud of.

The memorial will be officially dedicated on Armistice Day, 11 November, and attended by dignitaries from both countries, war veterans, friends of New Zealand and the extensive New Zealand community living and working in Britain.

Ms Crocker looks forward to seeing the sculptures again.

We grew quite accustomed to seeing them in the Dibbles' workshop, and when they were shipped away to be installed there was quite a sad feeling we had sent them out into the world, after having grown quite fond of them.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Features

Categories: College of Creative Arts; College of Humanities & Social Sciences



Summer school enrolments up as students aim to get ahead

New Zealand's widest range of summer school programmes is about to get underway at Massey and enrolment numbers are heading to record levels.

Across all three Massey campuses, students are taking papers over summer to get ahead, instead of or perhaps in addition to that beach holiday or job on the farm or orchard.

The acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor responsible for teaching and learning, Professor Nigel Long, says summer school has many benefits.

For some students it's an opportunity to complete their studies quicker, catch up on missed papers or even get a head start on their degree, while other like the smaller classes or convenient class times, Professor Long says.

The University offers New Zealand's widest range of summer school programmes, with 240 options at its campuses in Auckland, Palmerston North and Wellington, and extramurally.

Enrolments are up 28 per cent compared to this time last year and continuing to flood in.

Bachelor of Communications student Lucy Hempseed has enrolled in two papers: Professional and E-Business Writing; and Writing, Subediting and Publishing. She says her goals are to get her degree finished, and to balance her workload.

I'm taking a couple of papers over summer, and six next year to complete my BC, she says. Since I work part-time, it's more convenient to spread my workload over the year. I'm getting married next summer, and I want to finish my degree by then.

Ms Hempseed says the classes are smaller and the library is quieter, so it's easier to study. For others, living arrangements are the reason to study over summer.

Journalism lecturer Cathy Strong says that for some of her students, summer school was their first experience of face-to-face university teaching.

I had several students last summer who usually studied extramurally, but could make it to summer school because their schedules were more flexible.

Summer school starts on 20 November. Some courses are three weeks long; others run for three months. Start dates for courses vary from November to January.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any



Prayer space for Muslim students at Auckland

Muslim students at Massey's Auckland campus have set up a little mosque within the University so that they can attend daily prayers and share evening meals during the month of Ramadan when Muslims fast between dawn and dusk.

Muhanad Alnahas, a spokesman for the body of around 50 Muslims studying at Massey in Auckland, says they have cleaned up and converted part of a student association club room for Muslim prayer meetings.

Muslim men and women from different groups Sunni and Shiite and from countries throughout Asia and the Middle East have been joining in several daily prayer meetings required under the Muslim faith over recent weeks.

The new prayer space means Muslim students are no longer cutting lectures to get to the nearest mosque in Glenfield which can mean up to a 20-minute drive from the Auckland campus in order to fulfil their prayer obligations, says Mr Alnahas.

It makes us feel more at home on the campus knowing we don't have to leave for prayers, he said.

The students gained permission from their students' association to use part of the club room after several months of negotiations, he says.

Ricky Waters, Coordinating Chaplain for the Auckland campus, said the securing of a prayer space was the result of a three-year effort involving top-level academic staff on the Spiritual Advisory Committee. They convinced university authorities that a designated Muslim prayer space was important for recruiting and retaining Muslim students.

He said other Auckland tertiary institutions had made their Muslim prayer spaces a selling point in attracting students. Muslim students at Massey's Palmerston North campus have an Islamic Prayer Centre, while those on the Wellington campus also have a prayer room.

The Muslim students have invited non-Muslims including Christians and Hindus to join in their evening feast once the fasting period is over for the day. Students share dishes of their own cuisines.

The prayer room is a real interface between students of different religions, says Mr Alnahas.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Auckland

What makes women tick on the football pitch

Never mind the footballers' wives, what about the women who play football?

With the booming world-wide popularity of women's soccer, Sport and Exercise Scientist, Dr Ajmol Ali sees a pressing need for research into performance in female players and what affects that performance.

Dr Ali is seeking top-level women footballers from North Harbour to take part in what may be the first academic research of its kind in New Zealand. Rather than comparing performance between genders, he says it is time to acknowledge there are physiological differences.

Women's football is one of the fastest-growing sports in the world and it warrants research specifically on women as opposed to extrapolation of findings from studies using male players and things like how fluid intake affects performance.

Women perspire less than men and so fluid recommendations may be different, he says.

We don't know exactly how dehydration may affect physiological function like heart rate, how they feel during a game or how it affects performance levels, like sprinting and overall skill.

Dr Ali wants more research into women's sports and has a grant from the Sport and Recreation Council to fund part of the study.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - HEALTH



Food Innovation, One Square Meal has numerous applications from tramping and survival packs, marathons, military provisioning and in the convenience meal market. Sealord took the Massey University Premier Award with Simply natural tender calamari rings and Thai chilli dipping sauce. This product also won awards from exports and for seafood products.

Awards for innovation and good taste

The winning entries in the Massey University Food Awards 2006 reflected an almost universal acknowledgement of a swing toward healthier food.

The biannual awards were announced at a glittering gala dinner at Auckland's Hyatt Regency, with Prime Minister Helen Clark as guest of honour amidst food industry leaders from production to marketing and food media.



The Awards are highly regarded by the industry and entries came from both the industry's biggest companies and small niche players. The number of innovative creations for healthy eating were a hot topic with both judges and industry.

It was refreshing to see this huge emphasis from both the small players in our food industry and from some of the bigger and more unlikely companies too, said chief judge, Nick Baylis. The chief executive of advertising agency M&C Saatchi, Mr Baylis argued the noticeable trend towards healthy products had driven and stimulated innovation to the benefit of both the industry and consumers.

Sealord took the Massey University Premier Award with Simply natural tender calamari rings and Thai chilli dipping sauce. This product also won awards from exports and for seafood products.

A total innovation developed by a Massey University food technology graduate was a winner of a clutch of awards and a world first in nutritional food circles. The product, One Square Meal, was developed by food technologist, Glenda Ryan for Christchurch based Cookie Time Ltd.

The product, which looks a little like a large health bar, is the result of intensive research and development and it has been hailed as the most nutritionally-balanced food product in the world. One Square Meal has numerous applications from tramping and survival packs, marathons, military provisioning and in the convenience meal market.

This event was the 15th of the awards which have been championed by Massey reflecting its position as the leading educator in food technology. The University is committed to the development of new food products and boasts numerous research facilities that offer expert knowledge to companies. It is one of few organisations able to conceptualise, create, produce and test products all in one place.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences

Can government policies bring happiness?

Winning first prize in Lotto, getting married, watching your kid score a goal in soccer, buying that flash new car... these are the kinds of things typically associated with happiness.

But could government decisions on how much tax we pay, funding for a new cancer treatment or introducing paid maternity leave also be genuine sources of well-being?

Many researchers today claim that they are, according to Massey public policy lecturer Dr Grant Duncan.

He has explored the relationship between social policy and well-being in a research paper, the basis for his recent public lecture at the Auckland campus, where he teaches in the School of Social and Cultural Studies.

Unhappily for governments, he says, voters tend to take for granted things that directly affect our day-to-day well-being, such as relative improvements over time in health and education as well as infrastructure and public services all the result of government policy.

Given the dissatisfaction recorded daily in newspaper letters to the editor, radio talkback or between people discussing politics in disgruntled tones anywhere, it might seem a tall order to link happiness with the decisions of policy-makers.

But having looked beyond the surface discontent among the populus, Dr Duncan maintains that government policy does indirectly have an impact on our individual sense of happiness. However, we rarely credit politicians with having any influence on our degree of contentment because of rising expectations, he says.

We complain about hospital waiting lists while failing to acknowledge the immense improvements in medical services and technology that save many more lives than in bygone days.

Governments, he explains, are in a fix when it comes to promoting happiness-inducing and socially desirable measures. Social well-being needs economic growth (requiring longer hours, both parents working and an increasing need for paid child care) on one hand, and policies that allow a better work/life balance but perhaps less wealth (such as flexible working hours, family support and longer holidays) on the other.

Meanwhile, the hapless citizen is torn between working those longer hours to earn more money to buy more stuff (in pursuit of the happiness this supposedly brings, if we are to believe the marketing hype that bombards us), and cutting back on work and material consumption in order to enjoy more time with family and in leisure activities the more reliable path to happiness according to recent research.

While he acknowledges that nurturing economic growth is seen as the prime raison d'être of any government, from a voter's viewpoint sometimes greater utility could be derived from activities that create less economic output, Dr Duncan observes in his paper, titled *What Do We Mean By Happiness ? The Relevance of Subjective Wellbeing to Social Policy* (published in the *Social Policy Journal of New Zealand*, 2005).

For example eating take-away food may result in more statistically measured economic output than growing and cooking one's own food, but its value in terms of nutritional well-being may be inferior. Or a parent could derive greater utility from working, earning and spending less, and having more time for family activities, he suggests.

He considers historical definitions of the term happiness, from ancient Greece when questions of well-being were linked with good government, 18th century notions of government's role as augmenting the happiness of the community as a whole, through to the findings of contemporary happiness surveys and research.

Cultural variations on the meaning of happiness notwithstanding, 21st century happiness surveys reveal some paradoxes, he notes.

Findings suggest apparently inconsistent things; that while the poor tend to be unhappier, beyond moderate wealth there are no big gains in the happiness stakes; that average happiness does not increase in populations where dramatic per-capita gains in incomes have been made; that people's reported happiness does not increase much during a lifetime despite increases in wealth and income.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Survey reveals Māori mental health concerns

A recent survey on mental health in New Zealand reveals that Māori are twice as likely to attempt or consider suicide than non-Māori. Te Rau Hinengaro, The New Zealand Mental Health Survey indicates that mental illness among Māori is more prevalent than non-Māori including higher rates of suicidal attempts, plans or ideation.

Dr Te Kani Kingi and Professor Mason Durie were researchers in the multi-university study.

Dr Kingi says the findings from the research provide vital information for policy makers and health service providers at a time when mental illness among Māori is so prevalent.

This is the first large scale survey that can give a clear indication of the extent of mental disorders for adults in New Zealand communities. It provides a solid basis for service planning, Dr Kingi says.

The survey also showed that Māori are less likely to use mental health services than non-Māori. Half of those Māori surveyed indicated they have suffered from at least one mental disorder in their lifetime leading up to the survey and nearly 30 per cent have suffered from at least one disorder in the past 12 months.

The survey further indicates that nearly one-third of Māori with disorders were classified as serious but less than half of these had any previous contact with health services. The results have serious implications for health care services particularly at the primary care level, says Professor Durie.

Te Rau Hinengaro involved interviews with close to 13,000 people in 2004, including nearly 2600 Māori.

The survey also indicates that mental disorder is common in New Zealand, with 46 per cent of the population predicted to meet criteria for a disorder at some time in their lives.

Thirty-nine per cent of the population has already suffered from a mental disorder and 20.7 per cent of the population has suffered a disorder in the past 12 months. The research also revealed that the most common mental illnesses affecting Māori include anxiety disorders, substance use disorders and mood disorders.

Professor Durie and Dr Te Kani Kingi from the Māori health research team (Te Pūmanawa Hauora) at Massey were among a team of researchers from the universities of Auckland, Otago and Massey involved in the research.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Explore - HEALTH; Maori

Jumping generations with pen and paper

Visual artist Mark Themann will embody the content of anonymous letters submitted for a video installation under production during his residency at Massey.

An installation of large-scale video projections designed for a museum space, Generation Jump will feature contributors' letters to their grandchildren, transformed to text over moving images. From grandparent to grandchild, the letters jump a generation, and Mr Themann encouraged people to imagine the letter would only ever be read by that grandchild.

It may be a letter to be read now, or after your death. What is the most essential matter you would like to communicate? If you had a chance to speak very privately, and with your knowledge of life, yourself and your grandchild, what would you pass on?

He says the letters are indispensable to the project, and asked contributors to ensure that neither writer nor recipient could be identified by either the content of the letter or its mailing address.

Hosted by the School of English and Media Studies, the artist-in-residency scheme has been running since 2004 in collaboration with the Palmerston North City Council and the Square Edge Creative Centre. Melbourne-based Mr Themann is the first visual artist of seven artists in the scheme that has previously bought playwrights, film-makers and poets to the city and campus.

Residency director and playwright Dr Angie Farrow says the increasingly competitive scheme is attracting greater numbers of international applicants. Given 10 artists to choose from, the selection panel was particularly impressed by Mr Themann's bibliography of work, and by his intention to use the residency to work on a project specific to Palmerston North and its people.

Mr Themann has been exhibiting drawing, video, installation, sculpture and performance art since 1984, in Europe, the US and Australia.

He has held 28 solo exhibitions and 15 previous artist-in-residencies within contemporary art institutions and secondary schools.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Features

Categories: College of Creative Arts



New appointments to the Riddet Centre

The appointment of Dr Mike Boland and Dr Lawrie Creamer to the Riddet Centre strengthens its position as a national centre for high quality research in food and biological products.

Dr Boland joins the centre after working for the New Zealand Dairy Research Institute, and subsequently Fonterra Ltd, for the past 16 years. During this time he managed all research projects funded by the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology and managed the former Dairy Board's \$8m Milk Characteristics global programme.

Riddet Centre co-director Professor Paul Moughan says Dr Boland has not only made original contributions at a scientific level, but has a track record of achievement in the administration and leadership of science.

In his new role with the Riddet Centre, Dr Boland will work with the centre's directors and principals to design and drive research programmes. He says the centre plays a vital part in New Zealand's food industries. The important thing about the Riddet Centre is that it is the only centre of its kind in New Zealand that supports the food industries, which constitute about half of the nation's economy. The input of the centre's combined expertise and experience is critical to this industry, he says.

Dr Boland graduated with a PhD in biochemistry from Massey, and his scientific achievements include the development of New Zealand's first large-scale contained processing facility. He is the primary inventor of POSIFoods a novel approach to personalised nutrition. The POSIFoods project is a joint research partnership between the centre, Fonterra, and the German-based company BASF.

Dr Boland holds six patents and is the author of more than 70 refereed papers and book chapters. He is a founding member and past president of the New Zealand Biotechnology Association and has held research positions in Britain, the United States and Germany.

Dr Lawrie Creamer has played a pivotal role in the dairy industry over the past 43 years. During this time he held a continuing role in selecting and training individuals for the dairy industry, many of whom have achieved high positions in academia or commerce.

Professor Moughan says Dr Creamer has had an outstanding international career in dairy and food science and is known for the depth and imagination of his scientific pursuit. He was made a fellow of the New Zealand Institute of Chemistry in 1980 and a fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand in 1985 the highest New Zealand science accolade. In 1999 the Society presented him with the RJ Scott Medal in Engineering Sciences and Technologies.

He was the first New Zealander to be awarded the International Dairy Federation Award, which he shares with Professor Pierpaolo Resmini from the Department of Food Science and Technology at the State University of Milan (Italy).

Dr Creamer was appointed to the former Dairy Research Institute as a protein chemist in 1963 after graduating with a PhD from the University of Canterbury. He left to undertake postgraduate work with the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the United States from 1964-1966, and returned to the institute to lead a cutting-edge research programme on the chemistry of milk proteins and their interactions.

This research led to many improvements in the manufacture of traditional dairy products such as cheese and milk powders.

More recently Dr Creamer collaborated with scientists from the Riddet Centre and Edinburgh University, to study the structural change of beta-lactoglobulin at high temperatures.

The Palmerston North-based Riddet Centre is a partnership between Massey, the University of Auckland and the University of Otago, co-directed by Professors Paul Moughan and Harjinder Singh.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business

Defining New Zealand's non-profit sector

Diversity and change have shaped an energetic, innovative and vocal non-profit sector, say the New Zealand researchers of an international comparative study of non-profit organisations.

Massey social scientists and historians Professor Margaret Tennant, Dr Jackie Sanders, and Associate Professor Mike O'Brien recently published the first part of their study on the historical and legal dimensions of the non-profit sector and its relationships with government. This will be combined with information collected by Statistics New Zealand for the international study led by the Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies, Baltimore.

The researchers' report, *Defining the Non-profit Sector: New Zealand*, was recently launched by the Government. Its key findings are:

- The sector offers rich opportunities for citizen engagement, and is uniquely shaped by indigenous organisations.
- The closeness of government and the sector, especially in the social service area, stands out when compared internationally.
- Iwi/Māori organisations, and particularly those involved in the stewardship of tribal and hapū affairs, were a particular challenge in terms of international definitional frameworks, and the researchers suggest the need for a new sub-category in the United Nations Classification of Non-profit Organisations as applied to New Zealand.
- Organisations have generally operated within a positive legal and ideological climate. English common law provided an enabling, rather than a constraining legal environment.
- Underpinning the sector's diversity are the special characteristics of Māori organisations. These draw upon tribal traditions and are sometimes overlain by complex legislative structures derived from the colonial power, but which demonstrate the vigour and adaptability of the indigenous social formations.
- Interactions between government and organisations can be traced to the 19th century, and the notion of partnership was further elaborated during the primacy of the welfare state, especially in the social service sector.
- The more recent rupturing of established, often comfortable relationships between government and some sections of the sector is a key theme of the researchers' report. They say the contract culture of the 1990s increased the ability of government agencies to increasingly shape and direct the activities of organisations, raising questions about the boundaries between government control and self-governance.

Defining the Nonprofit Sector: New Zealand is part of the first major national study to measure and report on the national sector. It will culminate in the first comprehensive statistical report by Statistics New Zealand in 2007 and a national overview report from the Johns Hopkins Center in 2008.

The international project has been run since the late 1980s by the Johns Hopkins University Centre for Civil Society, in an effort to improve understanding and effective functioning of not-for-profit, philanthropic and so-called civil society organisations in the United States and throughout the world. The aim is to enhance the contribution such organisations make to democracy and the quality of life. So far, 38 countries are participating and providing data.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Groundbreaking PhD partnership

An agreement for a PhD programme involving two Vietnamese universities and the College of Business is likely to become a template for future University partnerships.

The head of the Department of Applied and International Economics, Professor Anton Meister, says the arrangement is complex and potentially productive and could be a model for other University departments negotiating international agreements at PhD level.

The Memorandum of Understanding with the Faculty of Economics at Vietnam National University in Hanoi and the University of Economics, Ho Chi Minh City, has the approval of Vietnam's Ministry of Education, which is financing the agreement.

PhD candidates from the two universities will study for one year at Massey, working with a supervisor, return to Vietnam for two years then spend a further year at Massey.

Professor Meister says an important aspect of the agreement is that the Ministry will fund visits to Vietnam by the Massey PhD supervisors, when required.

The partnerships, forged with the help of Vietnamese staff member Dr Kim Heng Pham, provide for collaborative research projects.

The department is also putting finishing touches to an agreement with Henan Agricultural University in China.

The department already has close links with Henan: Both Professor Meister and Professor Allan Rae, head of the Centre of Applied Economic and Policy Studies, have been appointed as guest professors at Henan, for a three year period.

The agreement provides for both joint research and teaching projects.

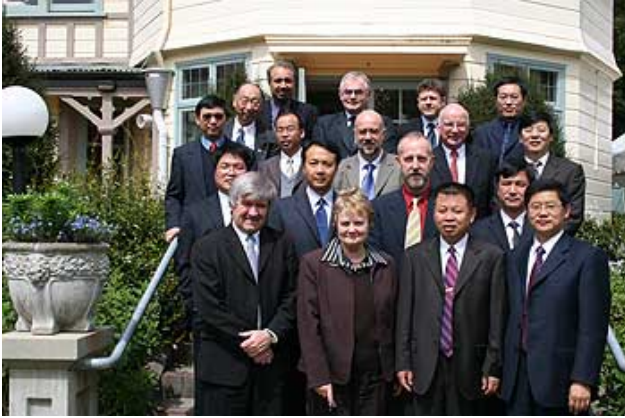
There is also a new Memorandum of Understanding between the department, the Centre for University Preparation and English Language Studies and Ritsumeiken University in Kyoto, Japan.

A five-year contract provides for around 40 students a year from Ritsumeiken to spend a month at Massey studying both English and Economics. They will also go on field trips to different businesses and enterprises.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Business; Research



Shihezi delegation seeks relationship

Staff and council members from Shihezi University in western China recently visited Massey, where they were hosted by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Judith Kinnear.

Located in Shihezi, the Garden City north of the Tianshan Mountains in the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, the University began in 1949 with Shihezi Medical College and in 1996 was created by combining it and three other colleges in Agriculture, Economics and Teaching. It has more than 2200 staff and 22,000 students.

Pictured outside Wharerata on 12 October are, front row, from left: College of Sciences Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Robert Anderson, Professor Kinnear, Chairman of Shihezi University Council Professor Zhou Shenggui, Vice-President of Shihezi University Professor Yang Lei; second row: Dean College of Life Sciences Professor Gao Jianfeng, Vice-Dean of Medical College Professor Wang Wei, Deputy Head of Institute of Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Sciences Professor Hugh Blair, Dean of College of Animal Sciences and Technology Professor Yan Genqiang; third row: Professor Wang Qiao, Dr Zhang Baisen and Professor Peter Kemp from Massey's Institute of Natural Resources, Head of Institute Professor Russ Tillman, Shihezi Deputy Director International Relations Professor Zhang Hongjun; back row: Associate Professor Alex Chu from Massey's College of Sciences, Riddet Centre co-director Professor Harjinder Singh, IVABS Associate Professor Steve Morris and Dr Paul Kenyon and Dr Wang Ruli from Massey's Institute of Information Sciences and Technology.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Palmerston North



Knowledge Village visits Knowledge City

Senior managers from the high tech international Dubai Knowledge Village visited the International Office on the Palmerston North campus this month to discuss future cooperation.

Executive director of the Village Dr Ayoub Kazim and director of partner relations Michael Trivett spent two days in New Zealand and visited only two universities Massey and the University of Auckland.

The Dubai Knowledge Village is an initiative by the government of Dubai to create a regional educational hub for the surrounding region, which covers approximately 1.6 billion people with a gross domestic product close to \$2 trillion. The Village provides an ongoing pool of regional graduates equipped with skills for emerging knowledge industries, including information technology, media, finance, and healthcare.

The Director of the International Office, Bruce Graham, says the purpose of the visit was to get a briefing on the Knowledge Village and on student market research findings covering Africa, China, Southeast Asia and the Indian sub-continent.

Offshore universities that have established centres at the Dubai Village include the University of Wollongong, the University of New Brunswick, Heriot Watt University, Middlesex University, Saint-Petersburg State University, the European University College and the Royal College of Surgeons.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Palmerston North

Quality partnerships to meet strategic goals

Massey has set up processes to ensure its international academic partnership agreements meet appropriate quality standards and fit the University's international strategy.

The University has about 90 agreements, mostly with overseas universities and tertiary organisations, and a number of new partnerships under consideration.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear has given a clear directive that the University should not pursue quantity but should seek high quality partnerships with strong academic institutions where there will be tangible benefits in student activity and/or staff teaching and research.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Auckland & International) Professor John Raine comments: We are now more focused on quality and relevance to Massey and whether the partnerships are active and producing good outcomes for both sides, but especially for Massey.

As well as screening new partnership proposals, this also means reviewing existing agreements, making sure they are still active and appropriate, and talking to staff involved if they are not.

When a review indicates that a partnership is very active and productive, the International Office will facilitate actions to see how we might expand it.

As part of the new approach, procedures and systems for developing partner relationships have been reviewed and updated.

When a new partnership with an overseas university, other tertiary educational organisation or research institution is mooted, staff at the International Office will work with the relevant College to identify an agreement champion.

As an example, he cites Professor Chris Moore (College of Business) who has championed the new partnership with Wuhan University (see pg7), with the International Office facilitating the approval process. Screening a proposed partnership can take time.

We need to establish whether the proposed partner has a strong reputation in research and teaching and whether there are valuable benefits for both partners, but for Massey in particular, Professor Raine says.

Universities approach us on a regular basis, looking for agreements to collaborate. However, we are unable to accommodate every request.

A recommendation for any new partnership is reviewed by the relevant college, forwarded for approval to Professor Raine, and then to the Vice-Chancellor for final sign-off.

Most of the University's offshore partnerships are owned by one of the colleges. Of the 90 current or newly approved agreements, the College of Sciences has 25 and the College of Business 24.

Thirteen cover the whole University or involve more than one college and are handled by the International Office. Professor Raine says one example is the longstanding partnership with the University of California, which involves an exchange of students who can study at any campus within both universities.

He says international agreements involve most activities of the University, from research to teaching, staff and student exchanges.

Massey is now increasingly well known in overseas countries that are important to us, because of the success of our offshore partnerships, and academic and research linkages.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any

Literacy leader joins Auckland educationalists

The College of Education adds to its considerable strength in literacy research and teaching with the recent appointment of Professor Tom Nicholson.

He is based at Albany and he has made the move to Massey after being based at the University of Auckland where he established his reputation for research and initiatives in the field of literacy.

Massey University is privileged to have a core of some of the world's leading researchers in literacy, as well as emerging literacy researchers, he says.

He comes to the University with a passion to see the literacy research group work together to 'close the literacy gap' by applying new strategies both in the classroom and through education policy in New Zealand.

Professor Nicholson says literacy difficulties in New Zealand are not yet being faced and that the University's top-rated group will be working with urgency on the country's growing child literacy problem.

New Zealand, since 1990, has shown a wide gap in reading achievement compared with other countries. There are more good readers but there are also relatively more poor readers than is the case in other countries of similar economic ranking. Statistics have persistently shown that up to 25 per cent of children struggle with literacy. Reading and writing problems are even greater among low-income, Māori and Pasifika children.

He believes the reason for this is the differences in the literate cultural capital of children starting school in high income areas and those starting school in low income areas. He says some children start school much better equipped than others to learn the skills of literacy because they have crucial pre-reading skills or what he calls, literate cultural capital.

There is a huge gap in skills relevant to literacy between the extremes of pupils starting school in low decile areas like South Auckland, and those starting school in high decile areas like East Auckland, he says.

Some will say that this is to be expected and that it is nothing to worry about but what our research shows is that the gap at the start of school does not get closed and in fact gets wider as pupils move through the school system. In this way the social structure gets replicated.

To make matters worse, it appears that the current method of teaching literacy in schools, the natural language approach, privileges affluent schools and disadvantages low-income schools.

The current method of teaching relies a great deal on self-teaching, that is, giving pupils opportunities to learn to read and write for themselves. This is fine for children who know the names and sounds of the alphabet when they start school and have a good sense of sounds in words.

Professor Nicholson says it's time to face up to the fact that the learning curve is too steep for some children who arrive at school behind in pre-reading skills and that they fall by the wayside under current teaching methods. He says these children need different instruction.

He is involved in after school reading programmes at four schools with quite different socio-economic profiles. And he says these programmes and summer school programmes, are giving promising results for children with reading and writing difficulties.

Currently PhD students based at Massey's Auckland campus are studying the effects of providing differential instruction in school time to pupils who are at risk of not learning to read and write. The Massey research group aims to join with other leading researchers nationally and internationally, to establish a national centre of excellence for research on children's literacy.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments



Categories: Any



National Student Relations Director Dr Pat Sandbrook.

Student satisfaction levels continue to rise

Student satisfaction levels at Massey have risen for the second year running, with only a tiny minority of students rating student services at the University anything less than satisfactory, good or very good.

And the biggest area of improvement and overall performance is in the satisfaction of extramural students.

Every year Massey invites about 20,000 students by email to participate in its satisfaction surveys aimed at improving service delivery.

About 4500 respond to the on-line survey run by AC Neilson containing 108 questions on all aspects of student services other than teaching, which is measured in a separate survey.

Last year 64 per cent of respondents rated the services good or very good, an increase from 62 per cent in 2004. This year it rose to 67 per cent.

When those who rated the services as satisfactory were added, the percentage rises to 95 and, for extramural students, just over 96 per cent.

National Student Relations Director Dr Pat Sandbrook says the University wants to not only get feedback from students but to respond to it. Systematic processes are now in place at each campus to work on the key areas that students identify for improvement. These efforts are being supported and encouraged by the senior managers in the University. There is a strong culture of service improvement. The results of each year's survey are discussed with the Students' Associations and actively incorporated into service planning. We believe this is the reason the satisfaction levels are so high and rising, Dr Sandbrook says.

The fact that so many are prepared to respond to such a detailed questionnaire demonstrates conclusively that these things matter to students and they have confidence that the feedback they provide is being heard and responded to by the University.

Details of the findings have been presented to students and staff involved in student relations and student services at all three campuses.

Dr Sandi Shillington, who is responsible for student services on the Palmerston North campus and for all extramural student services says the marked improvement in satisfaction levels particularly for extramural students shows the efforts made to be responsive to previous surveys were valuable.

We have introduced a new suite of services to students and I believe that's starting to show, Dr Shillington says.

The overall rating of 'good' and 'very good' have gone from 68 per cent last year for extramural students to 73 per cent this year, with just on 3 per cent rating our services 'poor' and less than 1 per cent 'very poor'.

She says the surveys show extramural students are much more likely than others to recommend Massey to potential students.

The introduction of Extraconnect an email a problem-solving service for students has contributed to the sense that Massey is doing a good job of resolving problems if and when they arise.

Massey University Students Association president Paul Falloon says it is good that Massey is one of the few or possibly the only university in New Zealand to annually gauge student satisfaction levels.

Mr Falloon accepts the survey has resulted in the University responding to potential problem areas and dealing with issues that might otherwise have been raised by students with their associations.

He says providing the cost is not too great he would like to see a similar survey or a single survey measure student satisfaction with academic performance because the current academic ratings are very generalised .

The University can chop things up between student services and academic, grounds and all aspects of what it provides but the student experience is a combination of all of those things.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any

Fellowship recognises property expertise

The contribution to the industry of Property lecturer Iona McCarthy has been recognised with a prestigious fellowship of the Property Institute of New Zealand.

Mrs McCarthy teaches Rural Appraisal and Investment, Rural Valuation and Fundamentals of Finance in the Department of Finance, Property and Banking.

She is qualified valuer and a three times graduate of the University, with a Bachelor of Agricultural Science (Rural Valuation and Management), a Diploma in Business and Administration (with distinction) and a Master of Business Studies.

Since 1980 she has also been a dairy farmer in partnership with her husband, Peter, with farming interests in the Manawatu, Wairarapa and Hawke's Bay.

Mrs McCarthy has a long association with the Property Institute and is a Manawatu Branch committee member.

At the University she has been closely involved in the production of the Real Estate Market Outlook: Rural Market Series, published quarterly by the Real Estate Analysis Unit.

The fellowship was awarded at a ceremony in Auckland last month.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business

Rats, fires and volcanoes tell settlers' story

Ideas about how and when Māori first arrived in New Zealand have changed radically over the past few decades. The debate continues, but many people are stuck in the past, according to history professor, Kerry Howe.

Theories of early settlement based on the existence of a primitive people, the Moriori, who were wiped out by the arrival of the Great Fleet of migrating eastern Polynesians, formed the basis of our history until relatively recently.

Professor Howe says it's likely that many New Zealanders in their 40s and beyond probably still think this version now shown to be flawed and inaccurate is the correct one because this is what they were taught at school.

His forthcoming professorial lecture on 3 August one of several being held at the Auckland campus throughout the month by academics from different disciplines provides the chance for a wider audience to update their knowledge about New Zealand's first inhabitants.

Professor Howe, who has been at the forefront of academic research in New Zealand and Pacific history for more than 30 years, will discuss how and why the Great Fleet theory, as well as other ideas on Māori settlement widely accepted up until the 1960s, have been discredited. The subject was thoroughly addressed in his 2003 book *The Quest for Origins* (Penguin), which examined the controversy over who first discovered and settled New Zealand and the Pacific Islands.

In the lecture, he follows on from the themes of his book by considering recent scientific evidence such as rat-nibbled seed pods, the presence of bracken fern that replaced burned forests and the role of volcanic ash for dating first human presence.

Such evidence serves to contradict some of the enduring colonial interpretations of early settlement articulated by Percy Smith (1840-1922), New Zealand's surveyor-general, co-founder and co-editor of the Polynesian Society and its journal.

The popular 19th century Great Fleet theory created by Smith was the product of its colonial context and reveals more about the pakeha perceptions at that time than it does about historical actuality, Professor Howe says in an introduction to his lecture, titled *Of rats, fires, volcanoes...when did humans first arrive in New Zealand*.

Modern discoveries have highlighted early human impact on plants and animals in New Zealand and provide a marvellous view of how human societies interact with their environment over time, Professor Howe says.

In this sense, he says, New Zealand is a unique showcase since what happened here was compressed into a very short period of time a matter of just a few hundred years by comparison with many tens of thousands of years that it took to happen in Eurasia, Africa or Australia.

Professor Howe is deeply involved in *Vaka Moana Voyagers of the Ancestors*, a major exhibition about the story of migration and settlement of the vast Pacific Ocean.

It is due to open at the Auckland War Memorial Museum at the end of 2006, and it will tour internationally for several years. He is also editing a large scholarly volume to accompany the exhibition.

Created: 31 July, 2006

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Higher ranking for Finance research

The University's Finance programme has gained an even higher ranking in a respected international measure of research relevance and quality.

Massey is now ranked 28th among business schools outside the United States, as measured by the number of research papers downloaded from the eLibrary of the Social Science Research Network (SSRN).

The ranking improves on the University's previous position at 34 and again places it at the top of the list among New Zealand and Australian universities. The nearest Australasian universities are Monash University in 50th place and the University of Otago at 56.

The ranking is largely the result of downloads of research by academics from the departments of Commerce and Finance, Banking and Property.

This reinforces the global recognition of our Finance programmes, says Pro Vice-Chancellor of the College of Business Professor Barrie Macdonald.

The College is supportive of academic endeavours to further enhance our profile. All departments are being encouraged to take up the challenge and expand the publication on SSRN of research papers in other specialities.

Since its foundation in late 1994, SSRN has grown in importance in the academic community, especially in economics. Almost all papers will now be published on the network before being submitted to an academic journal.

The network's eLibrary is co-hosted by Stanford University. Its database is divided into specialist networks, including: Financial Economics, Economics Research, Accounting Research, Legal Scholarship, Management Research, Marketing Research, Negotiations Research, Social Insurance Research, Information Systems and Entrepreneurship Policy.

Last year the University's Finance programme was ranked 12th out of 170 universities in the Asia Pacific region for research productivity, based on research published in leading finance journals from 2000 to 2004.

Created: 31 July, 2006

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business

Pacific collection needed to build knowledge base

Boosting the number of Pacific-themed and authored books, journals and academic material, and creating a Pacific Collection at Massey University are top priorities for the University's Director Pasifika, Professor Sitaleki Finau.

The Tongan academic, who took on the new role in June this year, has already donated some of his own books and academic journal series to the library at the Auckland campus, and has been encouraging Pacific Island staff members to do the same.

We can't have academic development for Pacific students at Massey without a Pacific collection in the library, he says.

He is keen to quickly redress what he sees as distinct lack of Pacific-related reading and research material in all Massey libraries because without it, students will be hampered in their academic pursuits, he says.

What is needed is a commitment to building up a substantial body of knowledge and material that students can both draw from for study and research as well as contribute to with the publication of their own work.

Tafa Mulitalo, a Samoan senior lecturer in social work at the Auckland campus, agrees there is an urgent need to expand the Pacific content of the library especially in Auckland, which is the focus for the development of the Pasifika strategy that Professor Finau has been employed to implement.

Mr Mulitalo has been at Massey's Auckland campus for 11 years, first as a student and assistant lecturer and now as a senior lecturer. He recalls having to search outside the campus for texts he needed for his study and research and says the quantity of Pacific material has not increased much.

He continues to lend students books from his own collection because they are not available at the library.

An easily identifiable Pacific collection or section in the library would provide a repository for a rich range of material, such as documents, papers and DVDs from conferences, as well as books and journals, he says.

Professor Finau also wants to see more Pacific Island theses recognised and made more widely available through the Directorate publishing an Occasional Paper and a Thesis Monograph series.

There are already around 140 Pacific-themed doctoral and masters theses held by the University libraries and Dr Finau would like to see more work published and catalogued so that it could be made available to other educational institutions.

With the Auckland campus scheduled to get a new library, more space should be available in the future for a Pacific collection, says head librarian Valerie Cohen.

Having the Pacific Collections in Massey University libraries is consistent with the Pasifika@Massey Strategy, especially its first three goals of academic achievement, professional development and Pacific research capability improvement, says Dr Finau.

He believes a Pacific Collection would signify the presence of an accessible body of Pacific knowledge. This is a fundamental signal to serious intention and commitment to academic development of Pacificans in New Zealand.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Pasifika

'Exciting' research projects get \$6.3m funding from Marsden Fund

[View the full list of Marsden results](#)

Sixteen Massey staff will lead or participate in research projects that were awarded in excess of \$6.3 million by the Royal Society of New Zealand's Marsden Fund.

The prestigious Marsden grants, for the best and brightest of New Zealand's academics, and Marsden fast start grants, for up-and-coming researchers, this year totalled just over \$39 million.

They enable 78 new projects to go ahead over the coming years in a range of disciplines. Six of the major Marsden project leaders are from Massey and five of the Fast Start recipients, while a further five Massey staff will assist in other's projects in the role of Associate Investigators.

2006 Marsden grants

Dr Leon Huynen, from the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution, will uncover lost secrets of Maori cloaks and kete. Maori cloaks, or k?kahu, have a long history, and stunning examples exist in museums in New Zealand and around the world. Unfortunately, a lot of the information relating to their origins has been lost, meaning we do not always know when or where they were made, or what materials were used. Dr Huynen and his team will extract and analyse DNA from feathers, skins and plant fibres from cloaks and kete. This will allow them to identify the variety of birds, plants and other animals used, and determine if these have changed through time or varied across the country. The results will also provide information on the preferences and choices made by Maori artisans, for example, were their design and material choices governed by what was available locally, or did they trade feathers, skins and fibre? This project will draw on the DNA database of New Zealand birds to match cloak materials to species, and to specific geographic populations. The research will contribute to the cultural value of these important taonga, by allowing their stories to be told once again. Dr Huynen and his team will work with the support of Te Roopu Raranga Whatu o Aotearoa, the NZ Maori weavers group.

Professor Peter Schwerdtfeger, from the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, is aiming to solve one of the fundamental scientific puzzles of our time: why, when many biological molecules exist in two forms which are mirror images of each other, does nature use only one form of each? What has led to this choice? For example, why is it that our bodies can digest only right handed sugar molecules, and why are most of the amino acids that make up our proteins left handed? The answer might be the amount of energy needed to create the right handed and left handed forms, with nature choosing the easiest one. Any energy differences will be tiny, but it may be possible to measure them, if scientists choose the right molecules to examine. Applying advanced computational methods, and making use of the forces that are used in the evolution of stars the weak and electronic forces Dr Schwerdtfeger will identify the best molecules to study this interesting question. He will be collaborating with European researchers, who will be helping with the calculations and carrying out measurements.

Dr Jan Schmid, from the Institute of Molecular BioSciences, together with Dr Barbara Holland from the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution, and Associate Professor Richard Cannon from the University of Otago, will mate strains of the fungus, *Candida albicans*, to see if sex gives it a survival advantage. *Candida* only reproduces sexually very rarely it usually just divides in two. It is thought that being able to switch to sexual reproduction could give the species an advantage in certain situations perhaps it could generate new combinations of genes that make it better at infecting people and more resistant to antifungal drugs, for example. After mating strains, Dr Schmid will test if the offspring are better at surviving than their parents. If they are more hardy, then occasional sex could indeed be giving the fungus an advantage. But if the parents are better at surviving than the offspring, then *Candida* cannot be getting an obvious survival advantage from reproducing in this way, and perhaps sex is a dying art for this species. The study will investigate a fundamental belief: the superiority of sex over reproducing by dividing in two. It could also help in designing treatment for medical conditions caused by *Candida*, by understanding how the fungus evolves.

Dr Adriane Rini, from the School of History, Philosophy and Politics, along with Professor Max Cresswell from The University of Auckland, will produce the first major book-length study of a phenomenon in philosophy known as the 'world-time parallel'. What could have happened but never did doesn't seem as real as what did happen. However, just as what did happen, but is not happening now, happened at another time, something that could have happened, but never did, can be thought of as happening in another possible world. The two philosophers will argue that, whatever the reality, there is an analogy between possible worlds (and the

associated modal matters like necessity and possibility) and other times (past, present, and future). This analogy between modality and time will be explored using formal logic.

Professor Ian Evans, from the School of Psychology, and his team will find out how teachers can best facilitate the development of children's 'emotional intelligence' a measure of our ability to understand and manage our feelings, as well as other people's. Families play a role in developing this skill, but can teachers also help? Three studies are planned. First, the researchers will work with groups of teachers identified as having a warm, sensitive teaching style, to find out more about what they do in their classrooms. Second, they will use positive examples of teacher-student interactions to create teaching modules on interactive DVD, which will form the basis of a professional teacher development programme. Finally, the team will look at the effect this programme has on children. Does it benefit them and if so, how? Does children's ability to understand their feelings improve? Does it have positive effects on their interactions with their peers? Can an effect on bullying and behaviour difficulties be measured? Overall, the research has the potential to inform schools about how they can contribute to the development of children's emotional intelligence, leading to improved classroom behaviour and peer relationships.

Dr Evelyn Sattlegger, from the Institute of Molecular Biosciences, and her collaborators from Germany and the USA, will study the function of an enzyme, GCN2, and the protein, GCN1, which activates it. Together, these two allow our cells to know when they are lacking in amino acids, and to cope with the problem. Amino acids are particularly important physiologically because, as constituents of proteins, they execute almost all biological functions. Therefore, knowing how cells detect and regulate levels of them would be very useful. Dr Sattlegger will determine how GCN2 and GCN1 function in molecular detail, carrying out a variety of genetic and biochemical analyses. In addition to its role in amino acid regulation, GCN2 also plays several specialised but crucial roles in mammals, ranging from behaviour regulation and memory formation, to viral defence and immunological processes. Therefore, this study could have wide ranging implications for understanding human health, and prevention of disease.

Fast Start Funding Recipients 2006

Dr Patrick Dulin, from the School of Psychology, will investigate why older people who enjoy helping others experience health benefits. Many studies have indicated that helping others, by volunteering and providing support, enhances longevity and improves mental health among older adults, but it is still unclear why this is the case. One possibility is that it stimulates healthy physiology, including reduced blood pressure and stress hormones, and positive emotions, making it easier to recover from stress. It may even be the case that providing help to others is more health-promoting for the elderly than receiving support. In this study, Dr Dulin will expose older participants (over 65) to a stressful situation, followed by the opportunity to provide help to a needy other while their emotional and physiological functioning is monitored. This will be contrasted with a control condition in which there is no opportunity to help somebody else. Identifying factors that help individuals to age positively is one of social science's greatest challenges in this century, and this study will contribute to this aim.

Dr Armaz Aschrafi, from the Institute of Molecular BioSciences, will study how protein synthesis at the connection points (synapses) of neurons is regulated, which could lead to new insights into how we learn and remember. Localised protein synthesis at synapses is essential for proper connections to be formed between neurons, and if it is not regulated correctly, this can lead to difficulties in learning and memory. An example is Fragile X syndrome, which leads to autism-like behaviours, and difficulties in learning speech. Protein synthesis is a multi-step process, controlled by a number of different regulator proteins, such as the mRNA-binding proteins. Dr Aschrafi will examine two members of this family of regulator proteins, known as RBM3 and CIRP. Previously, he has shown that over-expression of RBM3 in neurons enhances protein synthesis. Now, he will determine the extent to which RBM3 and CIRP influence protein synthesis at specific steps. This will give new insights into the steps involved in protein synthesis in synapses. Ultimately, the research should lead to an increased understanding of the basic processes that underlie memory formation.

Dr Shane Telfer, from the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, will investigate a new class of catalytically active materials, created using recent advances in nanotechnology. A catalyst is a substance which increases the rate of a chemical reaction without itself being changed in the process. Catalysis is important for both fundamental science and practical applications, for example, catalytic processes are central to solar energy conversion, the action of enzymes, and pollution control in motor vehicles. Recently, materials chemists have been developing ways to arrange individual molecules into precisely ordered arrays, producing new 'nano-structured' materials that are more finely engineered than anything ever made before. These have a huge variety of current and potential applications. Dr Telfer's aim is to integrate this technology with the field of catalysis, designing and fabricating a completely new class of catalytically active materials. In previous work, they have devised a strategy by which active catalytic sites may be embedded within nano-structured materials, and these sites may be programmed to catalyse a wide variety of chemical reactions. Dr Telfer will now investigate these materials

in more detail, producing important basic knowledge which may lead to valuable practical applications such as cleaner, greener industrial processes.

Dr Sarah Ross, from the School of English and Media Studies, will study political poetry written by Englishwomen in the 17th century, examining female poets' engagements in the politics of the time. This was a tumultuous era in England, with discontent, civil war, and restoration. In the last decade, knowledge of women's writing in early modern England (1500-1700) has expanded a great deal, as a large number of new texts authored by women have been recovered from British and American archives. However, many of the newly-discovered texts have not yet been analysed. The politics of early modern women's writing has become an increasing area of critical discussion and debate in feminist and historical research, covering domestic, religious, court and state concerns. Research to date says manuscript before 1640 focuses on the domestic, religious and court side, whereas manuscript after the 1640s engages in high state politics. Dr Ross will show, however, that the newly-discovered political poetry modifies this division, and that examining all the types of politics together, no matter what the time period, can lead to a better understanding of the multiple and diverse politicised voices of women in seventeenth-century England.

Dr Nikki Hessel, from the Department of Communication and Journalism, will study the parliamentary reporting carried out by two well-known literary authors: novelist Charles Dickens and dictionary compiler Samuel Johnson. Parliamentary reporting may seem a long way from literature, but several well-known literary authors were involved in this activity during their career. Both Dickens and Johnston produced reports that were not only well-written, but also marketable and appropriate. Johnson worked at a time when parliamentary reporting was still technically illegal, and compiled his reports from other journalists' notes, inventing pseudonyms for politicians to avoid prosecution. A century later, Dickens was part of the well-organised, legal, parliamentary press corps that prided itself on accurately capturing politicians' speeches. Dr Hessel will show how the pair wrote their reports and what made them successful. The project is part of a wider study that will also investigate the parliamentary reporting of Samuel Taylor Coleridge, and New Zealand author Robin Hyde. The project will advance knowledge of the journalism carried out by literary authors, which has previously been largely ignored, even in studies of the most well-known writers.

Associate Investigators:

Professor Kerry Chamberlain, from the School of Psychology in Auckland, will assist Waikato University's Dr Darrin Hodgetts and Linda Nikora in a study of New Zealand's homeless, which received a \$795,342 grant.

cer, from the Institute of Fundamental Sciences will assist Associate Professor Keith Gordon of Otago University in a project called Understanding charge-carrier flow in electroluminescent materials which received a \$565,000 grant.

Dr Barbara Holland will assist Dr Schmid, and **Dr Shane Harvey** and **Dr Juliana Raskauskas** will assist Professor Ian Evans (see above).

Created: 25 September, 2006

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Funding

2006 College Research Awards

College Research Awards are a new category introduced by the University to identify outstanding researchers at college level and broaden the base of research excellence by recognising the unique contributions each college makes to the performance and status of the organisation.

Individual awards

Professor David Lambert (College of Sciences), [featured here](#).

Professor Paul Spoonley (College of Humanities and Social Sciences). A leading light in the Building Research Capacity in the Social Sciences consortium, a collaborative multi-university venture formed two years ago with an \$8 million grant from the Tertiary Education Commission. His work, which includes 44 refereed articles and 21 books, has a focus on racism and the extreme right, and on patterns of immigration and immigrant culture.

Professor Spoonley represents New Zealand on the Metropolis International Steering Committee for the study of international migration.

Professor Klaus-Dieter Schewe (College of Business), [featured here](#).

Early Career awards

Dr Barbara Holland (College of Sciences), [featured here](#).

Dr Paul Plieger (College of Sciences). Last year Dr Plieger was awarded a Fast-Start Marsden Grant, was given approval to purchase a microwave reactor, and initiated a research contract with Los Alamos National Laboratory. He has 23 publications in international refereed journals, including nine in the past three years, with seven of them in them in the top 10 chemistry journals. His current research is in the field of supramolecular chemistry, the study of molecular assembly using weak forces.

Dr Jaspreet Singh (College of Sciences). Spanning a broad range of areas in Food Science and Technology, Dr Singh's research work includes understanding the effect of starch granule on morphology on the various properties, modifications and food applications of starches. He has produced publications in peer-reviewed international journals and is currently researching starches isolated from different New Zealand potato cultivars.

Dr Margaret Walshaw (College of Education). Dr Walshaw's research examines various aspects of the relationship between mathematics and education, and contributes to critical scholarship within sociology, education, gender studies, and history making use of postmodern, feminist mathematics and educational history. She has been awarded a Teaching and Learning Research Initiative grant of \$180,000 from the New Zealand Council of Educational Research as co-principal investigator for a two-year study and she is the editor-in-chief of the Australasian Referred Mathematics Education Research Journal.

Dr Sarah Ross (College of Humanities and Social Sciences), [featured here](#).

Dr Anders Warell (College of Creative Arts) was instrumental in establishing the Centre for Affective Product Design, of which he is the inaugural director, and has played a key role in linking the Centre's objectives with wider industry and government policy. He is a member of the Institute for Design for Industry Development Research Committee.

Dr Sebastian Link (College of Business) has published more than 40 articles in prestigious international journals and conferences for his work which is considered to be on the leading edge of international research in database theory. He has received a Fast-Start Marsden Grant from the Royal Society. Since 2002 he has been associate investigator of the Information Science Research Centre at the University, and his current research is concerned with different areas of database research including extended markup language, conceptual data modelling, and natural language processing.

Supervisors awards

Professor Lawrence Rose (College of Business). A foundation head of the Commerce Department since 1998, Professor Rose guided the establishment of a strong research culture. His own research in finance has attracted him high esteem from his peers both in New Zealand and internationally. He was recently appointed Pro Vice-Chancellor of the College.

Professor Wayne Edwards (College of Education) is the only university academic in New Zealand who holds a professorial appointment in the field of educational leadership and administration. His specialised research interests include leadership, evaluation and organisational improvement, organisational culture, qualitative research, the use and development of grounded theory and ethnography as a research approach. In conjunction with the Education Review Office, Professor Edwards established the Postgraduate Diploma in Evaluation.

Professor Barry Scott (College of Sciences). Since his appointment as Professor of Molecular Genetics at the University in 1985, Professor Scott has supervised 21 PhDs, nine MScs and 11 BSc(Hons)/DipSci students.

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Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business; College of Creative Arts; College of Education; College of Humanities & Social Sciences; College of Sciences

2006 Postdoctoral Fellowships

These fellowships recognise researchers with established records, allowing them to employ a postdoctoral student to carry out research on their behalf or to conduct the research themselves.

Dr Fiona Alpass, from the School of Psychology, for her project Cultural Pathways to Retirement.

The project will investigate the cultural and ethnic influences on the retirement process.

It will complement a Health Research Council-funded project on the health of older people in the transition from work to retirement. Analysing data from that project will enable the research team to make comparisons with longitudinal data from the United States and 11 European countries.

The project will study the factors influencing continued labour force participation decisions, such as the ability to work, financial need, and the desire to continue working. Comparisons will be made across Māori, European, Pacific and Asian groups in New Zealand and internationally, with a focus on indigenous people and new immigrant groups.

Dr Isabel Castro from the Institute of Natural Resources receives a Fellowship for her project, Predator-prey Interactions in New Zealand.

The project aims to study the ecology of predators and their prey in order to develop better management of introduced mammalian pest populations.

The traditional response to predation has been to kill the predators. This has backfired on many occasions because of the consequent ecological responses by other predators and prey. For example, eradicating feral cats may cause an increase in other pest populations such as rats, which are preyed on by cats.

The project will establish baseline data about the numerical and functional relationships between vertebrate predators and prey in a defined New Zealand ecosystem. This will enable future experiments leading to more effective pest management.

The two-year project will study feral cats, ship rats, kiwi, ruru and other forest bird species on an island in the Hauraki Gulf.

Professor Martin Hazelton, from the Institute of Information Sciences and Technology, and Professor Nigel French from the EpiCentre for their project, Spatial Models of Animal Diseases.

The fellowship will fund the appointment of a postdoctoral fellow, to improve collaboration and productivity of statisticians and epidemiologists.

The project aims to develop new statistical methods for analysing spatial data on the determinants of veterinary diseases. It aims to apply these methods to designing better disease surveillance. Better surveillance systems would improve our preparedness for infectious diseases, such as foot and mouth disease or bird flu.

The project will benefit veterinary public health, biosecurity and disease control organisations.

Professor Janina Mazierska from the Institute of Information Sciences and Technology for her project on Cellular Low Temperature Co-fired Ceramic-based Filters.

The project could lead to smaller and lighter wireless communication devices such as cell phones.

Progress in electronic systems has been achieved through the miniaturisation of active components and circuits, such as transistors and silicon chips. However passive components such as capacitors and inductors have only halved in size over the past 50 years.

The size and capability of cell phones is determined by passive circuits, so new technologies aimed at their miniaturisation are required. Low temperature co-fired ceramic based filters are emerging as the most efficient and powerful way of achieving this.

The fellowship will fund the appointment of a postdoctoral fellow to develop advanced microwave filters for wireless telephone handsets based on new LTCC technologies. Results are expected to have a significant

potential for commercialisation.

Dr Jasna Rakonjac from the Institute of Molecular BioSciences for her project, Unlocking the Gate of a Giant Channel.

The project has two aims: first, to determine the structure of pIV secretin at atomic resolution; and second, to investigate how opening of the secretin is triggered by its payload.

Secretins are gigantic outer membrane channels of bacteria. They can be open or closed, like a gate. When open, genetic material or disease-causing toxins can exit the bacteria, including those that lead to cholera, salmonella or gastric ulcers.

The project will identify and characterise the gate of secretin pIV, a safe and easily amenable model secretin channel that exports filamentous bacteriophage from non-pathogenic Escherichia coli strain K12.

If successful, high resolution studies of the structure of the protein pIV will significantly increase understanding of how an important group of bacterial proteins work. Understanding the secretin gate will help combat bacterial diseases.

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Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Auckland; College of Business; College of Creative Arts; College of Education; College of Humanities & Social Sciences; College of Sciences; Palmerston North; Wellington

2006 Māori Awards

Four Māori academics have been awarded research funding through the annual University Māori Awards. Like the Women's Awards, these awards provide up to \$10,000 to enable researchers to take time away from administrative and teaching duties to write up research results or to collect and analyse further data.

Jhanitra Gavala - MSocSc (Hons), PGDipEdPsych, MNZPsS

Jhanitra Gavala (Ngāpuhi), lecturer and registered psychologist at the School of Psychology in Palmerston North has been granted an award for his doctoral research aimed at identifying the tensions, problems and issues around the formation of contemporary Māori identity.

Mr Gavala says identity is an important issue because it is a cornerstone of psychological well-being. Given the diversity of Māori lifestyles, an analysis is warranted.

The research will initially focus on personal identity. I am interested in the factors and influences that shape the individual. The latter part of the research will examine social identity, place attachment, and identity formation.

His thesis, Ngā Take o Te Tuakiri Māori: Issues Surrounding Contemporary Identity Formation, will also assist Māori psychologists and practitioners to gain a better understanding of issues for Māori in society.

This research also contributes to the body of research on the need for a greater understanding of national identity, which the Government has identified as a priority.

Mr Gavala has worked with youth with severe behavioural and emotional difficulties and has clinical experience with adults experiencing severe psychological disturbances.

Kura Puke

Māori Visual Arts Masters student and lecturer Kura Puke (Te Ati Awa) has been granted an award to assist in the completion of a set of illuminated animated tukutuku panels.

The project, Muramura: Twinkling Mnemonics in the CBD, features a series of polished aluminium and acrylic panels featuring animated patterns created by fibre optic points illuminated by light-emitting diodes. Other features include variable timing, colour spectrum and intensity and pattern options that can be altered by remote control.

In some ways, these works are a radical departure from customary tukutuku patterns we see in whareniui [meeting houses], says Ms Puke. While they are constructed from modern materials and have a commercial and contemporary appearance, the concepts draw on Māori knowledge and values. The panels revitalise customary knowledge and call for a reconfiguration of our changing perception of environment, time, space and notions of reality.

They can be displayed as individual pieces, as an integrated series within a whareniui or as one large panel.

I chose to undertake a Masters in Māori Visual arts, under Professor Robert Jahnke at Te Pūtahi a Toi because of the expansive and exploratory theoretical foundations that underpin the programme within an arena of Māori visual culture. I was impressed by the standard of work and the integrity of the artists from the school.

Ms Puke is in her final year of a Masters in Māori Visual Arts and lectures at Massey's Auckland School of Design.

Dr Fiona Te Momo

Dr Fiona Te Momo (Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāti Konohi, Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Kahungunu) has received an award to help find out why there are low numbers of Māori enrolled in social work degrees.

Māori have a high rate of participation in voluntary services such as the Māori Women's Welfare League and the Māori Wardens Association. In comparison, we have much lower numbers enrolled in our social work programmes, or taking up social work as a career, Dr Te Momo says.

Her research among Māori in North Shore and Waitakere Cities will also focus on ways to build a relationship between Māori working in social services and the University, and to encourage whānau to pursue social services as a career pathway.

Dr Te Momo lectures in Māori development and social work at the Auckland campus. Areas of interest include volunteerism, community development, and development studies.

Her doctoral thesis focused on the development of practical research methodologies in Māori communities from a kaupapa Māori research perspective.

Nick Roskruge

Nick Roskruge (Te Ātiawa ki Taranaki, Ngāti Tama) a lecturer in horticulture and Māori resource studies in Palmerston North has been granted a Māori award for his doctoral project Hokia ki te whenua. His research aims to produce a decision-making model for the return to economic horticultural development of Māori land, based on tikanga Māori and modern technology.

Hokia ki te whenua aims to empower Māori to utilise their own land in a fully economic sense, Mr Roskruge says. Tino rangatiratanga [self-determination] is an important part of the empowerment process. So issues such as ownership of the knowledge gathered and access to that knowledge and its continued management are key issues for this project.

The project involves case studies with Māori groups including Wakatū Incorporation (Te Tau Ihu), Ngāti Parewahawaha (Bulls), Waioturi Marae (Patea), Tānehopuwai Marae (Te Kuiti) and Tui Tuia Trust (Te Tai Tokerau). Each group offers a unique approach to land assessment and utility that will contribute to the overall study.

Mr Roskruge has a long-term interest in assisting Māori who want to develop their lands economically. He led the Tūhoe Land Development project including the assessment of the viability of horticulture on a block of land in Rūātoki. The project also included assessment of soil resources with Ngāti Tāwhaki and assessment of education and training opportunities in horticulture for Tūhoe. Similar projects have been undertaken with Ngā Rauru in south Taranaki and a range of trusts and Māori landowners throughout the country.

He has also led projects looking into the commercial production of taewa Māori (Māori potatoes) with the Māori vegetable growers collective, Tahuri Whenua. The initial study looked at creating a seed bank for indigenous food crops and grew into agronomy work looking at best practice approaches for commercial and traditional Māori management practices.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Auckland; College of Business; College of Creative Arts; College of Education; College of Humanities & Social Sciences; College of Sciences; Maori; Palmerston North; Wellington

2006 Women's Awards

University Women's Awards enable staff involved in teaching or administrative work to take time out to write up research results for publication, or to collect and analyse further data. Each award is worth up to \$10,000.

Dr Karen Jillings is working on a research project that involves the translation, annotation and critical analysis of Scotland's earliest printed vernacular medical treatise, *Ane Breve Descriptoun of the Pest*. The treatise on the plague, by Aberdeen physician Gilbert Skene, was published during an outbreak in 1568.

Dr Jillings, a lecturer in the School of History, Philosophy and Politics, at Palmerston North, will make a research visit to Scotland where the only extant copy of the treatise is preserved in the National Library. Her project will result in a book containing a reprint of the original manuscript, with annotations and a commentary.

Aiqun Li is a lecturer in the School of Language Studies in Wellington whose PhD research is titled *A Study of Chinese Students' Learning Strategies in English Language Learning in New Zealand and China*. She observes that for many Chinese students studying in New Zealand, their language competence and learning styles may affect their ability to achieve their learning goals.

Her longitudinal study focuses on the learning strategies of a group of seven students who enrolled in a project jointly operated by the a university in New Zealand and a university. The students first study at the university in China before transferring to the university in New Zealand.

Ms Li's research will establish how these students prepare themselves for their overseas study and how they adapt after they start.

Dr Regina Scheyvens, a senior lecturer in the School of People, Environment and Planning at Palmerston North, specialised in research on tourism, particularly as it relates to poverty issues. Her new project is the re-working of her 2002 book, *Tourism for Development: Empowering Communities*, following an approach by Stirling University in Britain.

She intends turning her earlier book into a research monograph by removing case study material and providing a more comprehensive review of writing on tourism and development. In particular, this will require drawing on recent writing on the relationship between tourism and poverty alleviation.

Dr Kimberley Powell, a lecturer with the School of Arts, Development and Health Studies in the College of Education, based at Palmerston North, recently completed a research project funded by the Playcentre Federation titled *The Effect of Adult Playcentre Participation on the Creation of Social Capital in Local Communities*. She intends to use her award to write up the research for journal publication and conference submissions.

The research involved two stages: A national survey that targeted all playcentres in New Zealand, and a case study phase that looked at the perspectives of playcentre members in two rural and two urban communities.

Dr Penelope Shino, a lecturer in the School of Language Studies at Palmerston North has a project arising from her PhD research on the poetry of Shotetsu, a Zen monk of medieval Japan. She has undertaken a fully-annotated translation, with an interpretive introduction, of Shotetsu's travel diary *Nagusamegusa*.

She says *Nagusamegusa* is normally described as a travel work but is an intriguing composite of travel diary, love story and literary treatise, the art of poetry, and aesthetics. It is also a vivid social and historical document of life in 15th century Japan.

Dr Shino says Shotetsu records the lives of the provincial military elite as well as the lives of the common people, and the book provides a first-hand account of the transformation of Japan in the medieval era.

Dr Tammy Smith, a lecturer in the Institute of Fundamental Sciences at Palmerston North, has a research project called *Modelling Hydrothermal Eruptions*.

It will use laboratory, field, conceptual and mathematical models, as well as numerical simulation, to contribute significant new knowledge to the field. Dr Smith says this will help provide a better assessment of risk conditions so they can be avoided to provide a safer environment.

Hydrothermal eruptions are naturally-occurring violent events that are particularly common in New Zealand.

She says the problem of understanding the phenomenon has become increasingly important, with the need to reduce the risks to lives and property.

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Categories: Auckland; College of Business; College of Creative Arts; College of Education; College of Humanities & Social Sciences; College of Sciences; Palmerston North; Wellington

2006 Technicians' Awards

These awards provide for an annual salary of up to \$35,000 to be paid for two years to provide technical support and assistance for a specific research project undertaken by the recipients. This year's recipients are:

Dr Armaz Aschrafi and Dr Evelyn Sattlegger, Institute of Molecular BioSciences, are studying the role of protein synthesis regulators in the formation of long-term memory in the brain. In particular they will focus on the involvement of two translation regulators, IMPACT and GCN2, in the formation of memory. Drs Aschrafi and Sattlegger are experts in protein synthesis and Dr Aschrafi has expertise in investigating protein synthesis in neurons. Their study requires a steady supply of neuronal cultures, which due to their short life span, will have to be generated freshly and regularly from rat embryos. Dissociated neurons prepared from the rat brains will exhibit mature neuronal architecture and physiological properties necessary for the experiments. The award will fund a technician who is specialised in brain tissue culture techniques skills which could not be acquired by a PhD student while producing results within the three-year thesis period.

Professor Bob Hodgson, Institute of Information Sciences and Technology, aims to develop an intelligent digital microscope to be used in the automation of palynology the process of pollen counting and recognition. Palynology is an important tool in areas such as climate change research and health-related studies, and a recent European-centred register of palynologists listed 6000 practitioners. Professor Hodgson, an expert on digital image processing, has been part of a multidisciplinary group that has worked for more than six years towards an automated system. The other team members are: Professor John Flenley, an Oxford DSc who is internationally recognised for his applied palynology on Easter Island, Dr David Fountain, an expert on live pollen, Dr Steve Marsland, a 2005 Massey medallist and specialist in intelligent classifier design; Greg Arnold, an applied statistician, and Gary Allen, a masterate student. The award will fund a technician to refine the system and to run a number of research trials to demonstrate the effectiveness of the system and generate research results.

Dr Max Scott, Institute of Molecular BioSciences, leads a project supported by the Australian wool industry to study gene function in the Australian sheep blowfly. His team is developing a system for making transgenic or genetically-modified blowflies, and collaborates with University of Melbourne researchers, who are determining the DNA sequences of fragments of most of the blowfly genes. The genome project will underpin further new projects studying the unique biology of blowflies. Unlike microbes, blowflies cannot be stored frozen, and therefore all flies must be maintained in a labour-intensive regime of feeding (fresh water, protein-rich cookies and fresh liver). The award will fund a technician to assist with this project and with a proposed study of the genes expressed in the salivary glands of blowfly larvae. Sterile maggots are increasingly being used to treat inoperable wounds and stimulate wound healing in humans. The proposed project will determine which genes are most active in the larvae.

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Toning down the taste of lamb

The strong pastoral flavour of New Zealand lamb may be holding back export earnings, says Dr Nicola Schreurs.

Dr Schreurs' PhD research examined the presence of indole and skatole compounds in white clover grazed by lambs, which have been linked to a distinctive pastoral or poo flavour in the meat.

The low consumption of sheep meat in Asia, especially Japan, is partly related to its flavour and odour when cooking in which the pastoral flavour has a role, Dr Schreurs says.

She says the compounds are formed in the rumen (the first chamber in a sheep's stomach) and are then absorbed from the rumen to be deposited in the meat fat. Her PhD experiments showed that a greater percentage of the compounds was present in the rumen of sheep consistently fed on clover.

New Zealand and Australia are the primary countries from which Japan imports its lamb and mutton, but the consumption of both is comparatively low. Dr Schreurs says the Asian sector of the market for New Zealand sheep-meat is becoming increasingly wealthy and that there is a significant opportunity for the industry to increase export earnings if the troublesome flavours and odours can be minimised.

To do so, sheep should be grazed on finishing forage in the period before slaughter, she says. In particular, forages containing condensed tannin have the ability to reduce the formation of indole and skatole in the rumen. Such forages include: Birdsfoot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), Big trefoil (*Lotus pedunculatus*), Sulla (*Hedysarum coronarium*), and Canary clover (*Dorycnium rectum*). These forages have also been shown to increase livestock's resilience to internal parasites.

She says the forages are best sown as a separate crop, as conventional pasture species tend to crowd condensed tannin-containing species in mixed pasture. The length of grazing time required to remove pastoral flavours is not yet known and is the topic of current research.

Dr Schreurs says pastoral flavour problems have also been associated with beef, and that the grazing concepts in her research apply also to cattle.

"Finishing cattle on grain has been shown to remove pastoral flavours, but grain is impractical as a finishing feed for most New Zealand farmers. This is mainly due to the lack of facilities for mass feeding of grains and also because grain is an expensive feed compared to forages.

Dr Schreurs' PhD was supervised by Professor Tom Barry at Massey, and by Dr Geoff Lane, Dr Michael Tavendale and Dr Warren McNabb at AgResearch Grasslands. She was funded by the Foundation for Research Science and Technology and received a scholarship from the Agricultural Marketing and Research and Development Trust.

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Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture

Waiheke commute for top flight instructor

Flight instructor Mark Carter commutes to work from Waiheke Island to Palmerston North and says winning the country's top award for flight instruction makes the long trip even more worthwhile.

Mr Carter is Chief Flight Instructor with the School of Aviation. For lifestyle reasons, he and his wife want to continue to live on Waiheke, their home for the past six years.

Each Monday the trip to work involves a bus trip across the island, a ferry to central Auckland, another bus to the airport, then a flight to Palmerston North, where the Flight Systems Centre is next to the passenger terminal.

At the end of the week he repeats the sequence.

Mr Carter agrees that travelling so far to get to work is unusual but, for him, the cost and time are worth it. He is absolutely committed to his job at the School and its role in ensuring pilots are trained to the highest safety standards.

That contribution has been recognised by the Civil Aviation Authority, which recently awarded Mr Carter its Flight Instructor Award, intended to raise awareness of the importance of flight instruction to aviation safety. The annual award goes to a senior instructor who has shown leadership and management qualities by engaging visibly in activities within the industry through their organisations or individually .

School general manager Captain Ashok Poduval says the award reflects the high standing of Mr Carter and the school in the industry.

Director of Civil Aviation John Jones, who presented the award at the Aviation Industry Association's annual conference in Rotorua recently, said of Mr Carter: His management skills have been very apparent to our auditors and of obvious benefit to his training organisation.

Even so, he keeps abreast not only of new technology in aviation but also in teaching and learning methods and research. He is a truly professional aviator and an A-category instructor.

Mr Carter has a long history in aviation, becoming hooked as a young management trainee who, in his own words, did a bit of flying at the weekends . He joined the School of Aviation in 1998.

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Type: Features

Categories: College of Business; Explore - Aviation

Backpackers' economic importance to Samoa studied

Backpackers penny-pinching hedonists or independent travellers who aim to make the most of local opportunities?

Development researcher Dr Regina Scheyvens has defined the role of the backpacker in Samoa in a forthcoming paper to be published in the *Tourism Recreation Research* journal.

Dr Scheyvens, from the School of People, Environment and Planning, says the viewpoints of backpacker tourism among academics are as varied as those of governments in Third World countries, who may view the tourists as a comparatively less lucrative source of income.

Long-staying and low-spending, backpackers nonetheless contribute significantly to Samoa, especially to industry run from beachfront fale (thatched, open-sided huts).

In her paper *Sun, Sand and Fale*, Dr Scheyvens says the development of large hotels and resorts has often been held back by landowners who are reluctant to relinquish control of their communally held resources. As an alternative, local families have built low-cost beach accommodation in prime beach side locations.

Dr Scheyvens says the fale has proven a popular option among backpackers who, contrary to the stereotypical viewpoint of unkempt, impolite tourists, are generally considered by their hosts to be courteous and culturally sensitive.

Although beach fale tourism attracts backpackers and domestic tourists rather than high spending tourists, it contributes greatly to development because most economic benefits are retained locally, it is based upon local skills and resources, it involves cultural education of guests, and it does this all in the context of high levels of local ownership and participation.

She says this is important for government planners who ought not to be indifferent to the potential value of budget-style tourism, as in certain circumstances backpackers can play a significant role in supporting locally controlled forms of tourism which meet social and economic development objectives.

Citing examples from South Africa and India, where governments invested in tourism infrastructure to serve 'luxury' tourists, Dr Scheyvens says they have been influenced by the view that up-market tourism presents a 'win-win scenario'. This is based on the assumption that tourism earnings will remain high while attracting smaller numbers of tourists, leading to fewer negative social and environmental impacts.

This assumption fails, however, to recognise that luxury tourism requires facilities and accommodation that are environmentally taxing, for example, air-conditioning, heated swimming pools, and golf courses which require large amounts of chemicals and place enormous pressure on local water sources.

The economic argument is flawed because luxury tourism often requires foreign investment and profits are subsequently repatriated, and it is heavily reliant on imported goods and skills.

Samoa offers the best of life in the Pacific Islands sun, sand and sea but is unique among the islands for its grassroots fale enterprises.

Dr Scheyvens says that unlike the Fijian or Rarotongan model of medium-large scale resorts, the Samoan tourism industry is dominated by small-scale, locally owned and operated initiatives. The largest growth in tourism in recent years has been experienced in the beach fale sector.

Local people may prefer to cater for the backpacker segment because they feel they can retain greater control over the way in which tourism develops and own more tourism products and services than if the tourism moved up scale.

The fact the backpackers stick around longer means they may actually spend more than a luxury tourist, and spend over a wider geographic area, benefiting the more remote areas. They have the time to attend craft workshops and community festivities, they buy food and fruit from stalls and wood for fires.

Based on her interviews with backpackers, Dr Scheyvens calculates an average of US\$600 spent over two

weeks per person. A night in a fale, with dinner and breakfast included, costs between US\$18-30 per person. Most of the backpackers she interviewed put aside money for locally brewed beer, and to dive or hire a motorbike. Most stayed in Samoa for at least 10 days, a considerable time for a country whose two main islands can each be driven around in 24 hours.

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Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Cairns and Apec talks a chance for Doha revival

New developments since World Trade Organisation discussions collapsed this month are cause for optimism, according to Economics Professor Srikanta Chatterjee.

Australian Trade Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Mark Vaile has called a meeting of the Cairns group of agricultural exporters, including New Zealand, next month.

The meeting has been called specifically to discuss ways to resolve the problems that have dogged the Doha round and we should welcome this opportunity to share views, says Professor Chatterjee.

The World Trade Organisation talks were suspended by Director-General Pascal Lamy after representatives failed to reach agreement.

New Zealand has a strong vested interest in the talks, particularly their potential effect on tariffs and Trade Minister Phil Goff, dairy company Fonterra and Federated Farmers and have all expressed disappointment at the breakdown.

Professor Chatterjee says the Cairns meeting, to be held in the Queensland city it is named after, will be an important and influential forum. It will be attended by Mr Lamy, representatives of the United States and international farming leaders, including some from New Zealand.

He says it is also helpful that Apec, the organisation for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, is due to meet in Hanoi in November. New Zealand is a member and this will provide a further opportunity to discuss trade negotiation issues.

Professor Chatterjee warns that even if progress is made at the meeting, the timeframe for a resumption of the Doha round will remain very tight.

The deadline for the talks was extended from the end of last year to the end of this year, which is helpful. However, what is needed now is a decision by the United States Congress to extend the current fast track mandate.

While it exists, this mandate means that any decision by President George Bush, arising from the trade talks, needs only a straight yes or no from Congress. That mandate is due to expire next year .

Professor Chatterjee says the breakdown was largely a result of the disagreement between Europe and the United States on the extent of their respective agricultural import liberalisation offers, and the insistence of developing countries, led by Brazil and India, for more flexibility to protect their own markets on the grounds of food security and livelihood-dependence .

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Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Changing labour market which skills count?

The changing nature of New Zealand's job market is being blamed for the 30-year high in the shortage of skilled labour, which in turn is thwarting growth in some business sectors.

Examining the reasons behind this scenario and what could be done about it is the theme of Professor Paul Spoonley's professorial lecture titled 'Which Skills Count ?' at Massey's Auckland campus on 31 August.

Although unemployment statistics might be at an all-time low, and more people are obtaining job training and qualifications, there are still huge gaps in the job market.

Professor Spoonley, Regional Director Auckland and Research Director at the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, explores the future implications of this currently worrying state of affairs for employers and workers.

He points out that employer surveys by the Labour Market Dynamics Research Programme have recently confirmed that the unmet demand for skilled labour in trades such as mechanics, plumbers, electricians and construction workers, as well as in industries such as plastics is significant.

But more than that, employers are concerned at the lack of generic skills (ability to communicate, attitude) and at the inability of education and training providers to supply appropriately skilled workers, he says.

These concerns have been compounded by the rising expectations of employers given their demand for 'people skills' in a service-based economy, the ageing of the workforce and the role of replacement immigration labour, and delayed entry because of the numbers taking tertiary training and education.

The skilled labour shortage has major implications for productivity and competitiveness. Employers see this situation as the biggest constraint to growth .

The shortage of qualified tradespeople is, he feels, partly due to trades not being well promoted as job options, despite the possibility of high earnings.

Although the return of apprenticeships in recent times looks set to rejuvenate the numbers of qualified tradespeople in some areas, this has not replaced the training once offered through state-run industries such as the railways, post office and forestry.

Employers also expect more of their employees, not just in terms of qualifications but also attitude, communication skills, literacy and appearance, says Professor Spoonley.

This reflects the fact that an estimated 80 per cent of all employment is now in the service industry where many jobs involve a high level of customer service and interaction with the public.

Possible solutions lay in employers being more open to recruiting young people with little or no work experience, as well as immigrants.

Employers struggle with cultural diversity, and they struggle with Generation Y. Having said that, other employers make that a significant competitive advantage and go out of their way to employ migrants, he noted, citing the case of the Mt Albert Pak 'N Save supermarket, which has attracted positive news media attention as well as business accolades for its high percentage of Asian and African staff.

In his lecture, he will propose a conceptual change in the way we think about employment, education and training.

Lifetime employability, rather than lifetime employment, might be a more appropriate way to think about the skill sets that are needed in the future, he says.

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Type: Research

New Chairs to advance agricultural science

Two new Chairs in the Institute of Natural Resources will build on the University's strength in agricultural science.

Professors Peter Kemp and Jacqueline Rowarth will take up Chairs in Pasture Science and Pastoral Agriculture respectively.

Professor Russ Tillman, head of the institute, says the new positions align with the strategic aims of the campus, and will raise the University's profile in the agricultural industries.

Following the retirement of several staff in recent years, these new professorial appointments will enable Massey to build on its longstanding contributions in agricultural research and teaching, Professor Tillman says.

Professor Kemp takes up his new role this month. He came to Massey in 1985 from the University of New England, Australia, where he completed his PhD research on the efficiency of the acquisition of phosphate by temperate pasture species.

As a lecturer in the former Department of Agronomy, he specialised in plant science and later focused on the interactions between plants and animals at the applied end of agronomy.

Professor Tillman says Professor Kemp's international consultancy and research is invaluable to the institute. He has supervised the research of more than 20 PhD students from New Zealand and from Asia, South America and the Middle East.

He has taught for more than 20 years at all levels in undergraduate and postgraduate agricultural degrees in agronomy, eco-physiology, and agricultural systems.

The author of more than 100 refereed papers, Professor Kemp currently leads research programmes in the eco-physiology of pasture and forage crop species, hill pasture ecology and production, agronomic evaluation of perennial forage species, and the agronomy of grazing systems.

Professor Rowarth currently directs the Office for Environmental Programmes at the Melbourne University and will join Massey next year.

A specialist in plant physiology, plant nutrition, soil fertility and nitrogen transformations, she completed her PhD under the supervision of Professor Tillman as a research assistant in the University's Fertilizer and Lime Research Centre in the late 1980s.

From there she took up a research position at AgResearch Ltd, and in 1994 was appointed as a senior lecturer in plant physiology at Lincoln University. As the director of research, and dean of the graduate school at Unitec from 2000 to 2004, Professor Rowarth was responsible for quality in research and postgraduate affairs, managed the Performance-Based Research Fund process, and worked to develop Unitec's research culture and profile.

Professor Tillman says Professor Rowarth's extensive experience in both research and management are evident in more than 120 refereed publications and in hundreds of scientific articles and think-pieces published in the New Zealand Herald and the National Business Review.

She is a companion of the Royal Society of New Zealand, a fellow and honorary member of the Institute of Agricultural Science, an honorary research associate in the Institute of Natural Resources since 2005, and holds an honorary research position at the National Centre for Advanced Bio-Protection Technologies.

Professor Rowarth strives to attract the best young people into agriculture and into science in general, and her experience will ensure opportunities in research and funding, Professor Tillman says.

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Type: Awards and Appointments

Telling the doctors straight: I'm gay

Health workers, particularly nurses, need to stop making assumptions about patients' sexuality, say the authors of a paper published in the latest issue of Britain's Journal of Advanced Nursing.

Massey lecturers Dr Stephen Neville and Dr Mark Henrickson examined the perceptions of the gay and lesbian community on disclosing their sexual orientation to healthcare providers.

They found that patients telling healthcare providers they were gay or lesbian led to better outcomes for some but worse for others.

The pair want healthcare providers, and nurses in particular, to review the assumption many appear to have that all patients are heterosexual.

Dr Neville is a lecturer in the School of Nursing and Dr Henrickson a senior lecturer in the School of Social and Cultural Studies. Their paper is based on data gathered by the Lavender Islands project Dr Henrickson leads.

The project is thought to be the most comprehensive survey yet done on the lesbian, gay and bisexual communities and its findings are regularly quoted in reports and publications world-wide.

The healthcare research involved asking 2269 lesbian, gay and bisexual people how they felt about revealing their sexuality and, when they did so, the reaction they received from primary healthcare providers such as family doctors and practice nurses.

It's important that healthcare providers are aware of people's sexuality as non-disclosure has been shown to have a negative impact on their health, says Dr Neville.

For example, people who are lesbian, gay or bisexual are more likely to face an increased risk of suicide, depression and other mental health problems.

Previous studies have shown that people are more likely to seek healthcare and adhere to treatment regimes if they know that healthcare providers will be comfortable with their sexuality and not automatically assume they are heterosexual.

Being aware of a patient's sexual orientation enables healthcare providers to tailor care to their individual needs and tackle any risk areas, in the same way that they would do by taking any other personal characteristics, such as a person's age, race or family health history into account.

A number of health problems do tend to be more prevalent in lesbian, gay and bisexual people and in the era of HIV and hepatitis B and C, appropriate sex and lifestyle healthcare education must be a core part of any health assessment.

The first published research in nursing literature on this subject was in 1995 when it was identified that homophobia within nursing led to substandard care for homosexuals and bisexuals.

The findings from the Lavender Islands study suggest that healthcare providers tend to react more positively to men who reveal they are not heterosexual than they do to women.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Explore - HEALTH

Rats, fires and volcanoes tell settlers' story

Ideas about how and when Māori first arrived in New Zealand have changed radically over the past few decades. The debate continues, but many people are stuck in the past, according to history professor, Kerry Howe.

Theories of early settlement based on the existence of a primitive people, the Moriori, who were wiped out by the arrival of the Great Fleet of migrating eastern Polynesians, formed the basis of our history until relatively recently.

Professor Howe says it's likely that many New Zealanders in their 40s and beyond probably still think this version now shown to be flawed and inaccurate is the correct one because this is what they were taught at school.

His forthcoming professorial lecture on 3 August one of several being held at the Auckland campus throughout the month by academics from different disciplines provides the chance for a wider audience to update their knowledge about New Zealand's first inhabitants.

Professor Howe, who has been at the forefront of academic research in New Zealand and Pacific history for more than 30 years, will discuss how and why the Great Fleet theory, as well as other ideas on Māori settlement widely accepted up until the 1960s, have been discredited. The subject was thoroughly addressed in his 2003 book *The Quest for Origins* (Penguin), which examined the controversy over who first discovered and settled New Zealand and the Pacific Islands.

In the lecture, he follows on from the themes of his book by considering recent scientific evidence such as rat-nibbled seed pods, the presence of bracken fern that replaced burned forests and the role of volcanic ash for dating first human presence.

Such evidence serves to contradict some of the enduring colonial interpretations of early settlement articulated by Percy Smith (1840-1922), New Zealand's surveyor-general, co-founder and co-editor of the Polynesian Society and its journal.

The popular 19th century Great Fleet theory created by Smith was the product of its colonial context and reveals more about the pakeha perceptions at that time than it does about historical actuality, Professor Howe says in an introduction to his lecture, titled *Of rats, fires, volcanoes...when did humans first arrive in New Zealand*.

Modern discoveries have highlighted early human impact on plants and animals in New Zealand and provide a marvellous view of how human societies interact with their environment over time, Professor Howe says.

In this sense, he says, New Zealand is a unique showcase since what happened here was compressed into a very short period of time a matter of just a few hundred years by comparison with many tens of thousands of years that it took to happen in Eurasia, Africa or Australia.

Professor Howe is deeply involved in *Vaka Moana Voyagers of the Ancestors*, a major exhibition about the story of migration and settlement of the vast Pacific Ocean.

It is due to open at the Auckland War Memorial Museum at the end of 2006, and it will tour internationally for several years. He is also editing a large scholarly volume to accompany the exhibition.

Created: 31 July, 2006

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Common sense combats food poisoning

A ban on the sale of fresh chicken meat is not the answer to preventing outbreaks of campylobacteriosis, says food microbiologist Associate Professor John Brooks.

He says recent reports and subsequent debate over the comparatively high incidence of campylobacteria outbreaks in New Zealand has been triggered by incomplete information.

No clear mode of transmission has been established between chicken meat and humans. Campylobacter is also found in cattle and sheep, ducks and domestic pets, while water and dairy farm effluent have also been found frequently to be contaminated.

Allowing only frozen chicken to be sold as suggested by an Otago University researcher will not eliminate the contamination, says Dr Brooks.

Freezing does not destroy all the campylobacter, and so may not provide the hoped-for protection from food-borne illness, he says.

The number of bacteria needed for infection to occur differs. For many types of bacteria this is in excess of 100,000 bacterial cells, but for campylobacter the infecting dose may be as low as six cells.

He says there is also confusion about the contamination of chicken carcasses in the food processing chain. Campylobacter cannot grow below about 30 degrees Celsius, which means it can't grow during processing. The bacteria are found in the gut of animals and birds, so spillage of faeces onto the carcass or cross contamination during processing is the most likely route.

Dr Brooks says poultry farmers and the industry generally have made strenuous attempts to eradicate campylobacter in chicken flocks a difficult feat as campylobacter cells are also found in flies.

Infection spreads through a rearing house like wildfire, and birds are transported to the processing facility in cages, so further cross contamination can occur.

In the kitchen, thawing of frozen chicken can have its own hazards. The release of moisture can cause cross-contamination of surfaces and other foods.

Dr Brooks says the thorough cooking of chicken will destroy the campylobacter.

We don't know how many of the reported cases of campylobacteriosis were caused by undercooking of chicken on the barbeque, but we do know that it is difficult to ensure even heating of chicken pieces. This is quite different from barbecuing slices of red meat, which are essentially sterile on the inside and so can be cooked rare with no risk to the consumer.

He says education must be a priority for the control of food poisoning.

It is common for raw foods to contain pathogens, and the consumer must take some responsibility for controlling food poisoning by preventing cross-contamination in the kitchen and cooking raw foods properly.

Created: 31 July, 2006

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - HEALTH

The lyrics of physics poetry in motion

Are angels Ok? asked the poet. Angels are just fine, replied the physicist.

This conversation between Bill Manhire and Professor Paul Callaghan seeded an uncommon collaboration between New Zealand writers and physicists.

The result was Are Angels Ok? an anthology of poetry and short fiction inspired by the physical laws of the universe.

The profound concepts of space-time, quarks and anti-matter, the death of the sun, and the end of the universe were tackled by more than ten writers for the project, including Professor Tony Signal.

From the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, Professor Signal contributed a poem to the anthology alongside Witi Ihimaera, Elizabeth Knox, Vincent O'Sullivan, Catherine Chidgey and Glenn Colquhoun among others.

Professor Signal was paired with writer and general practitioner Dr Colquhoun as a scientific adviser and sounding-board. In the course of their conversations about Newton's Laws of Motions he wrote his own piece about the creation of the universe.

It was great fun, to reinterpret the equations of physics poetically. The equations of physics are not unlike poetry, Professor Signal says.

Dr Colquhoun wrote a haiku for each of the four Maxwell equations, and turned the three Newtonian Laws of Motion on their head with a series of limericks.

Many theories in physics are about things that react with each other, and Glen has made an incredible job of putting these theories into a human context.

Dr Colquhoun says the project was a re-discovery of his love for physics which, despite his passion, he had failed more than once.

Physics was the best-looking girl in the room. She only went out with the best-looking boys. I was the guy she should have married. She never knew it. I would have treated her right. I told her she'd be back, and now she is, Dr Colquhoun says.

Are Angels Ok? was published at the end of May by Victoria University and was presented at the Cheltenham Festival of Science in June. It is available at a discounted price for members of the Royal Society of New Zealand, and details of its distribution can be found at: <http://www.vuw.ac.nz/vup/recenttitles/areangelsok.htm>

Created: 14 July, 2006

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Fortified milk hits store shelves

More than seven years of human nutritional trials and research are behind the commercialisation of a fortified milk product by dairy giant Fonterra.

Professor Marlene Kruger, leader of the human nutrition research group in the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, oversaw a trial involving 90 Manawatu women between the ages of 20 and 35.

The trial investigated the effect on bone health of a fortified milk product (Anlene) recently launched on the New Zealand market. Professor Kruger says the product has been sold in Asia for several years, and that the Institute has conducted research to guide adjustments to the formulation throughout this time.

Coordinated by Chris Booth, the intensive nutritional trials required that one group of participants consume milk drinks twice a day for four months. Participants were asked to keep a diary of their daily food intake, and these were assessed by nutritionist Dr Jane Coad.

From the blood tests, the researchers analysed markers in the blood which indicate the extent of calcium absorption, and the extent of bone formation and bone break-down.

A consultant with Fonterra Brands, Professor Kruger says vitamin K is crucial to the activation of one of the bone proteins responsible for binding calcium in the bone matrix. The results from the trials support the link between vitamin K, calcium absorption and bone formation.

The dietary data and blood tests indicated that many of the young women were deficient of vitamin K, and studies overseas have shown that low vitamin K status is related to hip fracture in the older population, Professor Kruger says.

The study was done in younger women as it is important for young females to optimise their bone mineral content early in life. It is like putting money into the bank for retirement. The more bone one has at the age of 25 years, the lower the risk for developing osteoporosis in older age.

She says the food diaries showed that most women were getting a reasonable amount of calcium in their diets.

The boosted level of vitamin K (also found in green vegetables), however, made the difference to bone strength.

Created: 14 July, 2006

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Sweet tooth we're born that way

It's official: when the kids say yuk to the taste of food, their parents are most unlikely to change their minds.

Children are born with an inherent liking for sweet things, says food science guru, Professor Ray Winger.

Professor Winger, from the University's Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, is the expert on a series on taste being played on National Radio's consumer affairs programme, This Way Up.

Taste, although it starts out in the mouth, is a brain sensation, says Professor Winger.

On the programme he will explain the basics related to what and how we taste and some of the difficulties faced in producing food products consumers will be sure to like.

There are four things we taste on our tongues sweet, sour, salt and bitter. Our thousands of taste buds give one of these four taste reactions, depending on where they are located. The sweet ones are mostly on the tip of the tongue, the taste buds on the sides at the front are for detecting salty tastes, those at the rear top of the tongue for bitter and the ones on the sides at the back are for sour. To trigger a sweet taste takes a lock and key effect, says Professor Winger, when a molecule of the right shape hits the taste bud with the right fit to trigger the nerve.

There is no change in each person's taste over a lifetime, says Professor Winger. However, sweet comes first and typically it's not until the teenage years that tastes like tea and coffee will appeal, he says.

Most young children just don't like foods that don't give them a sweet taste, and it's very difficult to get them to eat anything else, he says.

Understanding taste and how to strike it right with consumers of all ages is an ongoing challenge in the development of food products, he says. It was a major difficulty when low fat and low sugar products were introduced. The substitutes didn't trigger the same taste sensations.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - HEALTH

Veterinary software destined for the Swiss

A multi-million dollar animal management and biosecurity system developed by animal health researchers is being used by the Swiss federal government.

In its first phase of implementation, Kodavet software has been built specifically for the Swiss Federal Veterinary Office.

Professor Hugh Blair and Bill te Brake, from the Institute of Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Sciences, say the software is designed and developed to manage any type of animal activity. It can track the life of an animal from birth to death, including any treatments or diseases it had, movements from one farm to another, and movements from a farm to a meat-processing plant.

It also maps the outbreak of disease that may have occurred in the area it resided, and documentation of an animal's health including health certificates, movement certificates, treatment advice and final slaughter information can be retrieved and analysed.

The data being input into the Swiss Kodavet system comes from federal and industrial Swiss databases and, in addition to the data outlines above, includes general information about processors, pet stores and other organisations and businesses who manage and handle animals.

Professor Blair and Mr te Brake say Kodavet may eventually incorporate existing software tools developed through the EpiCentre and specialise animal health and epidemiology under the direction of Professor Roger Morris. These tools include EpiMAN (used in the 2001 foot and mouth outbreak in Britain) and Interspread Plus.

The second phase of Kodavet will be completed by August this year and will include geographic information systems, disease management systems, and incident management. Kodavet will be also used as a platform technology to develop a veterinary animal information management system called VeTech. With contributions from Pfizer and Veterinary Enterprises, VeTech will be marketed internationally at its completion in 2007.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture; School of Veterinary Science

Commitment to research centres applauded

The success of New Zealand's seven Centres of Research Excellence has prompted government support for the centres beyond 2008.

Professor Mike Hendy, co-director of the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution, says the centre welcomes the announcement by Tertiary Education Minister Dr Michael Cullen.

This investment in the research environment has proven very beneficial, as recognised by the Government, and anticipated by the Allan Wilson Centre, Professor Hendy says.

Hosted by the University, the centre is a collaboration of ecologists, evolutionary biologists and mathematicians from Massey and Victoria universities and the universities of Canterbury, Auckland and Otago.

Professor Hendy says the opportunities to work with researchers from five universities are invaluable for the centre's postgraduate students. He says the Government's support of the centres generally ensures they are well-resourced, and plan confidently under a comparatively longer-term funding commitment.

Established by the Government in 2001, the centres' goals are to produce research focused on New Zealand's future development. Each has several partners including other universities, Crown Research Institutes, wānanga and private research groups. The existing centres, hosted by Massey, Auckland, Victoria and Lincoln, have been awarded funding until 2008 and a contestable selection round for funding after 2008 will be held later this year.

The University is a partner in the National Centre for Advanced Bio-Protection Technologies, a CoRE hosted by Lincoln University which aims to meet the biosecurity and pest management needs of plant-based primary industries and natural ecosystems. It is also a partner in the National Centre for Growth and Development, hosted by the University of Auckland, and which concentrates on the biology of early development and its life-long consequences for health and disease.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: Any

Partnerships with Thailand paying off

The University's three-year strategy of targeting educational partnerships with Thailand is paying off as more Thai students move to New Zealand to complete PhDs.

If a current program proves to be a success, up to 200 Thai Government officials are expected on English language courses at the University over the next 18 months.

An initial group of 14 senior staff from the Commission on Higher Education recently completed an intensive seven-week course at the University's Centre for University Preparation and English Language Studies.

They also took part in a shadowing programme, spending time with Tertiary Education Commission and University staff working in similar roles, including some of the most senior management and academic staff in veterinary science, planning and finance, human resources, academic monitoring and evaluation, education, administration, quality assurance, training development, and sport and recreation.

The commission is responsible for all Thailand's tertiary education at graduate and undergraduate levels.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Warrington, who presented certificates to the group at a function at Wharerata, describes the contract to train the officials here as a major coup for the Centre, which had beaten off competition from similar centres in Australia, Britain and the United States.

Those attending hold very influential positions in the civil service in Thailand and their positive comments on our programmes and pastoral care bode well for us achieving the goal of having successive groups coming to do their training here, Professor Warrington says.

Other groups, comprised of academic and administrative staff from Thai universities who are undertaking similar courses, are already generating enquiries for PhD studies .

Centre director Andrea Flavel says the importance of this relationship to the University should not be underestimated.

Personnel from the commission have been hand-picked by the deputy secretary-general to come to New Zealand to develop key relationships and an understanding of the tertiary environment, as well as the ability to communicate directly with English speaking counterparts, Ms Flavel says.

Officials from bureaus within the commission are responsible for human capacity-building with universities and research institutions, and international cooperation and networks.

We are confident that the linkages we are developing will result in increased opportunities for the University and its staff. The feedback from the current participants has been extremely positive, and planning is under way for the next group of 30 participants.

Created: 16 June, 2006

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any

Unhealthy eating habits ingrained early

Children as young as three are establishing bad eating habits that are likely to last for the rest of their lives, a study of preschoolers' eating habits suggests.

The same study shows boys are less likely to eat their vegetables than girls and that difference emerges in the very young, setting many children up for a lifetime battle with obesity and other diet-related health problems.

Academics from Massey, Auckland and Victoria universities have produced the longitudinal study, the first of its kind in New Zealand.

Dr Clare Wall from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, says the children, all aged three-and-a-half when the initial survey was done, will be followed through to adulthood by the researchers.

Results of a survey of their eating habits as seven-year-olds will be available within a year.

The first study, published in the New Zealand Medical Journal found preschoolers are being fed too many muesli bars, chips and soft drinks and not enough bread, fruit and vegetables.

Just over a quarter of the sample ate the recommended two or more servings of fruit a day, and only around half ate the recommended two or more servings of vegetables.

Only 7 per cent ate enough breads, cereals, rice and pasta. Dr Wall says this is of concern because these foods are high in energy and are a significant contributor of dietary folate and iron for children .

Twelve per cent of the children ate treats such as muesli bars and potato chips, which tend to be high in sugar and fat, three or more times daily.

On the brighter side, 88 per cent ate meat, fish, eggs or chicken at least daily, with chicken the most frequently consumed, and 86 per cent consumed dairy products or milk at least twice daily, in line with Health Ministry recommendations.

Nearly two-thirds of the children drank milk daily, a higher proportion than New Zealand school-aged children and consistent with other findings that milk consumption decreases with age.

Pre-school boys were less likely to eat vegetables at recommended levels than girls and were also less likely to consume reduced-fat milk and low-fat milk. Dr Wall says these gender differences in dietary patterns are similar to those found in New Zealand adults.

The researchers described the results as a grim prognosis, given that existing research suggests a lifetime's eating habits are established in childhood.

Dr Wall also stresses that the 600 children studied were of a higher than average socio-economic status.

That means the results of the study are almost certainly conservative: the proportion of children in the general population eating fruit, vegetables, breads, and cereals at recommended levels is likely to be lower than reported in this study.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Give-and-take benefits employment relations

Employers of Pacific Islanders could enjoy better staff relations if they properly understood their workers' give-and-take attitude, says psychology lecturer Karin Menon.

Ms Menon, from the School of Psychology, has done research showing Pacific Islanders consider the workplace an extension of family and community, and will provide service and loyalty beyond their contractual obligations.

That means doing things like covering for sick workmates and working overtime, but they expect this goodwill to be recognised when they, in turn, request time off for bereavements or other family issues.

Her study, *The Practice of Reciprocity among Pacific Island Peoples in Employment Relations in New Zealand*, was co-written with University social sciences lecturer Tafa Mulitalo and an employment relations lecturer at Auckland University of Technology, Mac Vaoiva Tofilau.

Ms Menon says the findings, which she is presenting this month at a conference in Italy, reflect a growing international trend towards businesses recognising cultural diversity in the way they manage staff, with money not the only goal or incentive in achieving a positive work environment.

While the notion of reciprocity is not explicit or formalised in most work places where Pacific Islanders are employed, employers should be encouraged through cultural training courses to become aware of it, Ms Menon says.

Reciprocity can be defined as a give-and-take process, meaning that one act of giving begets another. It simply means, you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours.

She says Pacific Islanders apply this principle in their daily lives, emphasising values such as courtesy, respect, compassion, trust and charity towards people at home and at work.

Failure to understand and appreciate this invisible dynamic in the workplace can result in workers feeling exploited and undervalued, ultimately becoming demoralised and even quitting.

In one case she cites, a Pacific Island woman had been working for a social agency as a caregiver for three years. On several occasions she sacrificed her morning and lunch breaks to cover for absent staff. Over time, this turned into a pattern in which she was regularly asked to stand in for absent employees.

As a woman born in Samoa, this employee was brought up with cultural values that taught her loyalty towards her family and the church.

When management asked her to cover for her colleagues, she willingly agreed because she regarded her working place as part of her extended family.

She was also influenced by the spirit of giving by demonstrating her willingness to step in whenever management approached her.

However, when she was refused a week's bereavement leave to attend her sister's funeral in Samoa, it dawned on her that the company was not prepared to reciprocate the goodwill she had displayed. She left the job, and several other women employees followed her.

Ms Menon cites Auckland Mayor and cereal manufacturer Dick Hubbard as a well-known example of an employer who understands how reciprocity operates among Pacific Island workers.

As one of the leading members of the Businesses for Social Responsibility movement, Mr Hubbard rewarded his Samoan staff members with a free trip to Samoa for a long weekend in 1998 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the business.

While Pacific Islanders are aware that reciprocation may not always occur on a turn-by-turn basis, there was always a right time and opportunity for returning favours, Ms Menon discovered.

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Research professor elected to Royal Society

Professor Peter Schwerdtfeger has been elected to the Royal Society of New Zealand council.

A Professor of Theoretical Chemistry in the Institute of Fundamental Sciences based at the University's Auckland campus, he replaces Chemistry Professor Andrew Brodie, who was not eligible for re-election after serving on the council for four years.

The other Massey member of the council is Professor Gaven Martin, who represents mathematical and information sciences. Professor Schwerdtfeger joined the University two years ago and leads the Centre of Theoretical Chemistry and Physics.

In Germany he attended Stuttgart University and moved to Auckland University in the mid 1980s.

Highlights in his academic career include: the Alexander von Humboldt Feodor Lynen Award (1987); the SGS prize for excellence in basic research from the New Zealand Institute of Chemistry (1994); Fellowship of the Royal Society of New Zealand (1997); Fellowship of the New Zealand Institute of Chemistry (1998); Hector Medal (2001); James Cook Fellowship (2001-2003).

He has also attracted substantial funding with Marsden Awards in 1996 worth \$570,000, in 1999 (\$590,000) and in 2003 (\$630,000).

Created: 29 August, 2006

Date: 24/08/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences

Maths website aimed at would-be students

The launch of an online mathematics resource featuring interactive practice sessions, video tutorials and quizzes aims to boost student success in arithmetic, algebra, trigonometry and calculus.

The MathsFirst website has been developed by Dr Tammy Smith and Dr Kee Teo with assistance from Professor Bob Richardson, Judy Edwards and Rebecca Keen in the Institute of Fundamental Sciences.

Dr Smith, who led the project, says the website is designed to help students sharpen their maths before enrolling in first-year papers at Massey.

She says the success of first-year maths students depends on their competency in algebra, and that it is important that secondary school students are equipped with the basic skills required for tertiary study.

Free to access, the site contains a course map outlining first-year maths papers and information about the level of knowledge required to enrol in each course. Competency tests specific to papers are available, allowing students to identify any problem areas. From there, they can link to remedial work offered online in the form of video tutorials and interactive practice.

The tutorials use moving graphical images, colour, and audio explanations of concepts. An advantage of MathsFirst, and of online resources, is the user's ability to navigate through tutorials in their own time.

Dr Smith says practice really is the key to success in maths, and that the site provides opportunity for specific practice with guided feedback. The online material is also suitable for first-year maths students and anyone who requires mathematics in their studies.

Dr Smith received three Fund for Innovation and Excellence in Teaching Awards to work on MathsFirst and is the recipient of a Distinguished Teaching Award.

She taught mathematics to year 13 students for three years and in 2004 won the Royal Society of New Zealand's Hamilton Memorial Prize for the top young science and technology researcher in the country.

MathsFirst can be found at: <http://mathsfirst.massey.ac.nz>

Created: 11 August, 2006

Date: 14/09/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Sciences

2006 Research Medal Awards

Outstanding Individual Researcher Professor David Lambert

Professor David Lambert is a Distinguished Professor and Professor of Molecular Ecology and Evolution whose successes in ancient DNA research, and those of his research group, feature frequently in leading publications and attract international attention.



A principal investigator in the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution one of the centres of research excellence established by the Government Professor Lambert has published more than 130 research papers and made a major contribution to evolutionary genetics.

Most recently, through his work with DNA analysis, he has made news with revelations on the New Zealand moa and his evolution study with Adelie penguins.

In the decade that he has been at the University he has been awarded about \$26.4 million in research funding including nine Marsden grants. On six of the Marsden- funded projects he was principal investigator.

His international stature has been an influence in securing major scientific meetings in New Zealand, notably the Molecular Biology and Evolution Conference last year, which saw an unprecedented number of distinguished researchers from all over the world gather in Auckland. He is currently an organiser of the equally prestigious Evolution Conference, which takes place in Christchurch next June.

Professor Lambert relocated from the Palmerston North campus to Auckland earlier this decade, adding significant weight to research activity on campus within the College of Sciences.

Until the mid 1990s he had been Director of the Centre for Conservation at the University of Auckland, after completing his BSc and MSc in Zoology at the University of Queensland and his PhD Zoology/Genetics at the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, in 1980.

Although this award is to an individual researcher, Professor Lambert says it is an acknowledgement of the researchers in his current group and others he has collaborated with.

The research medals are an important signal from Massey University of its commitment to and support for research undertaken by the staff, he says.

In support of the award the Pro Vice-Chancellor of the College of Sciences, Professor Robert Anderson says Professor Lambert is an outstanding and world renowned scholar whose value to Massey University is inestimable.

Outstanding Supervisor Professor Robyn Munford

Professor Robin Munford graduated with New Zealand's first social work degree, from Massey University in 1979. She achieved first class honours. She ran an Intellectually Handicapped Children residential home for two and a half years then studied at the University of Calgary in Alberta for her masterate. She returned to Massey in Palmerston North to complete her PhD and in 1991 she took up a position as a lecturer.



In 1998 she became head of the School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work, a position she vacated at the end of August this year to devote more time to research, the mentoring of new researchers, and her work on international boards.

Since 1991 Professor Munford has supervised 20 doctorates and 15 masterates, mostly as first supervisor. All of her masterate students received distinction or honours and many have gone on to become respected researchers in their own right or to occupy important managerial positions in New Zealand and overseas.

She has also made a substantial contribution to staff development by encouraging staff (particularly Māori and Pacific Islanders) to complete higher degrees. The support of Māori research and the completion of postgraduate qualifications by Māori researchers is a key goal in the school's research strategy, she says.

Professor Munford is an advocate of action research academic research that supports practice: Practice that supports academic research . She says academics are sometimes accused of being removed and distant. I think the only way you can deal with that is to be actually doing the kind of research where you are alongside practitioners and consumers.

She also acknowledges the value of theoretical research in the social sciences, saying it should be valued for the insights it brings and the understanding of why we live in particular ways.

Professor Munford's PhD research on women caregivers of disabled children led her to further research into families. She is co-director of a project funded by the Foundation for Research Science and Technology, looking at people's experience as teenagers and raising teenagers. She also works with the Italian-based International Association for Outcome-based Evaluation and Research on Families and Children's Services. The project brings together researchers from New Zealand Australia, Europe, North America and Israel.

She is an international member of the board of the Child and Family Research Centre at the National University of Ireland, the editor of the international research journal Qualitative Social Work Research and Practice, and is on the boards of the international journals Social Work Education and Ethics and Social Welfare. She is also an adjunct professor of the University of York, Canada, in the disability studies programme.

In 2002 the value of Professor Munford's contribution to social progress was further recognised when she became an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to social work education and policy.

Outstanding Research Team Centre for Public Health Research



In the six years since the establishment of the Centre for Public Health Research, Professor Neil Pearce and his team have produced an extensive track record in public health research, workforce development and team-based research.

The Centre is a multi-disciplinary team of researchers based on the University's Wellington campus. Its research programme covers all aspects of public health research, with a focus on...

- non-communicable diseases (respiratory disease, cancer, diabetes)
- occupational health
- environmental health
- socio-economic determinants of health
- Māori health and Pacific health research

Research findings have major implications for prevention and treatment of asthma and cancer, provision of health services to Māori and Pacific people, and managing occupational health and safety.

Associate Director Jeroen Douwes says the Centre was delighted to win the Research Medal. It is wonderful to receive recognition for the Centre's work. It is a great pleasure to be able to work with a team of highly motivated and talented researchers.

Of equal importance is the excellent work of our support staff. Although not PBRF eligible, they play an essential role in our research. I am therefore particularly pleased that this is a team medal as it recognises the joint effort of all staff in producing the Centre's high quality research outputs.

The continuous support of Massey's Research Services, our international collaborators, and funding agencies such as the Health Research Council, Marsden and Lotteries has of course also been crucial. Finally, Neil Pearce's vision to bring together an international group of researchers the Centre includes people from Tonga, England, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, and of course New Zealand has been paramount in the group's success. I am looking forward to celebrating this recognition with all of those who have made this happen.

In nominating the Centre, Professor Chris Cunningham said the team's international standing is evidenced by on-going relationships with researchers across the globe, and the steady flow of international scholars through the Centre.

Professor Pearce's support of emerging and mid-career researchers is a strong indicator of the Centre's strategic view in establishing it as a centre of excellence in Massey's research culture, he said.

The principal investigators on the Centre's research projects are Professor Neil Pearce, Associate Professor Jeroen Douwes, Dr Mona Jeffreys, Dr Lis Ellison-Loschmann, Dr Andrea 't Mannetje, Dr Dave McLean, Dr Ate Moala, Dr Sunia Foliaki, and Dr Christine van Dalen. The team also includes researchers, biostatisticians, field workers and support staff.

Early Career Medalist Dr Sarah Ross

A scholar of early modern English literature, Dr Sarah Ross joined the School of English and Media Studies in 2003 and is rapidly building a reputation in the academic field of women's renaissance poetry.

In addition to her individual research focus on poetry, women's writing, literature in relation to poetry and society, manuscript studies and bibliography, Dr Ross has contributed to two major British projects specialising in 17th century literary history.



While completing her DPhil thesis at St Hilda's College, Oxford. Dr Ross was awarded the Margaret Roper Prize for graduate research. From there she was appointed to the prestigious post-doctoral post of John Nichols Research Fellow at the University of Warwick.

Since 2001 she has published major articles on renaissance religious manuscripts and the poetry of Katherine Austen, four items in the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, two articles on Hester Pulter in a collection of essays on early modern women for Routledge, several reviews, and a co-edited edition of essays on contemporary British novelists.

Professor Warwick Slinn, head of the School of English and Media Studies, says Dr Ross' work has quickly drawn the attention of established scholars in her field.

He says the sustained quality and volume of her work places Dr Ross on a par with early career researchers in any field.

"It is unusual for humanities scholars to produce this level and quality of work so early in their career, since research success for them usually follows a lengthy apprenticeship.

This success confirms the observation of one of Dr Ross' doctoral examiners that she possesses 'admirable critical maturity' and 'a range of skills remarkable in a young scholar'.

Dr Ross is also the recipient of a Marsden Fast Start grant, and will use this funding to study political poetry written by Englishwomen in the 17th century. This was a tumultuous era in English history, marked by discontent, civil war, and the restoration of the monarchy.

In the past decade, knowledge of women's writing in early modern England (1500-1700) has expanded, as a large number of new texts authored by women have been recovered from British and American archives. However, many of the newly-discovered texts have not yet been analysed.

The politics of early modern women's writing has become an increasing area of critical discussion and debate in feminist and historical research, covering domestic, religious, court and state concerns. Research to date suggests that women's writing before 1640 focuses on domestic, religious and court affairs, whereas that after the 1640s engages in high state politics.

Dr Ross will show, however, that the newly-discovered political poetry modifies this division, and that examining all the types of politics together, across this time period, can lead to a better understanding of the multiple and diverse politicised voices of women in 17th-century England.

Early Career Medalist Dr Barbara Holland

A research fellow in the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution, Dr Barbara Holland has moved rapidly from her position as a PhD student to a researcher of international reputation.

Centre co-director Professor Mike Hendy says Dr Holland has achieved more in research output than any other

graduate he has known, and cites her success in winning research grants as a particular highlight for the centre.

Dr Holland was awarded the Royal Society of New Zealand Hamilton Memorial Prize last year for her mathematical research in evolutionary biology, described by the society's academy council as pioneering work.

Her mathematical analysis of the information contained in DNA sequences is critical to the study of the evolution of species, and since 2000 Dr Holland has published 24 peer-reviewed papers.

After a one-year postdoctoral position at the University of Bochum in Germany, she was awarded another at the Allan Wilson Centre, returning to Massey in 2002. Last year she was awarded a Foundation of Research, Science and Technology Bridge to Employment grant and received a full Marsden grant as the project's principal investigator. This year she was an investigator on a successful Marsden grant led by Dr Jan Schmid.



Professor Hendy says Dr Holland has been an excellent mentor for other students in the centre, and frequently assists students not directly under her supervision. She is a second supervisor for two PhD students and has supervised a number of honours level and summer student projects.

Centre co-director Professor David Penny says Dr Holland's international reputation has led to a number of invitations to deliver graduate research workshops overseas, and to international collaborations.

I don't know any other researchers who have risen so quickly in international profile.

Dr Holland's research focuses on phylogenetics the study of evolutionary relatedness among various groups of organisms. An evolutionary tree, or a phylogenetic tree, maps the evolutionary interrelationships among various species. She says biologists seeking to estimate evolutionary trees are often forced to use inadequate mathematical models.

Dr Holland says the main problem with current mathematical models is that almost all models assume that the same processes act over all parts of the evolutionary trees.

Whereas the use of these simple models to estimate trees for more recent species divergences (such as mammals and birds) has been hugely successful, they are not suitable for the estimation of deep divergences. Her current research is looking at different subsets of species flowering plants; land plants; green plants and green algae; all algae and plants so that the impact of lineage-specific molecular evolution can be measured for a range of timescales, and a better understanding of deep plant phylogeny can be gained.

Date: 16/09/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Auckland; College of Business; College of Creative Arts; College of Education; College of Humanities & Social Sciences; College of Sciences; Palmerston North; Wellington



From left: Eliza Wong, Nicola Hamling, Merryl Hamling (teacher), Nada Hassan, Jay Tombleson, Jenny Oh.

Auckland Open Day serves up a taste of university life

This year's Open Day on the Auckland campus was widely considered to be the best yet.

The campus hummed and the large foyer in the new Sir Neil Waters lecture theatre was at near capacity with perspective students.

Entries from secondary schools for the Massey University Food Awards 2006 were on display. The group of Westlake school science students, pictured above, is definitely in the running with the dessert they have developed. On Open Day their catchy promotion was Custard Swirls and Westlake Girls.



Miquette Vanrinsburg from Long Bay College is hands-on in the molecular biology lab with Massey researcher Jo Hu.

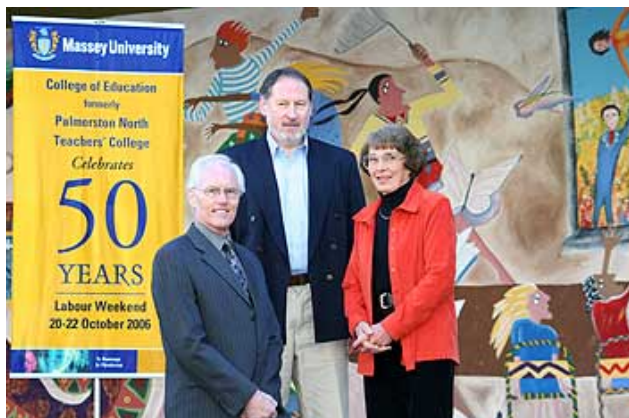


Gemma Ruddock came all the way from Thames to learn more about speech language therapy and is pictured with clinical educator Lilienne Coles.

Date: 16/09/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Auckland



College Celebration to hit full swing

The University is gearing up for a celebration at Labour Weekend as the College of Education celebrates its 50th anniversary.

The 20-22 October reunion in Palmerston North will provide an opportunity to bring former friends and colleagues together, many of whom will be connecting with the University for the first time, after having studied at the former Teacher's Training College, and then Palmerston North College of Education prior to the 1997 merger.

College Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor James Chapman is looking forward to the event as a celebration of the college's past, present, and future.

The Golden Jubilee will bring together not only former staff and students, but also a group of educators, researchers, and professionals, who have all made significant contributions to education, Professor Chapman says.

These contributions, and strengths are a terrific cause for celebration.

Registrations for the event are open, and conference manager Sarah Siebert is delighted with the interest already expressed.

Registrations are coming in from all corners of the country, Ms Siebert says. It's going to be an exciting opportunity for old and new friends to join with the University and reunite with their former colleagues and classmates.

Many former staff members have registered for the reunion, which will feature decade rooms, a bus tour, and dinner among other activities.

The Office of Development and Alumni Relations will be present, offering memorabilia, and registration information for those who will be connecting with the University for the first time.

The college began life as the Palmerston North Teacher's College, on Princess St at the former site of the city's Technical College. It later moved to its current location at Hokowhitu, where it was re-branded as the College of Education.

Staff are encouraged to register early, and to encourage former colleagues and classmates to attend.

More information is available from the College website:
<http://education.massey.ac.nz/jubilee>

Reuniting Friends

Pictured with one of the bright yellow street banners, now flying in Palmerston North, are Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor James Chapman, former lecturer in mathematics Barry Brocas, and former staff member Colleen Hill, widow of Foundation Professor and First Dean of Education at Massey, Clem Hill.

Ms Hill was a physical education lecturer at the college for more than 25 years, ran in the 1950 Empire Games, played netball for Otago, and is a Masters champion sprinter several times over. During her time at the college, she was regarded by staff and students as a great mentor.

Her late husband Professor Clem Hill, who had a deep commitment to the advancement of teaching as a profession, was a pioneer of university-based teacher education in New Zealand. It was his vision that saw the establishment of the Bachelor of Education degree and the merger of Massey and the former teachers' college.

They are pictured in front of one of the Hokowhitu site's colourful murals depicting a vibrant classroom. It was painted by first-and-second-year students under the direction of artist Reihana MacDonald in the mid-1980s.

Date: 16/09/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Education; Palmerston North



Tim Gibson
[Quicktime](#) or
[Windows](#)



Moana Puha
[Quicktime](#) or
[Windows](#)



Nick Sheppard
[Quicktime](#) or
[Windows](#)

New campaign showcases success

The University's 2007 recruitment campaign began on Sunday with the airing of three television commercials featuring graduates who have gone on to achieve their goals of top jobs in exciting industries.

Director Communications and Marketing Rachel Donald says the aim of this year's marketing campaign is to highlight how Massey can help people achieve their dreams whatever they may be.

The ads aren't so much about how great Massey is, but more about how we help people get to where they want to go. We want potential students to understand that whatever their goals, we are the best institution to help them achieve them.

This year's campaign comprises the three television commercials which will run between now and mid-November, regional newspaper ads featuring graduates from a range of programmes on each campus and radio and internet. The campaign is integrated with posters which are being produced for schools which also focus on outcomes by highlighting graduates.

Our research told us that one of the factors that helps to build a university's reputation is how it is perceived by graduates, employers and the wider community. The best way for us to illustrate the esteem in which we are held by graduates is through testimonials. By featuring graduates who have gone on to achieve great things, we are showing how Massey grads, as well as thinking highly of the University, are also confident, high achieving successful people.

Date: 21/09/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any



E-learning's a breeze

Enabling staff to deliver live lectures to extramural students has occurred through a new web-based conferencing system called Adobe Macromedia Breeze.

The system also allows staff to put audio-enhanced PowerPoint presentations online, or on mobile phones that can connect to the Internet, so that students can view them anywhere and at any time.

The E-Learning Facilitator with the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Philip Roy, says the system was installed after a successful trial last year.

He says most users do not need to install anything to start using the system, as long as they have access to the Internet, and both dial-up and broadband connections are suitable for a good quality audio reception.

Dr Craig Prichard, a senior lecturer with the Department of Management has been using Breeze in postgraduate and undergraduate management papers and describes the system as a significant step forward.

We can engage in live lecture and tutorial-type presentations, bring in live or recorded guest speakers and can use the polling and quiz facilities to check progress and understanding, Dr Prichard says.

All these features significantly increase the interactive engagement of students with each other, the lecturer and the course materials.

Rachel Summers, a senior tutor in the School of People, Environment and Planning, has been using Breeze to hold online tutorials for extramural geographic information systems (GIS) students.

Miss Summers says the system is an essential learning tool that enables students' problems to be dealt with quickly.

The students use our GIS server to complete laboratory exercises and via Breeze, can share their desktop with us, allowing us to control their mouse and guide them through their problem.

More information is available at <http://elearning.massey.ac.nz>

Created: 16 June, 2006

Date: 02/10/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Extramural

Boot camp for textile design student

Why wear plain shoes when you can express your fashion sense with playfully patterned leather footwear?

Textile design student Natalie Rotman wants to offer women more choice, so has designed and made shoes patterned with kitchen knives, martini glasses and provocative housewife silhouettes.

I'm aiming to achieve a 50s feel with these designs, she says. My theme was 'housewives behind closed doors'.

Ms Rotman used a laser cutter to apply her designs to leather, then worked with Miramar firm Ideal Shoe Company to construct the shoes.

Although the shoe industry in New Zealand has contracted since the removal of tariffs in the 1980s, the manufacturers who produce footwear today have either created niche markets for themselves or been innovative and creative in fashion design. Currently more than 50 per cent of domestic footwear manufactured is exported.

Ms Rotman says she's always been into shoes. I just love shoes, ever since I was young. Although I have many pairs, my favourites are my stilettos. I love the way they make me feel.

She says her target customer is aged 25 35, and is looking for feminine and funky footwear. She appreciates fashion and likes to express herself.

After completing her Bachelor of Design this year, she says she would like to study cobbling, perhaps in London or Italy. She is a fan of design duo Eley Kishimoto, whose designs are epitomised by simple shapes, which have taken on softer lines in recent seasons.

Ms Rotman's designs will be on show to the public at the Creative Arts exhibition held in November at the University's Museum Building.

Date: 04/10/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Creative Arts





New Zealand supercar launched in Britain



After three years in development, New Zealand's supercar is going on show before British car fans, at the Goodwood Festival of Speed this month. Later in July, it will be exhibited at the Salon Privé, a private luxury and supercar show held in London, alongside the latest from Bugatti, Bentley and Maserati.

Named in honour of New Zealand's only Formula One World Champion Denny Hulme, the Hulme.F1 is a jaw-dropping racing machine designed for road use.

Coordinating the design team is Tony Parker, Associate Professor and head of the University's Industrial Design department.

These are prime opportunities to test the market and attract investors for this revolutionary supercar, says Mr Parker, who will travel to Britain to represent the Hulme project.

Hulme Supercars aims to raise £1 million (\$3 million) from investors to further the car's development.

The concept car is a mid-engine design with a high performance powertrain and chassis that gives the driver the feeling of driving a Formula One car on the road. It features a modified BMW M5 engine joined to a specially designed transaxle, wrapped in a carbon fibre body.

Date: 04/10/2006

Type: Features

Categories: College of Creative Arts

Palmerston North becomes a dragons' den

For the hundreds of young people who have taken part in New Zealand Business Week, there's nothing radically new about a television series like Dragons Den.

Business Week started 17 years ago and was widely regarded as well ahead of its time. It was New Zealand's first such residential programme, aimed at grooming high school students for a successful career in business, and it remains the only one.

The total immersion programme was based on an American concept taken further by one of the originators, David Tweed from the College of Business, working with Palmerston North Boys' High School. The New Zealand model was later introduced in Australia.



But the programme's greatest achievement has been the hit rate of its alumni as successful entrepreneurs. Many have gone on to start their own businesses and many also return to take part in the programme as mentors. One such is Colin Higgins, from the Department of Management, who is leading the University's contribution this year, and who was one of the first Business Week graduates.

This year 70 students have signed up, from schools as far north as Whangarei and south to Christchurch and Timaru. As far as possible, the week operates on real life, real time. The students have an appropriately relentless schedule, of visits to local businesses, lectures, team building activities at Linton, their own Trade Fair, panel discussions, theatre sports, coaching from their mentors and, most important, company meetings.

Students are grouped into company teams at the beginning of the week. Each team is assigned two business advisers or mentors and throughout the week a series of company decisions (Hire more staff? Spend more on marketing?) are made. These are fed into a computer business simulation programme created by Mr Tweed and after analysis the consequences of their decisions are reported back to the teams. By Friday, they have either made money or moved towards going broke, and a winner is declared.

The Trade Fair, which this year takes place on Thursday 6 July, is a highlight. The companies go on show and the students plunder Palmerston North City for props and ideas. The suits are bought for a few dollars at St Vincent de Paul's and local businesses lend furniture and other corporate trappings. One year a brand new BMW, borrowed from a local car lot, was parked strategically near one company display.

The public effectively act as the dragons: Visitors to the Trade Fair are given funny money, to invest as they see fit, depending on the success of each company's sell.

Organisers Mr Higgins and Barbara Shorter from Palmerston North Boys' High, say the tone of the week is set by the response and contribution from companies like McDonalds, Just Jeans, Couchman's, Westpac, Evolve Fitness and others, and organisations like the Ministry of Economic Development, New Zealand Pharmaceuticals, Vision Manawatu and Massey University.

Massey staff taking part this year include Mr Higgins, Professor Richard Buchanan, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Palmerston North) Professor Ian Warrington and Events Coordinator Kaye Connor.

Contributing alumni include Stu Bradbury who, with fellow Massey Engineering graduate George Ricketts, established a Feilding-based company, WMC Mapping. The two mechatronics majors have designed hardware and software that allows them to provide sophisticated mapping for North Island farmers.

Mr Bradbury rates the Business Week experience highly. He also took part in a similar programme in Idaho, under an exchange system that allows students from the United States to attend Business Week in New Zealand.

Date: 04/10/2006

Type: Research



Beer on the edge

When the smart international lifestyle magazine BellaOnline discovered Mata beer, they apparently also discovered New Zealand. Mata's Manuka was described by Bella's Beer and Brewing editor as a topaz wonder but the serious adjectives were saved for its country of origin.

New Zealand, wrote Carolyn Smagalski, is a land of geographical isolation, a medley of coastal aberrations and glacial edges, split in the centre by the tectonic fault line, a constant reminder of Earth's instability and erratic inclination.

When the review appeared Tammy Viitakangas and her partner Jaysen Magan ticked off another milestone. They are strategic and ambitious about promoting their beer, which they started producing barely a year ago in October 2005. They intend it to be the beer of New Zealand, not iconic in the sense that Tui and Steinlager are regarded domestically, but more as a beer that looks, tastes and, yes, feels, but most of all evokes New Zealand.



Mata means edge, freshness, rawness and the slogan selected for their company, Aotearoa Breweries NZ Ltd, is: A beer from the edge. The distinctive labels on their beers make them instant table and conversation pieces. If you look at the front of the bottle, says Tammy, above the Mata logo is an abstract drawing of the North Island. Spin the bottle around to the right and there is an abstract of the South Island. The gap between the labels represents the fault line which runs through the middle of the country.

In the longer term, Tammy and Jaysen mean international business. In the meantime, they are based in the small, central North Island town of Kawerau. The location of the brewery is in no way haphazard and certainly not sentimental, although it is Tammy's hometown. Her parents Gloria and Jouni Viitakangas have lived their entire married lives there. Jouni has been there even longer. He arrived from Finland more than 40 years ago as a youngster among the early Finnish families who travelled to Kawerau to help run the then new Tasman Pulp and Paper Mill, now owned by Swedish company Norske Skog.



When Tammy and Jaysen came up with a business plan for a boutique brewery, Jouni had taken early retirement from the mill and was looking for adventure. The brewery is now fully a family business. Tammy is managing director and head brewer. Jaysen, an industrial technologist, looks after IT and logistics and assists with brewing. My mum Gloria is responsible for sales and marketing, says Tammy. My dad Jouni and my uncle Esko are also brewers and with their fantastic handyman skills have pieced together a second hand brewery to exactly how I wanted it.

Jaysen is currently involved with the integration of an SAP (Systems Application Protocol) computer system for enterprise resource planning which gives us great control over the business.

The idea of creating a brewery to produce a unique New Zealand beer began during Tammy's student days at Massey when she learnt about beer brewing in a paper towards her Bachelor of Technology, majoring in biotechnology and bioprocess engineering. She was captured by the process. So was fellow student Jaysen⁶⁴²

who also graduated Bachelor of Technology. They travelled overseas together and their ideas took shape when they reached Belgium. Both beer drinkers, they loved the Belgian beer but most of all they loved that it reflected the traditional, staunch but rollicking character of the country itself.

Belgium remained the benchmark but they found the same ability to drink in the character of a country in other parts of Europe. Most beers were stamped with a local flavour which we felt was missing from New Zealand brands, says Jaysen. This made us think there was a market back home for a new style of beer with a distinct taste of New Zealand.

Back in Auckland, Tammy began experimenting on a bench scale over a period of two years then approached her parents with the idea of a boutique brewery based in Kawerau. The tiny town not only provided the support and expertise of family but was also well placed for easy distribution to target markets, with the first to be the Bay of Plenty. Otakiri also had a source of pure artesian water, which they identified as an essential point of difference for their beers.



An empty retail complex, languishing after a series of retrenchments at the mill, was transformed into a microbrewery capable of producing 3600 litres a week. They purchased Wellington microbrewery Strongcroft and transported the brewing equipment to Kawerau. Everyone, including my brother Esko, pitched into the construction work, Jouni says. While we did that, Gloria concentrated on marketing.

Brewing began in October 2005 with the first batch of two Mata handcrafted premium beers ready for drinking five weeks later. They began selling the beer through Bay of Plenty restaurants and started counter sales at the brewery just before Christmas. An estimated month's supply sold out in a week and a half. They are now supplying the beer to selected Auckland restaurants and to a Wellington retail outlet, with more in the wings.



Part of the character of Mata beers is that they are natural with no preservatives and are brewed with pure Kawerau artesian water. The hops come from Nelson, the brewing grains from Europe and the yeast from the United States.

To quote the blurb, Mata Manuka is golden-coloured ale with the fresh, clean bite of native Manuka honey. The beer is hopped to impart a hint of cinnamon-like spice giving a complementary balance of flavours, says Tammy.

The Artesian is a refreshing, crisp-tasting, light bodied ale with a hybrid of both ale and lager characteristics edged with a Nelson-grown hop.

Like Belgian beers, both beg to accompany good food. As a further marketing tactic, the family began to promote the excellence of their beers as a partner to good, distinctively New Zealand food, via their own web page and in foodie magazines, working with Hastings-based chefs Aaron and Lena Clulow. Mata Artesian and Smoked Flame Grilled Beef Fillet. Mata Artesian and Spiced Crusted Duck. Mata Manuka and BBQ Chili Kelp Crayfish. Mata Manuka and Fish Pie. The concept of good food as almost a second thought to good beer is novel.

Tammy is working on her new beer, due to be released shortly. In the meantime, the family has been well pleased to tick off two milestones they had not expected to reach so quickly. One was the winning of two bronze medals: in the pale ales section of the New Zealand International Beer Awards in April this year, and in the BrewNZ Beer Awards in September, just months after producing their first beers.

Another, to which we can only raise a topaz toast, was an appearance in MASSEY magazine. We hoped we'd hear from you, said Jaysen when we first rang. We just thought it might take a little longer.

SMOKEY FLAME GRILLED BEEF FILLET WITH ROASTED VINE TOMATOES & BASIL HOLLANDAISE with Mata Artesian

MARINADE

- 1 clovegarlic (thinly sliced)
- 1/4 cupwhisky
- 1 tbspsmoked hickory BBQ sauce
- 1 tbspoil

1 tsppepper
1thick beef fillet

Rub all ingredients into beef fillet, stand at room temperature for 1 hour

TOMATOES

1 clovegarlic (thinly sliced)
1 tbsolive oil
salt & pepper
1 sprigoregano (chopped)
Roast in oven until skin's just pop

BASIL HOLLANDAISE

175gbutter
1 eachegg
1 tbsprice vinegar
1 tbspmirin
1 tbspbasil (thinly sliced)

Melt the butter, place other ingredients in a bowl and whisk over a water bath until thickened and aerated, remove from heat, whisk in butter slowly, stir in basil and season, squeeze 1/2 lemon if needed

STEAK

Char-grill on BBQ on all sides.

Place small handful of woodchips onto a piece of tin foil, place beef on a rack above chips cover with a lid and smoke for 5 minutes.

Add another 1/4 cup of whisky to left over marinade, place beef on hot plate, pour over marinade, and roll beef around until marinade has all gone.

Allow to rest, while you roast the tomatoes and make the hollandaise.

Slice the beef in half and serve, drizzle left over tomato oil (from pan) on tomatoes, add a 1 tbsp of orcona rocoto chilli relish under tomatoes.

Recipes by: Aaron and Lena Clulow



Date: 05/10/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Massey Magazine

Stars and cars In the family



Shifting forward

When the squillionaire rock star, oil magnate or Hollywood producer orders 20 top-of-the-range luxury German sports cars with identical colours, fittings and specifications, there is a fair a chance a young New Zealander will be on the design team.

Massey technology graduate Simon Bate is living his childhood dream of designing and building some of the world's finest and fastest cars.

Currently with the giant German company Audi AG, he has for the past seven years lived in Germany working on some of the most famous brands in the automotive world, including Mercedes and Porsche.

His employer, quattro GmbH, is an Audi subsidiary responsible for customising the factory models. He works with a team of about 500, about a quarter of them in the design area.

In New Zealand when I grew up I always wanted to be involved in car design and development. It was my dream. I was fascinated by European cars, always drawing designs of actual and imagined cars and I could tell you the acceleration speeds of all the models.

Bate, 34, went to Awatapu College in Palmerston North and completed a Bachelor of Technology in product development with first class honours at Massey in 1993.

He then went to England for nearly two years, gaining a Master's in automotive design from Coventry University.

He spent a couple of years back in New Zealand working for the Land Transport Safety Authority before returning to Europe and finding work with Ruf Automobile GmbH, a company which modifies Porsches in the same way AMG customises Mercedes Benz, BMW has M, and Audi quattro.

Today he lives in the town of Neckarsulm (pop. 15,000, a bit like Feilding) about 40 minutes drive from his former Stuttgart base in southwest Germany.

Stuttgart is where motorcycles and four-wheeled motorcars were invented by Gottlieb Daimler and Carl Benz and subsequently industrialised by Daimler and Wilhelm Maybach in 1887. It remains a stronghold of the international automotive industry, the name even appearing in the Porsche badge.

He says the Massey degree that set him on this path was valuable for the broad range of skills it encouraged. Product development is the complete



The Bate brothers

We never pushed them; they just always worked hard and did well, says Marilyn Bate, the mother of Simon and Matthew. They pushed themselves a bit.

Simon Bate says of his brother, Matthew was always very academic, very good at mathematics, physics, sciences. I did well at those subjects but he was exceptional.

Matthew went to Palmerston North Boys' High School, where he was joint dux, while Simon spent the latter part of his secondary school years at Awatapu College.

Mrs Bate, a former primary school teacher, and her husband Russell, a city council roading engineer, also have two daughters, Jo and Sarah.

process of designing and manufacturing at product, including researching the market, setting your aims, objectives, constraints, doing the brainstorming, idea generation, screening those ideas, developing and launching the product, and assessing marketplace performance.

It teaches you how to design successful products in a systematic way. It was multi-disciplinary, so you learnt a lot of stuff like foundational engineering skills, mathematics, also marketing, design.

We had a good overview of all these different things which I think is good for going on to management. I was interested mainly in the manufactured product design side, as opposed to processed products.

Science and physics at school and a chemistry catch up just before starting helped get him into the course.

Things like metal work and tech drawing were helpful but probably not essential. I think it's always important when you're developing stuff to know how things work and how they feel mechanically with your hands.

In the German car industry tertiary qualifications are respected, Bate says. They even said when I was at Mercedes that if I had a PhD it would have made it easier to get into management positions but at Audi they have a policy that they pay you for the job you do and not for your qualifications.

The workplace is mainly Germans with a sprinkling from all over the world but you speak, write and read in German and that's quite a challenge.

Large companies tend to strictly enforce the law on working hours, which are restricted to 10 a day. Audi actually specifies that staff in this field may not start before 7am or finish later than 6.45pm.

That means anyone who goes in earlier will not be paid for their time before 7am, he says, and anyone who leaves later may find themselves ticked off for doing so.

Outside the building where I work are rows and rows of new Audi RS4s and these new sports cars they're building and several Lamborghinis as well that they use as test mules for new Audi and Lamborghini components.

These days Audi is considered to be pretty much on a par with Mercedes and BMW. Having worked at Mercedes, I know that they consider Audi to be, particularly with the quality of the interiors the yardstick, better than Mercedes. The image is perhaps slightly different, but from a quality perspective they're comparable.



Audi have just recently launched the S6 which is the sports version of the A6, which is a 5.2 litre V10 with something like 450 horse power. That's pretty impressive.

Equally impressive is the sheer spending power of some of the customers.

While the escalating cost of fuel means car designers are paying closer attention than ever to fuel, the buyers of quattro vehicles are wealthy enough not to care.

They are prepared to pay top dollar - or Euro to not only get the best but to have it customised to their individual preferences.

We've actually got customers who are celebrities and I can't tell you who they are household names, musicians, royalty from around the world and they order a car and they want this colour and this interior, this trim, special stuff and we deliver it.

I did hear of a guy who ordered 20 of the top model Audis the other day, all the same, apparently so he can have them stationed all round the world and every country he would get out at the airport and have one of these Audis looking exactly the same as all the other places. I can't remember his name but, again, I couldn't tell you if I did.

What he likes about living in Germany, apart from the car industry, is its location in central Europe.

Drive about three hours south of here and you have the choice of the German, Austrian, Swiss and Italian alps. I particularly like the Italian alps. I was in the Dolomites in early June with a friend visiting from New Zealand. It was just before the main European summer when it gets very crowded and we had a wonderful time.

When he is not visiting friends, touring Europe or working, Bate is involved in a Christian inter-denominational church in Stuttgart. The church is international and largely English-speaking.

He enjoys the connections it gives him in a society where people can be inclined to keep to themselves but says primarily it is about his belief in God and the purpose and meaning that gives him.

He finds it slightly disappointing that the majority of Germans call themselves Christian yet many of the historic churches are under-utilised and often the people have almost no actual faith, although they might not appreciate the distinction.

New Zealanders are a little different in that a lot are quite clear that they don't even consider themselves to be Christian, it's more openly secular.

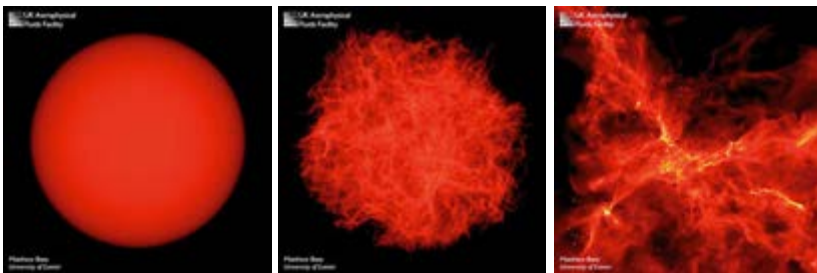
He does note considerable pride among Germans, including in his own (Protestant) church, at the election of the German Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger as Pope Benedict XVI.

There is even a car story to go with it: The German owner of a Volkswagen Golf discovered that the new Pope was a previous owner of the car and was then able to sell it in an internet auction for many times its market value.

Bate says he misses family and friends in New Zealand and tries to return once a year or at least every 18 months.

Car design as a career is something that you have to be truly keen on, he reckons.

If you're really nuts about it, like I was, and you want to go for it, you can do it. I think if you're a New Zealander you don't want to forget that a job that takes you overseas has its benefits but, being away from home, there's a price to pay.



Frames from one of Professor Bate's simulations, stars and brown dwarfs begin to form in the dense cores of an originally-uniform gas cloud 2.6 light-years across and containing 500 times the mass of the Sun. The final frame shows the state of the cloud at 190,000 years.

Starmaker

Massey alumnus Matthew Bate is Professor of Theoretical Astrophysics at Exeter University. In early 2006 he returned to New Zealand to holiday and visit family. He spoke with Massey's Professor Tony Signal.

Your Massey degree was a double major in physics and computer science. What was the draw?

Physics was my main interest, right through school and on to university. When I was a teenager I built a telescope with my father; I still have it. My interest in computer science also goes back to school days. I joined the computer club during my first year at Palmerston North Boys' High.

Computer science and physics was a good combination. What I do now is numerical astrophysics, so it's computationally-based. I run fluid dynamics codes but in an astrophysical context.

And astrophysics?

At the end of Massey I had to decide between astrophysics or particle physics and I decided particle physics was a bit too abstract. I wanted more hands on, plus I had always been very interested in astronomy. Mum says it was because I was born two weeks after the first moon landing, but I am not sure that has much to do with it.

Did you feel at a disadvantage to students who had studied astrophysics when went to Cambridge



University for your PhD?

Astrophysics is basically just applied physics. If you have a good background in maths and physics, anything else you can pick up on the way. In fact, in some ways I think it is best to do 'hard' physics first rather than astrophysics.

What exactly do you work on at Exeter?

I am probably best known for using supercomputers to model the formation of star clusters. The models begin with a turbulent cloud of hydrogen and helium gas, usually ranging from one to several light years across and containing anywhere from fifty to a thousand times the mass of our sun. As these gas clouds evolve, regions within them collapse under their own gravitational weight, and once that collapse begins the formation of a star or several stars is inevitable. In the animations on my website [see <http://www.astro.ex.ac.uk>] you can see clouds of gas collapsing to form clusters of tens, dozens, or even hundreds of stars.

So is it a matter of writing the computer code and letting the program run or is there more to it?

Over a decade has gone into the code's development, so now you just set the initial conditions, let it run, and wait the simulations run on many processors, but they still take many months to perform.

While I am on holiday here in New Zealand I have a calculation chugging away in the UK. I just log in from time to time to check on it.

Then you analyse the results of those simulations, looking at the statistics of objects and comparing them to the statistics of observed systems.

You can look at the distribution of stellar masses and the numbers of stars you see in binary star systems as opposed to single stars like our sun. You can look at the radii and masses of the discs of gas surrounding the stars and then compare that with the numerical simulations to get an idea of what physics you are missing in the calculations.

Analysing the properties of the smaller clusters is quite easy; you almost know each object by name. But when you are dealing with around 1000 objects you need to have some good ways of analysing the data. The total amount of data from each simulation is around one or two terabytes. The analysis can take as long as the simulation itself.

What is the relationship between observation and theory?

There's a lot of information that you can compare things to. The nearest star-forming regions to us are about 500 light years or so away. With the Hubble space telescope we can get quite a good picture of how stars are forming.

Astrophysics is still an observationally-driven subject. We are always seeing new things, especially, at the moment, in planet formation.

I don't do observations myself, but I talk to and work with a lot observational astronomers and they like the theoretical models because they make testable predictions. All the time you have an interplay between theory and observation. Observers will tell you that they can observe such-and-such, and you will fit that with your models and make more predictions.

For example?

The best example I can give you relates to the formation of brown dwarfs. These are stars whose mass is too small for them to fuse hydrogen into helium. So when they form they are very bright but they fade away over time.

The first brown dwarf was discovered in 1995, but we now know of hundreds of them and we are getting an idea of their masses and how common they are.

The numerical simulations I have done seem to show that brown dwarfs start to form in interstellar gas clouds as if they were stars, but that gravitation interactions eject them soon after they form, before they have had enough time to accumulate much mass. Stars form in the same way, but they sit there longer and gather more mass.

Using this model you can make predictions about what it means for the properties of brown dwarfs in particular. If they have to undergo interactions with other brown dwarfs and with stars in order to be ejected, then you wouldn't expect them to have companions such as other brown dwarfs orbiting around them. And indeed, while some do come in pairs, the pairs of brown dwarfs all seem to be much closer together than typical stellar binaries, and this may be an indication that the model is correct.

But it is only an indication, so many observers are putting in time measuring the number of brown dwarfs in binaries. Young brown dwarfs also have discs around them which will presumably form planetary systems. The models predict that these discs should be very small, but for the moment our instruments lack the resolution to measure the sizes accurately. This is an instance where observation is lagging behind modelling.

How do you observe brown dwarfs?

When they first form, brown dwarfs are quite bright, so one place to look is in star-forming regions where stars are only typically one to two million years old our sun, by contrast, is five billion years old. The other place to look is in regions which are close to us: those within about 30 light years. Infrared telescopes can pick out brown dwarfs if they are close enough. This is a good way of finding binary pairs of dwarfs as the separation between the pairs is quite wide in the sky and you can actually resolve them with the Hubble telescope and the ground-based telescopes in Chile and Hawaii.

You have also had some influence on the way we think planets form.

I have been interested in how Jupiter-like planets very massive gas-type planets form. [Jupiter is 318 times more massive than Earth and has 1300 times the volume.] Until we found other planetary systems we thought that all planetary systems would be like ours with terrestrial rocky planets in close and gas giants out further. But when we began to find other planetary systems and we now know of about 200 planets we found they were very different to ours. Many have massive gas-type planets like Jupiter but in very close orbits closer to their stars than Mercury's orbit is to our sun. This raises many questions about how these planets form and behave.

If you go back to the literature, you find that back in the 1980s someone predicted that once a giant gas planet forms it should slowly spiral in closer and closer to its star. People had rejected this idea because it didn't match with our own solar system, but now it has been resurrected.

So I have been looking at the interaction between a protoplanet and the gaseous disc in which it is forming. Basically the planet loses angular momentum as it spirals in towards the star, and it gives that angular momentum to the disc. But this raises other questions, such as does the planet stop nearing the star at some point or does it spiral into it, and if it stops, what makes it stop?

Another question is how the planet forms. The typical model for Jupiter-mass planet formation starts with dust: the dust particles stick together, you end up with metre-sized rocks, they then collide together to give you planetesimals [larger objects, many with a diameter of around 10km], and eventually you end up with an Earth-sized object of say 10 or 20 Earth-masses, and once you end up with that mass you have run-away gas accretion on to that object.

Most people favour this rocky-core-and-runaway-accretion theory. But if we look at Jupiter and space probes have been sent to Jupiter then the best we can say is that the core is somewhere between zero and around 15 Earth-masses. Now close-to-zero would be a big problem: it would mean there is no core there for this accretion model to work.

But there is another possibility: a gravitational instability in the gas disk leading to an immediate collapse to form a Jupiter-sized object. This is something I have been modelling.

How are you enjoying Exeter?

Devon, the county Exeter is in, has nice beaches and the moors for hiking and tramping, so it's a good place for outdoor activities, and Exeter itself is big enough to have what you want but not so big you feel trapped.

What is your life outside work?

My job means I get to get to travel a lot to international conferences and seminars, and I enjoy that. Family I have a wife and two children work and travel take up most of my time, and I garden a bit as well.

And the Exeter astrophysics programme now has a New Zealand connection.

Yes, that's right. In Exeter's Master of Physics a degree similar to a BSc Hons in New Zealand the students have the option of spending their third year abroad in Europe, North America, Australia or New Zealand. The New Zealand option, which was first offered a couple of years ago, is proving the most popular, beating Australia hands down. But of course we need universities to send students to.

Currently we have one student here at Massey and there will probably be more here next year and in future years.

I will look forward to seeing them, and to more Massey students heading Exeter's way.

Professor Matthew Bate

Professor Matthew Bate graduated from Massey in 1991 with a BSc in Physics and Computer Science and with a BSc (Hons) in Physics from Massey in 1992. Supported by a Cambridge Commonwealth Trust Prince of Wales Scholarship, he gained his PhD in astrophysics at Cambridge University, graduating in 1996.

He began work as a lecturer at Exeter University in 2001, shortly after the University's astrophysics programme was founded. He was appointed Reader in 2003 and Professor in 2005.

In 2003 Professor Bate was the recipient of a Philip Leverhulme prize, an award carrying with it £50,000 in funding over two years towards the cost of research. In 2005 he was named as one of 25 European Young Investigators. The accompanying funding of £900,000 will enable Professor Bate to devote the next five years of his career to research and to fund research staff and postdoctoral students.

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A lovely day in Kyoto

While teaching English in Japan, Dana Batho is extending her horizons by studying extramurally. She talks to Stephanie Gray.

Before her telephone interview with MASSEY Dana Batho closes the sliding doors in her apartment against the overriding roar of bullet trains coming in and out of Nagoya station.

The passenger service stops at midnight and from there the freight trains take over. It's a ceaseless soundtrack of life in Japan for Dana, a Canadian-Kiwi extramural student.

Being near the station allows Dana a comparatively quick commute to the private company where she teaches English to students of all ages.

Born in Wellington, Dana emigrated to British Columbia with her family at the age of two. At 19, she returned to New Zealand for nine years before moving to the Canadian province of Alberta, home of the Rocky Mountains. Dana says her comparatively complicated reply to the question of her 'hometown' often baffles the Japanese enquirer.

It's still common for people to be born, live, get married and die in the same town here, and to stick with the same company in their working life. My experiences are, quite literally, foreign to them.

Dana came to Japan three years ago, with a basic grasp of conversational Japanese, and two niggling student loans. The language skills she learnt on the job at a five-star hotel in the Rockies, and the loans accompanied qualifications in theatre and fine arts.

After three years of teaching she has almost paid off one of the loans, and is fluent enough to enjoy her subscription to a daily newspaper and socialise with her Japanese friends.

Through Massey, Dana is working towards a Bachelor of Arts and this year is studying international relations, oral and written Japanese, and Islam. Her mother Pauline had studied at Massey, and the flexibility and variety of extramural study appealed to Dana. She received an A-minus grade in her Islam paper, a complicated subject she has enjoyed getting to grips with on the train, in her apartment, and during quiet times at work.

The material is so interesting that finding time to study is not an issue. I just have to stop myself sitting down watching 24 hours of CNN.

Dana says the international news channel spurred her interest in international relations for tertiary study.

I wanted to learn about the history and politics of the countries in the news. And there's no better place to learn Japanese than Japan!

Dana emails her lecturers directly and maintains contact with Massey classmates via the online Web CT system which she recommends to other extramural students.

We share our marked essays and assignments, for different perspectives on the topic, and chat in web forums,



At this time she is preparing her application to the Canadian army with the intention to advance through officer training to intelligence services. She can continue her study through the Royal Military College and the idea of guaranteed employment appeals strongly.

Dana's back-up plan to a career in the army is one in foreign service. With that in mind she took up a voluntary position with the Canadian embassy as the emergency system consular warden representative for Aichi prefecture. Japan's industrial heartland, Aichi is the home of Toyota Corporation and most of Dana's students work for Toyota.

She travelled to Tokyo for embassy training, and was delighted to dine on salmon with expatriate Canadians and their comforting way of adding eh to the end of their sentences (a linguistic idiosyncrasy shared by New Zealanders and Canadians).

In her first few days in Japan, which she describes as overwhelming, Dana decided to start a blog an online diary with the difference that it can be read by anyone with access to the Internet. Of late the blog has taken a back seat to exam preparation and teaching.

I try not to write when I'm stressed or feeling negative. Like anyone away from home, I go through stages of not liking where I am.

In the same way a diary allows its author to offload anxiety, the blog helps Dana come to terms with some of the more confusing aspects of Japanese culture.

Writing puts my thinking into better focus. Once I start to describe something I think about it in greater depth, and with retrospect.

An entry headed I am speaking Japanese aren't I? describes the reaction of people in Nagoya to a foreigner who can converse in their language. Japan's fourth largest city, Nagoya sees only a fraction of the numbers of foreigners who visit, or live and work in cities such as Tokyo, Kyoto and Osaka.

Most people don't speak any English and they tend to freeze like a deer in the headlights when a foreigner talks to them in Japanese. They don't seem to click to that, and say, I don't speak English, to which I reply, I am speaking Japanese.

Her pet peeves include pervading cigarette smoke (smoking indoors is tolerated), the vogue for micro-mini skirts in Nagoya, and the shrill sales tactics of retailers. She admits to an aversion to crowds, and for this reason avoids travelling during public holidays when people flock to places like Kyoto and the price of transport and entertainment doubles.

The Canadian-Kiwi finds the concept of \$4 individually wrapped apples as strange as the sight of dishevelled salarymen reeling off the last train after a twelve-hour day in the office and several more in a bar.

Dana's conversations with the adults and children she teaches have given her insights into Japanese lives.

Japanese girls hardly ever see their working boyfriends, who work until 10 or 11pm, and fathers don't get to spend much time with their children. Adult students tell me their kids are a little scared of their father because they hardly see him.

Of gender differences Dana says the scene is slowly changing, but typically married women stay at home to raise children. She teases her ambitious Japanese girlfriend about turning into a salaryman for the hours of unpaid overtime she works.

Dana's blogs also pay tribute to the attractions of the country and its customs. She raves about the food (in particular okonomiyaki, a meat and vegetable pancake), and visits to Kyoto, Hiroshima and Miyajima.

The juxtaposition of her blogs, where one titled Lovely day in Kyoto is followed by Complaining about Japan, illustrates the complexity of life in Japan.

You could never guess just how noisy and how crowded it is. You learn about the politeness that is required but then people throw up in the street in front of you and that's okay. It's not until you come here that it sinks in.

Paradoxes in etiquette aside, Dana says she has largely loved her time in Japan and is determined to make the most of her last months.

It helps to be a little crazy to live in Japan. If not, you're going to end up that way anyway.

At the end of the interview Dana opens the sliding doors to let in a little breeze, along with the sound of the trains, on a summer's day in Nagoya.

Read Dana's blog at: <http://awanderinglife.blogspot.com>

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From gate to plate

Exploring the farmers' market phenomenon

Hamish is a regular at the Feilding farmers' markets. A rookie chef, he cooks for a restaurant near Marton. He loves creating new food, likes talking to people and hopes to reach a bigger market with his homemade products. A selection of his pestos and tapenades is spread out in front of him, each in a different, minimalist container. A pile of chunks of chewy French-style bread from the stall next-door sits alongside open containers of pesto for sampling. We all dig in, watched anxiously by Hamish. Good! Good! we say with our mouths full, reaching for our wallets. In Feilding, the number of people gathered at the stall amounts to a crowd and this stuff may sell fast. Tastes different! declares a white-haired fellow whose wife says a month ago he wouldn't have known pesto if it leapt off a supermarket shelf and bit him. Even better than last week's, he declares. You noticed? says Hamish. This time I used pistachio in the pesto.

Something else is different this week and it isn't Hamish's baby sleeping under cover behind the stall: She's often there. This week the new product is chocolate cake, two dozen moist, miniature deep-brown cakes with soft buttery icing and a glazed nut on top, sitting in tiny paper cases, priced at one dollar each. We sample one then two, and it's the best chocolate cake we've ever tasted. We all decide to take the remainder home for our families but there's a problem. They obviously won't travel intact and Matthew hasn't brought containers. It's on the agenda, he promises. Come back next week.



Farmers' market and small business researcher Dr Alan Cameron has high hopes for Hamish. He's able to learn on the job by selling at the market. He's taking it slowly, isn't over-reaching with too many new products and he's focused on getting what he does produce absolutely right. He's there on the spot so he can listen to what the buyers want and adapt accordingly. He's learning how to be an entrepreneur.

Dr Alan Cameron, a Massey graduate who is now a senior lecturer in the Department of Management, started out specialising in research into small business entrepreneurship and has since become the New Zealand authority on farmers' markets. He thinks his appreciation probably began on a hitchhiking tour of Europe as a hungry and impoverished student in the '60s. He stopped at a market in France but could afford only some bread. The stallholder gave him a wedge of cheese to go with it. Now his office is papered with photographs of farmers' markets, taken in New Zealand, and in Australia and Europe on overseas trips with his wife. The Feilding market is his local but the Edinburgh market is perhaps his favourite. There the stallholders dress the part: the butcher is in blue stripes, and live music is played. He expects New Zealand markets will eventually go the same way.

Dr Cameron says the farmers' market differs from the more common flea market. The definition of a farmers' market is one in which farmers, growers and producers from a local area are present in person to sell their own products directly to the public. All of the products sold should be grown, reared, caught, brewed, pickled, baked, smoked or processed by the stallholder. Less quantifiably, farmers' markets place an emphasis on quality and freshness and provide a vibrant atmosphere to make shopping a more social experience.

At a flea market the vendors are often itinerant, travelling in from other centres to sell jewellery, second hand and home made clothes, books, plants and food, usually more cheaper than you can buy them anywhere else. But Dr Cameron says at authentic farmers' markets, crafts are generally discouraged; they are thought to

convey a tacky image.

The essence of a farmers' market, he says, is buy local, eat seasonal, enjoy high quality food .

There are now 26 farmers' markets throughout New Zealand from Kerikeri to Dunedin, double the number that existed five years ago, in line with a world trend that is making a dent but still only a very small one - into supermarkets' grip on the sale of fresh produce.

Dr Cameron says farmers' markets were once common in New Zealand, as well as in Europe and the United States, but were largely driven out by supermarkets, with France, Italy and Spain as notable exceptions.

Why, then, this resurgence? Clearly one element is nostalgia, but there are a host of others. There is the influence of television chefs like Rick Stein and Peta Mathias and their emphasis on fresh, seasonal ingredients. There is the rise of regional cuisines. There is the growing interest in fresh, unadulterated produce, in organics, and in sustainable agriculture. There is the farmers' market as an adjunct to regional tourism. There is the sterile, plastic experience of supermarket shopping itself, as well as resistance to the supermarket duopoly prevailing in New Zealand.

Supermarkets threaten to engulf other forms of retailing by combining the scale of the market with the convenience of the shop, but in recent years there has been a quiet counter-revolution. One of the driving forces is the increasing demand for better food and information about that food, by increasingly discerning consumers.

There are economic reasons too: the consumer's desire to cut out the middleman and buy directly from the grower and the farmer's desire to realise a greater margin than the supermarkets will allow.

Every market has its own history, says Dr Cameron. The Whangerei market was started by two growers who considered they could get better prices than they were receiving from supermarkets. The Hawke's Bay market started as part of a strong initiative by an entrepreneur to maximise the food and wine potential of the region. The Feilding market was part of a wider strategy to revitalise a struggling town. The Bay of Islands market was initiated by a food writer who had moved into a growing affluent town and had seen the benefits of markets elsewhere. The Marlborough market was started by a chef concerned about the dominance of vine cultivation in the area.

His research has also provided a closer fix on the customers. Dr Cameron says in general they are motivated by price or value for money although most are seeking quality, with price as a secondary issue. Variety is important.

Customers seek out specialist products such as organic products, as well as rare heritage and heirloom varieties. They also appreciate having another shopping option, with the opportunity to discuss products, particularly food, face-to-face with the producer. They enjoy the sense of community that a market provides. They also rate the opportunity to contribute to the local economy.

He is interested in the issue of price for both buyers and sellers. People will pay a bit more at a farmers' market for a good product. It isn't a gamble because they've had a chance to sample it so they know it's good, unlike a supermarket tomato with its looks enhanced by water spray, special lights and so on. Or a cheese, wrapped in plastic. Hamish's tapenade, for example, may eventually cost a bit more than a supermarket dip but customers say that it tastes much better and it gives them something different to talk about at the dinner table.

Correspondingly, price is an issue for the seller. Selling to the big chains, their margins were increasingly squeezed. They sell less produce at the farmers' markets but they are often able to sell it for slightly higher prices.

There is also the impact on the local economy. A study commissioned by the Otago Market Trust estimated that at least \$750,000 was spent in the market's first six months of operation. This figure was multiplied by three to give an aggregate impact on Otago of \$2.25 million. Because the sources of the materials are local there is less leakage and the multiplier is larger than might otherwise be expected. So they end up making a larger profit, which helps them survive in an increasingly competitive market.

Dr Cameron says the Otago figures are consistent with other estimates of the amount of money generated by markets that stays in the local economy. Few vendors only 12 per cent of those questioned in his studies rely on farmers' markets as their only distribution outlet and source of income. But fewer and fewer small growers are selling to supermarkets because of difficulty in meeting price and supply requirements.

Some growers say they wouldn't have survived without the markets. One used to get \$3 a kg for his produce

from the supermarket, which then sold it for \$9 a kilo. He now sells it for \$6 a kilo at the farmers' market a win-win for producer and customer.

How have the supermarket chains reacted to all of this? Badly, in some cases. Dr Cameron and research colleagues at Otago University found claims and fears of blacklisting by supermarkets of producers who sell in the farmers' markets, which they note would probably be in breach of the Commerce Act.

The release of Dr Cameron's research coincided with the opening of the vast new Sylvia Park shopping mall in Auckland, accompanied by traffic jams and incidents of road rage. At press, the latest farmers' market to open is in Porirua, outside Wellington, run by Wellington specialists in quality, artisan foods, Moore Wilsons. Artist Dick Frizzell has painted a mural for the market and it is expected that sellers of fine meat will eventually sport blue striped aprons. Live music is on the agenda.

The Moore Wilsons' philosophy is in line with Alan Cameron's. They want to provide an alternative outlet for their best suppliers, an incubator for future suppliers and, in general, to support the provision of good food.

In August Alan Cameron was a speaker at the inaugural Farmers' Market New Zealand Association conference in Havelock North and in August he spoke at the Horticulture New Zealand conference in Auckland. Next year he will take up a position as visiting research fellow at Glasgow University's Centre for Business History. He says it seems that in Europe and the United Kingdom, as in New Zealand, as supermarkets grow, there is a parallel growth in the demand for traditional, outdoor shopping, and an appetite for information on the phenomenon.



More malls to come

If nostalgia for more traditional shopping styles like farmers' markets is driven by the growth in supermarkets and malls, the demand for both is set to grow, according to retail researcher Associate Professor Andrew Parsons. If anything, he says New Zealand is still under-malled for its population.

Dr Parsons, from the University's Department of Commerce, says New Zealand is likely to follow trends in the United States and Britain, with the creation of even bigger malls attached to big box complexes, with more interactivity and entertainment, and add-ons such as gymnasiums, swimming pools and even schools.

Malls have developed as large, covered shopping areas that seem to provide people with a pleasant, safe environment away from pollution, politics and the weather. But the catch is that such an environment can be seen as very sterile and lacking in excitement. In most cases you can stand in a mall and not know where you are you could be anywhere in New Zealand or anywhere in the world, for that matter. It's all the same. Hence the growing demand for the more personal experience of visiting a farmers' market

He says developers are aware that some consumers are turning back to these warmer shopping experiences and are moving to counter this.

Dr Parsons says there are different motives for shopping: You need to buy something, you want to browse and keep up with the latest trends, or you just want to get out of the house and get some exercise. Then there is the social reason, the opportunity to meet other people and to exchange ideas with your peer groups.

Increasingly, people live by themselves and work in an office space by themselves. They regard going to a mall as one of the few ways available to interact with other people, to sit and socialise. Mall developers are tapping into this with tailored additional facilities, like cafes, that prolong time spent in the mall.

Retailers also have to find ways to beat off growing competition from on-line shopping. In a large mall you might visit seven or eight dress shops and compare clothes and prices. But the Internet allows you effectively to do the same and make even wider comparisons.

He predicts mall owners and developers will attempt to meet the Internet challenge by creating unique, interactive experiences for shoppers. This trend started back in the late 1980s, when malls suddenly starting sprouting trees and then gathered momentum. The food courts, the attached movie complexes, the special shows staged for children in the holidays they're all part of extending the allure and attraction of a mall, and the time people spend in them.

Dr Parsons says retailers will be encouraged to let people try out products in context. Nike Town in the United States, for example, has full-sized basketball courts in its shops, so that customers can put on the clothes and the shoes and then have a go on the court before they decide to buy them. Some golf shops already have mini driving ranges in store. At the moment malls don't like shops that sell musical instruments because they make too much noise as customers try out the products. But imagine how vibrant a mall would be if such experiences were encouraged.

He says in the future malls may even have schools attached. There are already crèches for the children of both staff and customers. Why not schools? And why stop there? At the University of Alberta, where I worked for a time, the business school was attached to a vast mall which contained levels of shops, theatres, swimming pools, gymnasiums and restaurants as well as student and staff apartments.

Dr Parsons says new developments like the Sylvia Park mega mall in Auckland may seem big and modern, but we're only scratching the surface of what's to come .

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Zak flanked by his mother Sarah, at left, and Auntie Betty Gemmell, at right, outside the family home.

Chain reaction

Zak Williams's quest to understand the fortunes of AFFCO Di Billing writes

Working on the chain in a freezing works is a monotonous, repetitive and bloody business. To ease the boredom, there's talk. About sport, sex, the next smoko, and, inevitably, about the bosses, the company that owns the works and pays the workers.

On the chain at the Wairoa works near Gisborne, Zak Williams did a lot of listening. The Auckland Farmers' Freezing Company, now AFFCO Holdings Limited, his employer had weathered tough times, particularly after deregulation in the '80s. It survived, by a whisker, an industry rationalisation that forced it to acquire works from R and W Hellaby and Waitaki International. It had unexpectedly and controversially listed on the Stock Exchange in 1995. Most of the talk among the workers was worried, remembers Zak, who little expected that one day he would become an expert in the company's governance.



Until recent years, Zak had had little formal education. On leaving school he went straight on the chain at Wairoa. And for a long time he was comfortable enough with his life. He had his mates, was a union member like everybody else, and enjoyed a beer. Then he discovered learning. One of the fellas on the chain, a Pa-keha-, decided to do night classes in te Reo in Wairoa. He asked me to go along with him so he'd have someone else on the chain to talk Ma-ori to. I got into it then reached the point where I couldn't learn any more there. So the instructor, a kaumatua, suggested I enrol as an extramural student at Massey, doing Ma-ori Studies.

One day, while I was on campus at Palmerston North, an elder said, 'Listen, it's good to learn the Ma-ori language but we have a fair few people doing that already. Go and do some Pa-keha- papers we need more business knowledge.' So, I changed waka.

Still studying extramurally and still working on the chain, Zak accumulated the papers for a Bachelor of Business Studies. I put up my hand for the night shifts which left me the daytime to study and think. Plus get a bit of sleep.

After graduation he returned to the chain, but now that he knew a little more, those old questions nagged at him. What had driven a farmers' cooperative to become a publicly listed company rather than a farmers' cooperative? How had the company come so perilously close to bankruptcy in the mid '90s?

He enrolled in the Master's of Management programme. He planned to research the company's past, and its governance in particular, for his masterate report.

The problem, he and his supervisor foresaw, would be getting the information he needed. Would company directors and senior managers agree to talk to him, sharing information that could awaken controversy or possibly be commercially sensitive? Zak made careful plans to enlist their cooperation. He found an AFFCO director who was willing to smooth his way and help persuade the chairman of the worth of the study.

With the agreement of the College of Business, Zak adopted a flexible schedule. I needed time to talk to the chairman but obviously he wasn't always available. So I made a choice to align my schedule with his schedule, rather than the business school's. The logic was simple: without the chairman's approval to investigate governance issues involving AFFCO, there would be no research project.

His research process has been praised as extremely innovative by Dr James Lockhart, Director of the University's Graduate School of Business.

The project took three years. For most of that time Zak continued to work on the chain but he did take nearly a year off, the better part of 2004, between the end of peak killing season in February and the beginning of the next, in November.

Zak's found that one reason AFFCO struggled in the 1980s was its structure as cooperative. Beset by the debt accumulated in making necessary upgrades to its plant, the board remained intent on realising income for its farmer shareholders rather than the good of the company. Moreover, the cooperative's large board membership and, as Zak puts it, excess democracy limited its agility.

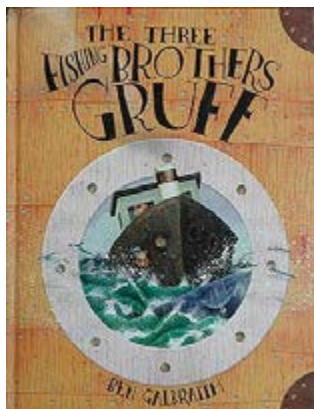
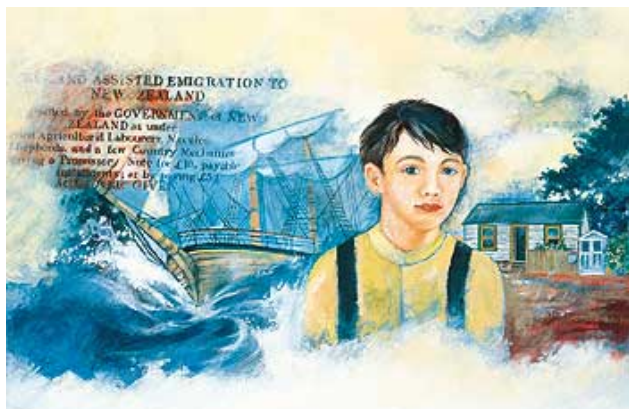
In March of this year in AFFCO's boardroom Zak formally presented his project to those who had made it possible: AFFCO's past and present directors and chairmen, chief executives, senior managers and financial advisers. (Hearteningly, everyone approached eventually agreed to be interviewed, though most on the condition that they not be named.) With him for the occasion were his mother Sarah, friends Clarry and Mary Agnew, and wha-nau member Alicia Beuving, and, from Massey, Dr James Lockhart.

At the beginning of the meeting, Zak had accepted an invitation from chairman Sam Lewis to sit in the chairman's seat. Going to the head of the table, he gingerly sat down, saying I could get used to this! But he was happy enough to leave it when the meeting closed. He had heard enough stories, analysed enough balance sheets, and knew enough about AFFCO's fortunes, to know the seat is not always comfortable.

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A fishy story

Illustrator Ben Galbraith talks to Malcolm Wood

It is weekday afternoon when I call Ben Galbraith, and when he takes the call, the first-time children's author and illustrator has been communing with a computer, just like me. But Ben's hair, unlike mine, is stiff with salt; his clothes scratch against his skin; there is sand in his shoes. Working in his hometown of Gisborne as graphic designer and illustrator for a surfboard manufacturer, Ben often heads for the beach for his lunchbreak.

If the surf is looking all right, the office can be pretty empty, because everyone is out on the water, says Galbraith.

As a student at Massey's Wellington campus he had quickly found himself surfing friends, but the best surf was a half-day's travel away on the Wairarapa coast. To once again have good surf at his doorstep is to be peculiarly blessed.

The sea is in his blood.

So it's no wonder that Galbraith chose a sea-related final-year project for his Bachelor of Design: an illustrated retelling of the Three Billy Goats Gruff, recast with three redneck fishing brothers as goat stand-ins, an environmental-enforcer minke whale in place of the troll, and a strong conservation message.

During his time at Massey, Galbraith had evolved a distinctive style of illustration, collaging traditional artistic media, such as drawing and painting, with scanned objects (notoriously, including dead fish) and making extensive use of computer manipulation. The effect is phantasmagoric, a little dark, dryly humorous, reminiscent of the work of Galbraith's favourite illustrator, American Lane Smith (whose best known work, *The True Story of The Three Little Pigs* by Alexander T. Wolf, depicts its protagonist as the sad victim of circumstance and media hype).



In his third year, as if in validation of his growing proficiency, the company Learning Media (see opposite page) chose his illustrations over others for an issue of the *School Journal*.

Mike McAuley, who coordinates the illustration component of the Bachelor of Design, remembers Galbraith exploring the options for his final year project during a research paper. He was focused on various foreshore-related issues, such as pollution, and it at first looked like he would do a series of posters. I remember that we explored the idea of incorporating secondary narratives, and you will see that he's done this in his book by incorporating speech bubbles in his illustrations.

From the moment he hit on the idea of a children's book, Galbraith knew he wanted it published. But the New Zealand children's book market is tiny, and Galbraith's design which includes die-cut peepholes would be expensive to print. Galbraith sent out a couple of feelers to New Zealand publishers, but was unsuccessful.

But then I got really lucky, he says. Aaron McKirdy, a member of the art department children's division at Hodder UK, chanced on Ben's project at the end-of-year design exhibition (a must-see event) and contacted him. The process that would culminate in launch of *The Three Fishing Brothers Gruff* in May 2006 had begun.

With the launch, Galbraith stepped in to another set of responsibilities. Hodder flew him to Auckland (three 660

times), Wellington and Christchurch for book launches and primary-school book readings. He discovered a certain giddy pleasure in the novelty of flights, corporate taxis and hotels, but the public speaking was a trial.

It has been overwhelming to speak in front of the public. I get quite nervous. I had a television interview on Good Morning: it was only for two or three minutes, but that was pretty scary. The prerecorded radio interviews aren't so bad, because they can cut out my stuttering.

The Three Fishing Brothers Gruff also has a deeper personal significance to Galbraith: it is dedicated to his father who died of a heart attack while out surfing.

At the 2006 Best Design Awards, The Three Fishing Brothers Gruff received a highly commended award in the Editorial and Books category and an endorsement from the presenter, who declared it her favourite. More than 10,000 copies of the book were sold within three months of its launch. (When I spoke with him, Galbraith was keenly looking forward to the first of his royalty cheques.)

Will Galbraith be staying on in Gisborne? For the moment he declares himself to be happy with his choices. I always knew I'd be coming back, he says.

But it's a little bit quiet here over winter. A lot of my friends are now over in the UK, so I guess I will be heading that way some time.

For more information

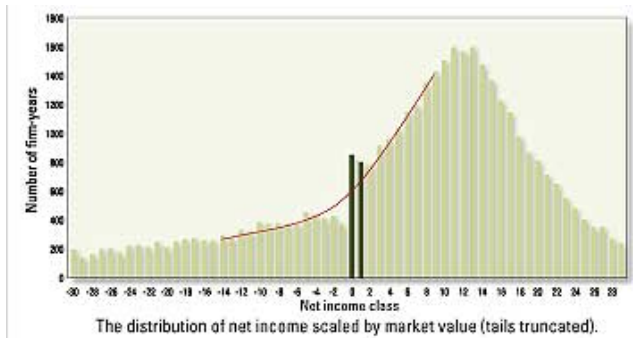
Illustration/visual narrative is offered as a specialist area in the Visual Communication major of the four-year Bachelor of Design degree. The curriculum includes the creation of believable characters, the use of metaphor and other conceptual strategies to convey concepts, and how to work using both traditional and digital drawing and painting methods. Those interested should contact

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Date: 05/10/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Massey Magazine



Painting by Numbers

Accounting is something that people do, and understanding accounting helps to understand people in their social context, writes Professor Paul Dunmore.

This is an edited version of Professor Dunmore's inaugural lecture, delivered 26 July 2006

In July, Auckland International Airport Ltd announced that its assets had been revalued as at 30 June 2006. This more than doubled the reported value of the assets and the owners' investment. Nothing changed on the ground; only the description changed.

Auckland Airport's profit has been close to 8 percent of assets for several years. To preserve that reasonable return on a more-than-doubled investment, Auckland Airport must more than double its profits in future. If expenses stay the same, revenues must increase by two-thirds to achieve that. Airlines fear¹ that Auckland Airport will use this accounting change as an excuse to justify higher charges.



Auckland Airport can increase its charges because of its near-monopoly power; other airports in a weaker position would find it harder to increase their charges whether their assets are revalued or not. But the airport's accounting choice provides a story to justify the increase. It would be hard for the Commerce Commission to insist that the airport's shareholders should not receive an 8 percent return on their investment when they could get 7 percent from a bank deposit.

New Zealand accounting standards encourage, but do not require, organisations to revalue their assets. Revaluation is most commonly used by public sector bodies such as universities, and by infrastructure companies with a near-monopoly position. Companies in highly competitive markets do not revalue their assets because they cannot raise prices, so revaluing would simply reduce their reported profitability. In non-competitive markets, however, revaluation provides an argument to raise prices.² Because people regard accounting as arcane and unchallengeable, such decisions tend to pre-empt effective debate about prices.

Many people find this astonishing and vaguely corrupt. Surely accounting is a practical, rule-based profession, focused on trustworthy recording of facts? The reality is far more interesting: accounting is something that people do, and understanding accounting helps to understand people in their social context.

People employ accountants because what accountants do is useful, providing information for accountability, for economic decision-making, and for sharing resources.

Over time, practices have evolved that have been found useful for these purposes. Various principles and concepts have then been inferred from these practices. However, the principles are justified only because they lead to useful practices. Regulators ignore the principles when they get in the way: for example, when the International Accounting Standards Board decided that they did not want internally-generated brand names to be recorded as assets, they simply changed the definition of assets to achieve this.

Undergraduate accounting education focuses on learning to do all this well: graduates should be able to use well-established techniques, to understand applicable standards, and to be familiar with the underlying theories, all backed with the beginnings of sound judgement. Academic research, however, contributes little to improvement of accounting practice; at most, academics research and disseminate information on approaches that have been developed by practitioners.³

Practical accounting procedures have sometimes had extraordinary intellectual power, by the way. Both the idea of writing and the idea of pure number (three as distinct from three sheep) emerged from accounting

techniques in Mesopotamia around 3500BC.⁴ And the debit and credit convention of bookkeeping, which was clearly in wide use when Pacioli described it in 1494, provided a way of working with negative numbers centuries before mathematicians accepted the idea that numbers could be less than nothing.

The profession of accounting thus resembles other useful professions such as engineering. But engineering must cope with an unforgiving physical world: if a bridge is not strong enough, it will fall down. If Auckland Airport's profit is wrong by \$10 million, however, it is unlikely that anyone will ever find out. Indeed, there is no real profit figure against which the reported number can be tested.

So accounting is less like engineering than it is like the arts of biography or portraiture. It is not just that there is room for judgement and interpretation: they are essential features of the activity. The cash which Auckland Airport holds is objectively measurable, but very little else in the accounts is. Some part of the value of the buildings and equipment was used up in the year's activities, for example, but nobody can know how much because nobody can yet know how long those assets will actually last. Different reasonable estimates lead to different reasonable figures for the firm's profit.

The decisions needed to prepare the financial statements begin with what facts are correct, of course; but beyond that, what judgements must be made, what should be emphasised, what downplayed, and what omitted? Broadly, what artistic conventions should be followed? Good accountants make a serious effort to produce an honest portrait (a true and fair view in the legal phrase). But there is no single correct portrait.

The accounting portrait concentrates on resources and the use made of them during a period. Auckland Airport's balance sheet lists the resources controlled at 30 June, and the claims on those resources by creditors and by owners. The income statement shows the resources generated and used by the company during the year ending on that date. The firm generated more resources (by providing valuable services to its customers) than it consumed (in employees' time, in the consumption of services of its buildings and runways, and so forth). The difference is the profit (EBIT) of the enterprise, the increase in wealth of society resulting from the airport's operations. In the most recent financial year that was \$201 million, which was divided between the lenders, Inland Revenue, and the shareholders. The net social benefit of Auckland Airport's activities is even greater than this, because many customers would have been willing to pay more, and many suppliers and employees willing to accept less, than the actual transaction prices.

But much is missing from the portrait. First, there is nothing about risk. What risks Auckland Airport bears, what have been offloaded on to others, and how these changed during the year are all unmeasured. Further, there is no mention of the externalities of the operations, such as noise pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, and road traffic directed through city neighbourhoods. These costs do not fall on Auckland Airport, or they would be recorded in its accounts, but fall on society more generally.

So we cannot be sure that Auckland Airport's activities actually produced \$201 million of net social benefits. But there are no good practices for dealing with these problems. Accountants fall back on writing pages of descriptive notes, but that is only a clumsy second-best.

Another important problem is that the portrait is painted by the management of the company itself. A major theme of accounting research over the past few decades has been to understand the effects of the self-interest of various parties in both biasing the self-portrait and in misusing the results.

For example, there is evidence that managers try to ensure that their firm will meet profit targets (at a minimum, will avoid reporting losses). The picture above⁵ suggests that firms are less likely than one would expect to report small losses, and more likely to report small profits. Perhaps managers tend to airbrush the portrait or even take actions that may cause real damage to the firm, such as delaying maintenance, advertising, staff training, or research, to ensure that the reported profit will look good.

But perhaps the most interesting function of accounting is its role in creating the social relationships in which we live. Homo sapiens evolved in society: our ancestors were social before they were human. But the emergence of large social structures required people to interact with each other by conceptualising relationships with their social institutions, not just with each other.

To put this simply, Massey University exists because we all agree to act as though it does. Students turn up to courses expecting that lecturers whom they have not met will come to teach them, and will be competent to do so. Lecturers turn up to teach expecting that some payroll administrator will ensure they get paid. We speak of Massey University as though it were real; and legally, it exists because an Act of Parliament says it does. But at bottom it is individuals that interact with each other, often without knowing each other; their shared idea of Massey University mediates that interaction.

Accounting plays an essential role in making this possible. Partly it coordinates the actions of many individuals

so that they can work together for a common goal. But beyond that, accounting systems structure organisations in particular ways by making us think about them in particular ways.

An early example is the development of the concept of a business enterprise itself.⁶ One cannot create an enterprise distinct from the family until one can conceive of such a thing. The double-entry bookkeeping system was developed among the merchant families of the early Renaissance, originally as a technology for checking clerical accuracy. Fundamental to the system was the balance sheet, listing the resources and the claims on the resources. For these to be equal, one of the claims had to be the owners' equity in the business.

This technology led the merchants to think about the enterprise as a thing which the family owned, rather than as an activity of the family, and then to think of the enterprise as having its own financial status and prospects, as being something which one could invest in, could lend to, or could buy. Without the accounting system, that idea might never have emerged.

Today, if one wishes to create a company, one of the few formal requirements of the Companies Act is to keep proper accounts. Before forming the company, decisions are needed on the accountability relationships: who are to be the owners, and who shall be directors to run the company on behalf of its owners and account to them for what has been done. These decisions can be postponed when creating an informal club or unincorporated business, but they must be resolved before the club grows to the size where its members can no longer interact informally. Any large organisation needs an accountability system, which can be implemented only through some system of accounting.

The more recent emergence of large-scale capital markets has given accounting new kinds of reality-creating roles, such as the rating of companies' ability to pay their debts. Major banks now use accounting-based models to rate their borrowers: a firm scored as being too risky will not be extended further credit, which itself is likely to cause it to collapse. So an accounting portrait showing that a firm is in difficulty is likely to precipitate that difficulty by affecting the behaviour of lenders.

And so we come back to Auckland Airport, and the portrait which creates an argument for raising prices. Accounting is a sophisticated social invention, used in sophisticated ways. It is an agent of cooperation, of conflict, and of creativity. As a practical technology, it aims for a fair but not unique portrait of an organisation, unit, or activity. Inevitably, the portrait is rough and ready it is painting by numbers, not by Vermeer. Precisely because the portrait is not unique, there are opportunities for people to present it or to use it in ways that benefit them, by creating a particular reality to which others in society respond. Research into this seemingly uncomplicated technology leads to some remarkably interesting insights into how humans organise themselves in a complex society.

1 Hembry, O. (2006). Airport boost stirs fears of higher charges. *New Zealand Herald* (July 25).

2 A rough calculation suggests that about \$2.5 million of Massey University's reported expenses comprise the depreciation of revalued fixed assets. (For some other universities, the figure is much greater.) To achieve a given surplus target, Massey must raise an extra \$2.5 million of annual revenue to offset this voluntary expense. Historically, universities justified fee increases by the need to cover their expenses; although domestic fees are now capped, the same arguments are used to lobby for increased Government funding.

3 Two significant exceptions are the invention of dollar-unit sampling techniques to assist auditors, and the invention of bankruptcy prediction models. But such exceptions are rare, and even in these cases practitioners had begun developing the techniques that academic researchers perfected.

4 Schmandt-Besserat, D. (1986). An ancient token system: The precursor to numerals and writing. *Archaeology* 39: 32-39. A step along the way to writing was the storage of clay tokens inside baked clay envelopes, on which impressions were made to indicate what tokens were inside. I confidently expect that archaeologists will eventually discover an envelope bearing impressions of ten tokens, but with only five tokens inside: the first accounting fraud.

5 Dechow, P.M., Richardson, S.A., & Tuna, I. (2003). Why Are Earnings Kinky? An Examination of the Earnings Management Explanation. *Review of Accounting Studies* 8: 355-384.

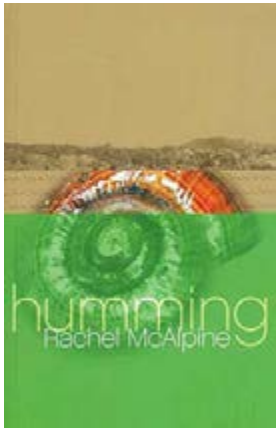
6 Rosenberg, N. & Birdzell, L.E. (1986) *How the West grew rich: the economic transformation of the industrial world*. NY: Basic Books.

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business; Massey Magazine

Reviews

Reviewers: Di Billing (DEB), David Balham (DB), Shannon Pakura, Malcolm Wood (MW)



Fiction

***Humming*
by Rachel McAlpine
(Hazard Press \$29.99)**

According to British novelist Fay Weldon, Rachel McAlpine is one of New Zealand's liveliest and most purposeful writers, the only one taking risks and letting herself go.

To our knowledge she is one of the few anywhere who uses web sites as an adjunct to her writing. You can, of course, read her latest novel *Humming* without afterwards checking out her excellent Writing on the Web website. But you will miss out on much. *Humming* is set in Golden Bay and was largely inspired by McAlpine's own experiences in Puhanga, near Farewell Spit. The beautiful location provides rich material for the novel and for the *Humming* web page, which links to photographs by Peter Black of the beaches, mountains, sea, gardens, cafés and other buildings that inspired McAlpine.

You will also learn new things. Want to know more about the famous local, native land snails mentioned in the novel? Click through to the relevant DOC site, which tells us there are at least 21 species and 51 sub-species of *Powelliphanta* snails, some of the most distinctive and threatened invertebrates in New Zealand.

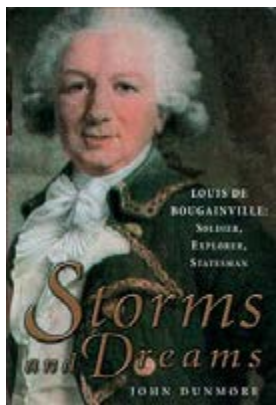
The adventurous and versatile McAlpine is a novelist, poet and playwright. For a day job she is also a web content consultant, and author of several books on web and business writing including *Web Word Wizardry*. She says she spends her time surveying, analysing and editing the content of corporate web sites, and training people in business and government to write for web sites and intranets. I find that extremely interesting.

Humming is described as a comic novel about happiness, healing and humming, with an undercurrent of spirituality. The humming of the title is in the head of artist Ivan, who is plagued by a low-frequency humming noise. We are asked to consider whether this might be whale song, tinnitus, electromagnetism, a CIA weapon or possibly the voice of God speaking very, very slowly. Other characters, including Ivan's lover Jane (who owns the wonderful Saltwater Café) have suggestions and/or problems of their own.

Rachel McAlpine, who has lived in Geneva, Masterton, Taranaki, Golden Bay and Japan, now lives in Mt Victoria, Wellington, where she rents out a boutique furnished apartment called Novella (check the web site). She has been Writer in Residence at the University of Canterbury and Macquarie University, Sydney, and was awarded a New Zealand Scholarship in Letters in 1991. She graduated from Massey with a postgraduate Diploma in Education.

You'll find her site at www.writing.co.nz. There is an excellent site map, which will guide you to a list of school resources related to McAlpine's work or recommended by her. And if you want to know how to find the Saltwater Café, the site will tell you that although, in fact, it doesn't exist, there are some equally fun ones in Golden Bay and here's how to find them.

DEB



Biography

Storms and Dreams

Louis de Bougainville: Soldier, Explorer, Statesman

by John Dunmore

(Exisle Publishing, RRP \$49.99)

In 1759 at the siege of Quebec, two great Pacific explorers may have come within gunshot of one another. One was Captain Cook, the British sailor, surveyor, cartographer and explorer; the other Louis de Bougainville, who would lead the first official French voyage of exploration around the world, arriving in Tahiti a year in advance of Cook.

At Quebec, Cook was ferrying troops and charting the river in support of General Wolfe, while Bougainville, the aide de camp to General Montcalm, was leading forays against the British.

They make for an interesting contrast: Cook the son of a Yorkshire farm labourer, representative of the majesty of the British Navy; and Bougainville, a scion of the upper levels of the French middle class, who had to scabble to find support for his expedition. Cook has been the subject of a ceaseless torrent of books from the presses. Bougainville has been unknown until now to most Australasians except by association with things named after him: Bougainville the island and Bougainvillea the flowering plant.

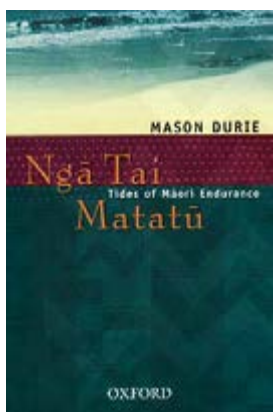
Now the deficit has been made good. Twenty-five years on from the last biography, we have *Storms and Dreams*, a masterful recounting of Bougainville's life by Emeritus Professor John Dumore, an acknowledged world expert in the history of the French exploration of the Pacific.

What a life it is. Bougainville was present at the fall of French Canada and at the birth of American independence. He founded a French colony (later ceded to the Spanish) on the Falklands, and his global circumnavigation helped found the enduring legend of Tahiti as a South Sea paradise. He survived and won a duel initiated by a nobleman who had accused him of gaining promotion through the favour of the King's mistress. He was unjustly court-martialled after the French naval defeat by the British of Martinique. He narrowly survived the French revolution, circumstances seeing him released just two days before he was due to be sent to Paris to face the Revolutionary Tribunal and a likely death sentence. (In fact, Bougainville, described on his arrest warrant as former noble, would later be appointed a senator by Napoleon.)

What was he like? That is more difficult. Although we know the trajectory of Bougainville's life and can describe his qualities that he was charming, accomplished intelligent, an expression of the enlightenment the sense of the man himself is elusive. Does this matter? I don't think so. There are some things we can never know the past is another country. Oddly enough, the only very slight awkwardnesses in the book's flow come when Professor Dumore ventures into present tense and reconstructed dialogue as a dramatic 'hook'.

No such hooks are needed. The strength of the book is to have set Bougainville's life within the sweep and the particularities of his times, and no one could be better fitted to doing this than Professor Dunmore.

MW



Nga- Tai Matatu-: Tides of Maori Endurance

by Professor Mason Durie

(Oxford University Press, NZ \$49.95)

Reviewed by Shannon Pakura (Te Atihaunuiapaparangi), General Manager of Development Services, Child, Youth and Family, Head Office, Wellington.

A highly recommended read for decision makers, researchers and policy analysts.

The final paragraph in the preface of *Nga- Tai Matatu-: Tides of Maori Endurance* in my view captures the heart, soul and essence of Professor Durie's work. In great humbleness, Durie says In writing about endurance, I had in mind our mokopuna, our grandchildren and our belief that they should be able to grow up as Maori, as healthy New Zealanders, and as global citizens. What could be more important?

Nga- Tai Matatu- provides us with one lens from which we can view the journey navigated by Maori from the Pacific to Aotearoa, to these contemporary times. It tells us eloquently of the endurance, resilience and infinite patience required by our people to ensure that they retain the right to enjoy our own traditions in a way that makes sense to us.

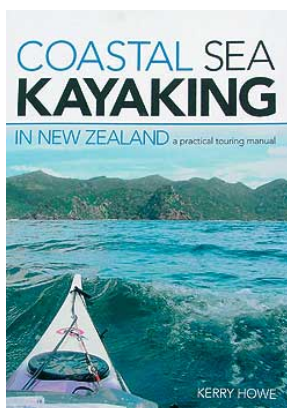
Chapter 7, 'Papaki Rua Nga- Tai Tide of Confluence: Maori and the State', reflects how Maori have held steadfastly to a principle that demands recognition of indigeneity, and therefore challenges those who champion equality to distinguish it from the creation of homogeneity or sameness. In the run-up to the 2005 election it is of great interest to listen to the political commentary on equality, sameness and indigeneity and to measure the words against other promises made as far back as 1840.

The impacts of public sector reforms on Maori over the years have been significant. This chapter highlights the strength, persistence, tolerance and courage of Maori throughout the centuries. Durie articulates the relentless determination to assert our right to be recognised as the indigenous people and for self-determination. The chapter weaves us through the political eras, provides commentary on significant social policy and key strategies that led Maori to be where we are today. The tides of state intervention, devolution, integration and deregulation take us through the rapids of time. The policy makers of today must read this book. They must turn their minds to the possibility that Maori leadership may be about co-existence with others rather than about control or power, and that determining a future for our mokopuna which allows the essence of Maori to exist is critical.

Maori are major players in service delivery. Maori have not only shown a capacity to engage; in most cases they have been able to provide services that are holistic. The nature of some of the contracts has not recognised this unique attribute and the performance indicators have failed to reflect the Maori world view or endorsed Maori aspirations for an integrated approach to social, cultural and economic development. Durie has provided an exceptional opportunity to government departments to reflect on the impact of some of the past strategies and learn from the positive and unintended consequences of public policy. Contract specialists, organisation approval standards and relationship managers would benefit from taking some time to read the impact of the changing tides on our people. What a difference it would make if the public sector were humble in their deliberations with Maori and understood that our world is not more right than theirs; it is just different.

Nga- Tai Matatu- is a compelling read. This book is a must for researchers, managers, service delivery organisations, policy makers and analysts.

Shannon Pakura has an MBA, a postgraduate diploma in public policy and social work and is currently studying towards a master's in social work.



Coastal Sea Kayaking in New Zealand: A Practical Touring Manual

Kerry Howe
(New Holland \$30.00)

Twenty years ago, had you chosen to kayak the shore of Abel Tasman National Park you would have found yourself very much alone. Sea kayaks and sea kayakers were unusual. Today that same shoreline is awash with a polyglot fleet of sea kayakers, paddling rental kayaks in lolly-jar colours. Paddling or owning a sea kayak has become if not common, then not that remarkable.

What has happened? The arrival of cheap, near indestructible plastic kayaks is one thing. Another, the vogue for adventure sports.

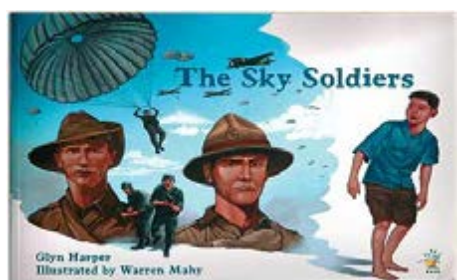
Historian Kerry Howe has been a sea kayaker for 20 years, joining the fraternity in the early 1980s after having read über sea kayaker Paul Caffyn's account of circumnavigating the South Island. Since then Howe has paddled extensively, including making his way from East Cape to North Cape by instalment, Huck Finning with tent and sleeping bag on many an idyllic beach along the way.

Coastal Sea Kayaking in New Zealand: A Practical Touring Manual sets out what he has learned, what he has found works. Will it help you with choosing a boat or learning how to eskimo roll? No, it won't. Howe rightly supposes that these days you will find this information easily enough elsewhere through other guidebooks or through the sea kayaking networks. What it will do is advise you on choosing the right emergency gear; on navigating using map, compass and, increasingly, GPS; and on how to read the tide and weather. He will give you his wisdom on how to live comfortably while on the move.

Howe's writing style here is personable and friendly, and while he is evidently punctillious about his own training, preparation and planning, he is far from doctrinaire. (Howe's customary breakfast, a pre-dawn repast of Complian and green tea, is unlikely catch on.)

New Zealand is blessed with some world-class sea kayaking. If you have been thinking about trying the sport, perhaps you should; if you are a sea kayaker already, Howe's book will help you become a safer and happier one.

MW



Children's Books

The Sky Soldiers
by Glyn Harper
Illustrated by Warren Mahy
(Reed Publishing (NZ) Ltd \$14.99)

Crete has unexpected ways of entering the consciousness of young New Zealanders.

Children in Wellington grow up swimming at the Freyberg pool, without necessarily knowing whom it was named after. A few years later, on their OE, they may be surprised at the warmth of feeling encountered among Greeks, whose fathers or grandfathers fought alongside New Zealanders on the mainland or on Crete itself.

And yet the Battle for Crete, which Michael King has described as the Gallipoli of its era, is perhaps little-known among young New Zealanders. Glyn Harper, Acting Director of the Centre for Defence Studies, wants to put this right with his latest children's book, *The Sky Soldiers*.

The book tells the story of Nikolaos, a boy from the Cretan village of Galatos. Nikolaos watches the mesmerising arrival of the sky soldiers, the thousands of German troops parachuted into Crete on 21 May 1941.

The Germans suffer appalling casualties more than 3,000 are shot down as they float to earth but after fierce fighting take the airport at Maleme. This leads eventually to General Freyberg's controversial decision to pull the Allied troops back over the mountains to the port of Sfakia, to be evacuated by the Royal Navy.

Among the many soldiers left behind are a New Zealander and an Australian, who hide in a cave and are brought food by Nikolaos and his sister. They eventually lead the men to evacuation: Nikolaos cannot understand why his sister is so sad to see them escape safely, but understands when Kiwi Tom comes back after the war to marry her.

The story is told simply, and somewhat in the style of the war comics of some years ago: it is now unfashionable to portray any race as baddies, but these Germans fit the bill, smashing old ladies' pots and harassing the population. Appropriately for a children's book, more serious atrocities are glossed over.

What isn't glossed over is the failure of the Allied troops under Freyberg to successfully defend Crete. They did not win but we are very grateful that they came to help us, says Nikolaos.

Harper has written elsewhere that a scratch force made up largely of New Zealanders and Australians came tantalisingly close to inflicting Germany's first land defeat of the war. It was a tragedy and a serious defeat for the Allies, but only by the narrowest of margins.

This is a nice book. The illustrations by first-time book illustrator Warren Mahy look slightly unusual, as though they have been drawn on tracing paper, and are apparently computer-generated. They are an attractive complement to an affecting story. There is a good précis of the Battle for Crete at the back.

Glyn Harper has written extensively on military matters, including a biography of Kippenberger, and has also written several other children's books. *The Sky Soldiers* is a good way to introduce young New Zealanders to the important history of a place where the skies are happily now better known for their piercing blue than for their beautiful, lethal, rain of German paratroopers.

DB



CDs

The Sandbar Sessions

The Kevin Clark Trio

\$24.99

Let me confess, I bought the album partly out of a sense of duty. With it having a Massey connection and receiving the Tui Award for Best Jazz Album of 2005 at the New Zealand Music Awards (the Trio also won the award in 2003), I thought I had better. But duty is not what has kept it on my CD player on high rotate.

This is warm, accessible, assured, highly accomplished jazz which stands on its own merits. From renditions of instantly recognisable standards such as Cole Porter's *So in Love*, through to original compositions such as Kevin Clark's lyrical *Once Upon a Song*, there is not a dud track on the album.

The Massey connection? Bassist Rowan Clark and drummer Richard Wise, who are regular members of the trio, are both alumni. So too are guests trumpet player Michael Taylor and the stand-out young vocalist Hannah

Griffin. Saxophonist Colin Hemmingsen and percussionist Lance Philip are both tutors. And pianist Kevin Clark also tutors part time.

Then there's the sound itself, with all of the immediacy and verve of live performance the album was recorded over two consecutive nights at Paremata's Sandbar Pub on Wellington's Kapiti Coast yet somehow managing studio production values. Again a Massey connection: Conservatorium of Music tutor Neil Maddever was the sound engineer.

My only complaint petty , I know is that the liner notes give very little detail about the individual tracks.

Buy the album, and, if you can, get yourself down to the Sandbar Pub in Paremata on a night the Trio are playing. You might see me there.

MW

Documentary

Aeon

Richard Sidey

A project he completed in 2004 as a final-year design student has won Richard Sidey the short documentary section at the 2005 New Zealand Documentary Festival. Aeon is a meditation on Wellington city and its moods, a 12-minute montage distilled from more than 50 hours of recorded footage. It can be viewed at

<http://digitalmedia.massey.ac.nz/exposure/student.php?id=6>





Date: 05/10/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Book; Massey Magazine

Cité life

Patrick Morgan meets Corinne Rivoallan and Don Jones on a summer's day in Paris.

On a summery Sunday afternoon in Paris, families picnic at the foot of the Eiffel Tower. A chic woman in high heels pedals her bicycle briskly along the broad Avenue de la Motte Picquet past the imposing Ecole Militaire. Tourists of every hue line up for photos in front of the landmarks. Hundreds of tanned Parisians rollerblade by in the warm sunshine. This neighbourhood has been home to New Zealand Defence Force officer Don Jones and his family for the past 18 months.

We last caught up with Massey graduates Don and his wife Corinne Rivoallan in Laos in 2001. He was working there as a technical adviser, helping with the mammoth task of clearing UXO (unexploded ordnance) from the war-ravaged countryside.

Now they live in Paris, where Don studies at the Collège Interarmées de Défense (CID). Located within the École Militaire, the Collège trains French and foreign officers destined for senior military jobs.



Don suggests we meet at Café Suffren for afternoon tea. He has to wedge his long legs under our table on the terrace, which is closely packed with the weekend crowd. There's no way you could park your mountain buggy next to the table, so Don, Corinne and their daughter Gwenn arrive on foot. The café is a place where friends embrace and exchange kisses, one on each cheek. The staff know Don here Thursday evening is happy hour for his class at CID, just a few steps along Avenue de la Motte Picquet.

The family lives in a first-floor apartment within walking distance from CID, where Don has recently completed a postgraduate course. There's no need to own a car here. It's expensive to park, and public transport is as good as it gets. Each morning Corinne accompanies Gwenn on her tricycle to pre-school.

As instruction at CID is in French, Don took six months of intensive French classes to bring his language skills up to postgraduate level.

The main areas of study are strategy, geopolitics, defence management and planning. The French have a big defence force and an interesting foreign policy; they really are a global player, Don says. There is extensive international coverage and I had already covered some of the topics at Massey with my MPhil in Defence and Strategic Studies, but here we naturally concentrate on the French perspective. They're focusing very much on Europe for the moment, such as the implications of the proposed European constitution. They also focus on internal security issues due to terrorism and their recent enlargement, and also how they should act collectively on defence with external threats and challenges.

One third of the students are foreign. They represent more than 70 countries, including Ukraine, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, and most Middle-Eastern, Asian and African nations including former British colonies. Don is only the second student from New Zealand.

Don has the rank of Major in the New Zealand Army. Back at Linton, he commands a squadron of more than 100 engineers, carpenters, plant operators, plumbers and electricians. In 2003 they spent two months in the Solomon Islands doing civil aid tasks such as building police posts. That was an unusual deployment according to the terms of the Townsville Peace Agreement we were not allowed to wear camouflage uniforms or carry weapons. That was fine as my sappers were happy to build in just their PT kit, but then a week or so after we left, fully armed troops from Australia and New Zealand arrived on an operational mission to restore peace and order.

Don and his family are due to return to Palmerston North in two days. They plan to renovate a villa there bought shortly before the trip to Paris. Corinne says she is looking forward to getting stuck into the garden. She had been studying social anthropology extramurally, but once Gwenn started walking, no more.

No one would call Paris a paradise for outdoor sports yet Don, a keen runner, has trained for and completed the Paris marathon as well as playing rugby for his college team. He polishes off his profiteroles with the gusto of a man who has spent the morning on a long run. The Champ de Mars and the Bois de Boulogne are good places to run, he says. But they are not without their hazards there can be quite a lot of pollution and in a city where

dogs are free to do their business, you have to watch your step. It's like a minefield, says Don. He should know, having spent almost two years in South East Asia as an advisor to demining programmes in Cambodia and Laos.

What will they miss most about life in Paris? The food, the amazing selection of wine, says Don. We can walk 10 metres to the boulangerie for a fresh baguette. And if they're closed, there's another a few steps away.

But life in Europe has its drawbacks. It is just four days after the London Underground bombings, and armed gendarmes are prominent around the tourist sites and the Metro. It's a fact of life, says Don, but after serving in Cambodia and Laos it doesn't seem so bad.

Gwenn, aged three and a half, has finished her scoop of sorbet and exhausted her book. She is beginning to squirm. Don notes it's often said that in Paris it's easier to take a dog to a restaurant than a child. Sure enough, at the next table an elegant Parisienne clad in sun dress, dark glasses and armfuls of bracelets sits with a pampered miniature terrier at her feet.

It is time to move on. Don and Corinne return to their packing. As I cross the river Seine by the Eiffel Tower, 500 colour-co-ordinated Greenpeace activists form a human rainbow for the benefit of TV cameras. It is 20 years to the day since the Rainbow Warrior was bombed in Auckland Harbour.

Date: 05/10/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Massey Magazine

Boston bound

Journalism student Helene Garland meets Joshua Feast

With stints in Indonesia, Switzerland, Singapore and Paris, at 28 BTech graduate Joshua Feast has already led a cosmopolitan life. Now he heads to Boston, where as the first recipient of the \$141,000 Fulbright-Platinum Scholarship in Entrepreneurship he will study towards an MBA in technology entrepreneurship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan School of Management.

Feast first went overseas involuntarily at the age of eight when his father was employed as a civil engineer by an Indonesian oil company.

We spent a year in Jakarta and a year on a small island off the coast, so it was a different culture altogether. After that, we went on a campavan trip across Europe, which inspired me to travel more, he says.

After attending Scots College, he spent a year in Switzerland as an American Field Service scholar.

It was an amazing experience that broadened my outlook. It was a total immersion in a different culture and language; I learnt a lot and met people from around the world.

In his final year at Massey he was awarded an Asia 2000 Scholarship to Singapore's Nanyang Technological University. There he took courses in business and engineering and worked on his final-year project, the design and development of a barbecue component for Masport.

He also faced a crisis: he contracted malaria and was in intensive care in a critical condition for several weeks.

It was a big deal for me. When I got through I figured I could get through anything. It made me all the more determined to do something useful with my life.

He says his most difficult work experience was a two-year secondment to the Ministry of Finance in Paris, when he was working for the multinational business technology consulting company Accenture.

He led a team of French public servants, who were twice his age and on the point of retirement.

I had never felt so discouraged. Although I had a reasonable level of French for a foreigner, to go to functioning at a professional level was quite a big step. I went into a very high-pressured work environment with a project that was, basically, 'going down the tubes'. But it made me stronger and was really, really good for me.

Feast's perseverance paid off. Not only did the project succeed, but it became a model for good consultant client relationships and he became good friends with his French colleagues, he says.

Feast has recently completed a custom software development project at the Department of Child, Youth and Family, which 'went live' on target in July.

He says a fascination with business, shared in common with his grandfather, uncles and father, has shaped his ideas about how commercial activity helps society by creating wealth and promoting innovation.

He wants to make the most of his two-and-a-half-year scholarship and to return to New Zealand to set up his own technology business, developing and commercialising high-technology products, aiming at international markets.

Once I have achieved that, I would like to help other companies do the same.

He mentions IT entrepreneurs and Google co-founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin as inspirations.

I believe in putting one foot after the other starting small, and suddenly you're doing something you didn't expect. I don't feel driven as much as keen to see how far I can go, he says.



The Fulbright-Platinum Scholarship in Entrepreneurship is funded by the outgoing United States ambassador to New Zealand Charles Swindells and other donors in the United States and New Zealand.

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Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Massey Magazine



Business in Britain

Patrick Morgan writes

For rising accountant Andrew Robinson, working at the heart of Europe's financial capital is the highlight of a business career. Recently promoted to partner at the Big Four firm of Deloitte & Touche LLP, he says he loves being in the centre of the action.

With 600 partners and 11,000 staff in the UK, Deloitte is a big fish in a big pond.

The Deloitte building sits amid The City in London's financial district. Before gaining admission you must check in with reception or swipe your way through the security barriers. Even before the Underground bombings in July this was business as usual in Europe's financial capital.

Andrew describes the financial rewards of his job as significant. I have an enjoyable lifestyle and a challenging career.

The rewards may be many but so are the working hours. During the working week Andrew leaves home before 7am and returns around 10pm. Home is a 45-minute train ride from Waterloo and weekends are 100 percent family time.

There is much more to the UK than London, says Andrew. He lives with his wife Rebecca, and Jamie, 2 1/2, in the village of Monk Sherborne. Their home backs onto fields. Village life in Hampshire is absolutely fantastic.

Although most villages in north Hampshire have grown rapidly since the end of WWII, Monk Sherborne has managed to hold on to its rural character, along with its 12th century church.

For Andrew, entrepreneurship started early. My father was a rural finance manager for Wrightson in Wanganui. The accountants we knew were business managers.

My first taste of business was selling 4,000 banana-shaped pens at the age of 17. I also had a lawn-mowing business.

I enjoyed economics and accountancy at school, and my teacher helped me get a job at a local accountancy firm. I studied towards a BBS as an extramural student at Massey for two years, then full-time for three years.

After two years each in auditing and financial advisory services at Deloitte in Wellington, Andrew headed to the UK on what was meant to be an 18-month secondment. That was 11 years ago.

Business is about having an edge. You need an academic background and solid rationale for making decisions, in a structured and measured way.

It's much more than book-keeping. A Chartered Accountant is really a business manager. You negotiate deals and run businesses.

Projects have taken him as far as Cote d'Ivoire, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Brazil, Latvia and Thailand.

Andrew is keen to promote the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants. Currently Chairman of the UK Branch, he says the Institute has 2000 members in the UK, and the UK Branch has been around for 25 years. It's like Massey, he says. It's all about continuing professional development. We see our role as supporting our members while they are in the UK. We run education and social events.

Outside of work, Andrew likes his sport. He completed an Ironman triathlon in Auckland, and is a four-time finisher of the London marathon.

He achieved his karate black belt while at Massey, and played inside centre for the Massey Rams, and the odd game, as a bench warmer, for the Massey As .

In June Andrew completed one of the UK's toughest tests of endurance, the Wooden Spoon Four Peaks Challenge. Teams visited four countries to scale four mountains with a total height of over 4,300 metres, inside 48 hours. Peaks include Ben Nevis in Scotland, Carantouhill in Ireland, Helvellyn in England's Lake District and Snowdon in Wales. Teams raised a total of £461,000 for disabled and disadvantaged children and young people.

However, his greatest sporting ambition is to watch the All Blacks win at Twickenham.

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Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Massey Magazine

Pet occupation

Patrick Morgan writes

Would you spend thousands on your pet? With the introduction of pet insurance in the UK, it's not uncommon.

Recently a client spent £2,500 on a kitten, says expat New Zealand vet Robyn Farquhar. Pet insurance has changed the face of small animal practice here.

People come to vets much more readily than in New Zealand. They are willing to put themselves into financial difficulty for the sake of their pets, she says. People think nothing of spending £100 on their pet. It's a pet-indulgent society.

Robyn grew up on a dairy farm in Taranaki, and attended Opunake High School. After completing her vet degree at Massey and working in Sydney as a house surgeon for a year, she travelled to Britain on her OE. Robyn worked in the southeast of England as a locum and liked it enough to stay. Although she says she now speaks like a pom, when she first arrived in the UK she stayed south as she could not understand many northern accents. After asking the client to repeat themselves three times, you have to guess.

The benefits of living and working here are enormous. I love the variety of people, the opportunities to learn, and the social choices. I never get bored.

Since 1996 she has owned Fernside Veterinary Centre, which occupies a high street shop front in Borehamwood, an hour north of London. Home to Elstree film and television studios (Hitchhikers' Guide to the Galaxy, Star Wars, The Shining, Big Brother), Borehamwood is a town of 40,000, built after the Second World War to house London's growing population. Its streets are lined with red-brick terraced homes, mostly ex-council housing after Mrs Thatcher's government sold them off in the 1980s.

Staffordshire bull terriers are currently the most popular breed among my clients, says Robyn. Although they aren't very good as guard dogs, they look the part strutting down the high street in a studded collar with a shaven-headed tattooed teenager in tow.

The latest films inspire pets' names. There are a few Charlies around (Charlie and the Chocolate Factory), but most of the Rambos and Tysons have passed on.

One little boy named his kittens Harry and Hermione, but was distraught to learn that Hermione was male.

After 20 years in the UK she says she misses New Zealand's clean air, uncongested roads and access to rugged countryside. It's like a park here, she says.

But she describes the rewards as very adequate. If I put the effort in, there's due reward.

Robyn is planning to buy bigger premises for her business. She says there's no discrimination against a woman when it comes to arranging a loan. It's not an issue if you can demonstrate you are committed to your goal, and have a track record, the bank will help.

One of the benefits of being self-employed is that Robyn gets to choose her working hours. Although the practice is open 11 hours a day, Robyn generally works 40 hours a week. This gives her the flexibility to spend time on her passion training and riding horses. She is especially proud of Coronel, her dapple grey Andalusian stallion. He's striking to look at, and clever. He can trot on the spot, and is eager to learn. Although he's a stallion, he's easy to handle.

Coronel is stabled close by, so Robyn can spend an afternoon with him when work allows.

Dressage is Robyn's favourite event. It's where you get to ponce about, and make the horse go sideways. It's controlled riding. The horse and rider should look poised and elegant.

I once owned a young horse with quite a reputation. She had put half a dozen people into hospital before I had her. She was what we call a 'nappy' horse. She would refuse to let a rider mount, walk backwards, or throw the



rider. That's usually a reflection a horse has been pushed too hard.

I took her on because I felt sorry for her. We got on very well, although I always had to be careful with her.

She says riding is an antidote to the stresses of the day. Clients often come in upset, concerned about the health of their pet. Most days there are tears.

On the other hand, when there's a good outcome, clients show their appreciation. It's not uncommon for Robyn to receive flowers or chocolates from pet owners. But although clients think that they can judge a vet's clinical skills they are far more influenced by bedside manner.

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Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; Massey Magazine

First lady

Leanne Hills interviews her grandmother, Enid Hills, the first female student at Massey.

Growing up, we grandkids gleaned bits of my grandmother's story over weekend visits and summer holidays at Foxton beach. She told us of the lagoons and the black makatea [fossilised coral] of the Pacific island of Mangaia, where her father, Fredrick Christian, an Oxford-educated explorer and linguist, was the schoolmaster at the native school. We tried to picture grandma running barefoot with the local children, speaking their language, scrambling up trees.

Then there were her memories of Massey, where she was the first female student; as I entered adolescence and dreamed of university she became my role model. She was a feminist 40 years before the tag became commonplace.

At 92, Enid Hills carries her years lightly. As we talk she becomes 18 again, entering the halls of Massey on that first day in January 1932 to study poultry farming.

Down at the main entrance they'd made a guard of honour out of farm implements to mark my arrival. My friend Jeff told me to go in the back way, she laughs.

So Massey's first female student entered by the back door. On my first day in class, the men all stood up when I entered the room there was always plenty of good humour to go around.

In March of '32, three other women joined Enid at Massey although she remained the only one studying poultry farming and once a term they were invited to an afternoon tea held for them by the wife of the Principal, Professor Peren.

Nonetheless, the campus, with its combined roll of 191 students, remained overwhelmingly male. Enid never had a shortage of girlfriends from Palmerston North looking for invitations to dances at the refectory - the women at Massey were, after all, outnumbered by 50 to 1.

The gender imbalance also helped make rugby a major part of the college calendar. Football matches against Lincoln were always a bit of a bloodbath, she says with a hint of amusement.

The course work itself was intensive, students working Monday to Saturday with little time for outside employment. Fees had to be met by families in the years before free education and student loans, and many students worked on farms over weekends and holidays.

At the end of the 48-week course, Massey found a job for Enid managing a poultry farm at Whenuapai, north of Auckland. Massey needed to prove that their courses were as strong on practical matters as theoretical, which was a concern amongst the wider community, Enid explains. What better way than to have their first female poultry farmer out there walking the talk?

It was the heart of the Depression. I was 19 years old, a slip of a girl wearing jodhpurs and brogues, she recalls. And she had arrived in a poor rural community which viewed college diplomas with understandable scepticism. But I knew I could cope, says Enid. Massey had prepared me well.

The area had just had the electricity put on, but shortly after I arrived the power got cut off. Supply still wasn't very reliable. The next-door neighbours, with 200 milking cows the town's supply needed all the help they could get. When Enid pitched in with her hand-milking skills, picked up during her course, word got around. She earned her stripes as a great milker and stripper. In those days [stripper] referred to getting the last milk from the cow, Enid is quick to add.



The first woman to graduate from Massey with a degree was the remarkable Paddy Basset; her BAgSc was bestowed in 1941. When MASSEY magazine caught up with her in 2000 she had recently been appointed an

During Enid's four years at Whenuapai the farm thrived and she enjoyed a warm relationship with the owners. She twice won prizes at the Papanui National Egg Laying Competition, her studies in breed selection at Massey proving indispensable.

She left to return home to Palmerston North, where she would work as a journalist for the Manawatu Times.

In 1938 Enid married teacher Lincoln Hills. Over the next three decades the couple would have four children while living in a variety of rural communities. Enid's knowledge of farm accounting and animal husbandry would often prove useful.

At the age of 67, two years after her husband died, Enid became a Justice of the Peace and marriage celebrant always up for a challenge and ready to learn new skills.

What have been the chief influences in a very full and still highly active life?

Her father, she says, is one: he raised Enid and her siblings to be free thinkers, gave them a classical education, and endowed them with a sense of wonder in the world.

The other, she says, is her time at Massey. I see education as the staff in your hand, she says. It's how you use it.

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Categories: Alumni; Massey Magazine

honorary staff member at the Wellington School of Medicine and was collaborating in research into connective tissue change. Paddy remains a strong member of the Massey alumni community, often attending functions.



Pure poetry

The departure of Dr Bryan Walpert from journalism was no spur-of-the-moment thing. It took a decade of successful and relatively lucrative health and business reporting in the United States before he decided to set about making poetry his day job.

While continuing to freelance, he completed a doctorate in contemporary poetry and creative writing (with an emphasis on 20th century poetry) at the University of Denver in 2002.

Last year his attention was drawn to an ad for a lecturing position at Massey University in New Zealand, a remote place that his wife, however, had visited following up a family connection.

He has been teaching creative writing in the School of English and Media Studies since January 2004. His arrival, along with a number of other creative writing specialists, coincided with a surge in interest in studying creative writing. The interest was particularly strong in distance learning; Dr Walpert estimates that well over half of his current students are studying extramurally.

Since joining Massey, he has designed a new second-year poetry paper titled Love, Loss and Looking Around and a postgraduate creative writing paper called Writing Lyric Poetry: Blurring the Boundaries which will be on offer next year.

He has had poems published in AGNI, Gulf Coast, Crab Orchard Review, Poet Lore, and the New Zealand Listener, among other publications, and his work has been anthologised in several books, such as Ravishing DisUnities: Real Ghazals in English (Wesleyan University Press). He is former managing editor and a current contributing editor for divide, a literary journal based at the University of Colorado at Boulder. He has also published critical work on poetry; for example in Papers on Language & Literature and in encyclopaedias.

Earlier this year his essay The Art of Paying Attention: Nature, Poetry, and the Nature of Poetry won a Dialogica Award. The awards were judged by Australian magazine Campus Review.

Dr Walpert's experiences as a journalist find expression in his work. His poems are often but by no means exclusively themed around science, shaping scientific ideas and theory (such as gravity and electricity) into metaphor and imagery. He is working on a book on the use of scientific themes by contemporary American poets.

Scientific ideas can lead to artistic ones, he says, and scientific terms can be used as a springboard for a metaphor, such as the notion of gravity, or electricity, without detracting from the actual science.

No Metaphor

A tuba and a man stroll through
the grass, a pretzel of flesh and
brass
you could say, I guess, except
it's
only a man wearing a tuba
beneath late
autumn reds as blackbirds flock
overhead. The tuba is cold metal
fact, and this fellow bears
the weight on his back less like
a broken-hearted lament than a
bulky
instrument. This sight, it's true,
might
remind someone less sensible
than you
of a duet, of a girl, of the year
that has unfurled since the touch
of her
hand, of a melody that fluttered
last fall
then collapsed to earth with no
sound
at all, like the sudden absence of
a breeze.
But, please: A tuba and its man
are merely
crossing a park at bright noon,
absent
a band or a tune, and there is no
need
to notice, no need for a word
about
the blackbirds, which ripple to
earth behind
the man like the folding of a fan
—
just not as final or as fast and,
overall, more like birds landing in
grass.
Bryan Walpert
No Metaphor was originally
published in The Metropolitan
Review.

Type: Features

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Massey Magazine



Road scholars

Senior lecturer in English Dr John Muirhead celebrates the literature of travel.

Until a few years ago, travel writing was something I read just for pleasure: both because it gave me the opportunity for comfortable escapism as an armchair traveller, and because the writing was often very good. I don't know that I'd want to meet him, but Paul Theroux could make me laugh out loud, and it was impossible not to be engaged by Eric Newby. The title of *A Short Walk in the Hindu Kush* beautifully expresses his heroic amateurism. Here was a man who was summoned out of a career in fashion by a telegram, CAN YOU TRAVEL NURISTAN JUNE?, and who practised for his assault on the over 20,000-foot peaks north-east of Kabul by climbing boulders in Wales for all of four days, one of these rocks about the size of a delivery van.

I began to think about travel writing as a possible academic subject at a time when the English programme at Massey, in which I teach, began to introduce papers in 'expressive arts' to go alongside those devoted to the critical study of literature. The idea of the expressive arts initiative was to combine the critical study of texts with creative writing and performance or production. Students can take these papers now within the English major in a BA, or as a discrete major within the new Bachelor of Communication. Since entry to the travel writing paper requires a 200-level paper in any subject, I often get students from different academic backgrounds simply taking the paper for interest.

In the last four years, I've taught upwards of 300 students. It's particularly well suited to extramurals. A significant number of them live and work overseas; this year I have students in France, Bahrain, England, Hong Kong, and other countries. Some students are off on their OE and seemingly have no fixed abode; the only point of reference I have for them is a hotmail address. It's not at all unusual for others, planning a more predictable journey, to ring me a year ahead to ask about assignment deadlines as they organise an itinerary.

People living or visiting overseas use that time to write the two major travel stories required for the paper. My stipulation is that they must be based on actual journeys; as one critic puts it, travel writing authenticates itself by actualities. A handful of stories by extramural students I've just been reading include accounts of: dancing in a flame-red flamenco dress at the feria in Seville, cycling in France as an act of homage to the heroes of the Tour de France, paragliding through the air and through the politics of gender in Samoa, and negotiating an edgy checkpoint in Saudi Arabia on the 11th of September 2001.

Students based in New Zealand are at no disadvantage. They can write about journeys that may be unfamiliar to most of us an expedition to the Mutton Bird Islands or they can make the familiar new. One local student wrote me an affectionate story recently about her home town, Pahiatua, focused on its monuments to those lost and those retrieved (the Polish refugee children) in two world wars.

The stories the students write are intended to be short creative essays rather than the kind of travel journalism you might read, say, in the Sunday Star Times Magazine (36 hours in ...); I want them to be topic-focussed rather than itinerary-based. To get them ready for that I ask them, before they write the stories, to read a selection of books by contemporary travel writers and to write short critical discussions about travel writing as a literary genre, with its own distinctive characteristics and issues.

One issue is that of telling the truth. Travel writing has been called the literature of fact . It purports to be a first-hand account of what a traveller actually did experience on the way to, or at, a destination. In theory, we could go there ourselves to verify the whole thing.

Or not. Because, when we travel, the experience is inevitably mediated through the perceptions of an individual, filtered by the memory, and, when we write creatively about it, transformed by the need to tell a good story. Hence the literature of fact. Jonathan Raban, author of *Coasting*, a brilliant account of Margaret Thatcher's Britain, concludes that the travel writer is really a fabulist who only masquerades as a reporter. That's arguably true of any writer, including my students, attempting to (re)construct experience. Bruce Chatwin insisted that his book on the Australian outback, *The Songlines*, should be classified as fiction.

If it's hard to tell the truth, it may be even harder to find it. The critic Paul Fussell has declared that we live not in the age of travel but the age of tourism, and Tourism is to travel as plastic is to wood. In his book *Abroad*, he argues that in the post World War II era, genuine travel is impossible; tourists are simply transferred by air, rapidly and in a state of relative immobility, to pseudo-places like a resort in Fiji, whose function is simply to entice tourists and sell them things. They find there a kind of simulacrum of life: locals perform for tourists their idea of the tourists' idea of the locals. We live in the global village; in other words, in a condition of utter inauthenticity.

Contemporary travel writers deal with this problem in a number of ways. Some writers turn to their own countries in a mood of detachment, if not alienation: Jamaica Kincaid revisits her native Antigua to find the tourist (an ugly human being) just the latest manifestation of a long history of exploitation (*A Small Place*). Others indulge in what Fussell calls post-touristic masochism; in his ironically titled *The Happy Isles of Oceania*, for example, Paul Theroux is never so happy as when he observes a Pacific islander eating, not taro and fish, but Cheezballs.

Still others insist that cultural difference is intact, that the world is full of empty places that are nothing like home, in Theroux's words. To reach them, however, you must really travel in Fussell's sense of the word: derived from the French *travail*, work. That's why some of the writers I teach make their journeys perversely difficult: Theroux paddles alone in a collapsible sea kayak; Dervla Murphy walks around Cameroon with her daughter and a local pack-horse, which gets pride of place on her title page (*Cameroon with Egbert*). My students rarely have the opportunity to travel to utterly remote places, though one recently wrote of her search for authentic experience riding local buses through Sichuan province in China. Most must look for originality in their own perceptions and in the freshness of their writing.

The experience of travel itself is often as important to writers as the destination visited. That points to another important aspect of contemporary travel writing. Travel writing has increasingly become a vehicle for exploration of the personal life: either in reaction to the specific events of a journey or, because travel is a handy metaphor for life itself, in situating that journey within a wider autobiographical framework. Paul Theroux, for example, conflates his Pacific odyssey with the personal aftermath of his separation from his wife. In their stories, my students are asked in one simply to explore a place, but in the next to investigate a place in its relation to the self.

Travel writing, then, can involve at least three kinds of journey for a writer. There's an exterior journey to a destination and an interior journey that may be contiguous with it. There's a creative journey, too, as the whole experience is configured into a story. This creative journey is the one I share when I read my students' work: I have the pleasure of travelling with them, from my armchair, in my imagination.

The write stuff

The School of English and Media Studies has substantially increased the number of academic papers available in creative writing. The School began offering papers in creative writing in 2001 and there are now a raft of papers covering writing for children, writing for theatre, life writing you name it.

There is even a new web site called *The Writery*, where students may share their work and discuss it with others. You'll find it at <http://writery.massey.ac.nz>.

Massey also offers a graduate diploma in journalism studies as an extramural option. For information go to <http://communication.massey.ac.nz>.

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The Land of Babel

By F.J.Dalzell

I had been in London a week, and was acquiring a certain feel for the place. I was staying with Joy, one of my friends from my vet school days at Massey, in her Chelsea apartment. Each night I would go for a run around streets lined with cream flats, adhered together like slices of cake. The first night I returned, I thought I had developed a terrible skin condition. My sweat was blackened, as if I was afflicted with some plague. Joy laughed at my distress, and waved her hand in a desultory manner about the pollution in inner London. I took to drinking filtered water when larvae swarmed out of the tap one morning.

Water seemed a big issue in London. The landlady complained bitterly about my excessive and unnecessary use of the bathing facilities.

Is it necessary for both you, and your friend, to wash every day? she hissed at me through gritted teeth. My obviously peculiar preoccupation with soap was something I was forced to keep private. Washing became a furtive activity. I was assimilating.

Once I had settled in, I rang the AGV Veterinary Locum agency.

Yes, dear, we love you New Zealanders. Let me see, any preference for location?

Ah, no, not really.

Hackney? Would you fancy Hackney?

Hackney, where the carriages come from?

Yes, dear, quite so.

Well, that sounds nice. OK then. So why do you love New Zealanders?

You are so socially mobile dear; we can send you anywhere and not have any problems.

I accepted the position, imagining the East End to be a green oasis of ponies and traps driven by chaps in top hats.

I told Joy that the locum agency had organised a job for me in Hackney.

Well, that will be interesting for them! Joy cried, screams of laughter echoing round the potted plants in the living room.

Call me at work on Monday, and tell me how it's going!

And so I set off early Monday morning. I survived the passage on the tube, avoiding the contagion of rampant dandruff afflicting the majority of Londoners, and wondered if the whole city was in mourning. Everyone wore black. In my red checked swandri jacket I stood out like a jersey cow amongst a herd of Aberdeen anguses.

As we neared the eastern front I noticed the nature of the passengers had altered. Black cashmere knee-length coats and briefcases gave way to short black leather jackets and extraordinary amounts of gold ornamentation.

Finally I arrived at my stop. I had directions for the practice and I trotted off through a maze of bricks, wondering if maybe all the horses here had to be stabled.

As I walked on, high rise council flats erupted around me like triffids. So tall were these concrete weeds that nothing grew in their shadows. Dirt swirled in the vortices of wind at their roots, miniature tornadoes sucking litter and dust into the air from where there should have been grass. Washing flapped greyly from balconies, like flags of surrender in a war of tarmac. Packs of young men slunk in the shadows, and stared at me sullenly when I smiled and waved.

Off Short Street, past a boarded-up garage, I found Green and Partners. The practice manager was delighted I had arrived, or more exactly, delighted that anyone arrived.

We never thought anyone would agree to come, after what happened... she said, and whipped me through into a consult room to show me the computer system before I could ask what had happened.

A few minutes later she deemed me ready for action, handed me a white coat and sent me into combat.

I looked at the consulting list.

Fortunately, the first name on my list was easy to pronounce.

I marched out into the waiting room, and looked round.

Smith! I called. No one moved. Fang Smith?

I started making random eye contact. Smith? I asked an individual clutching a Yorkshire terrier. He looked away, and pretended I was not there.

I gave up and approached the receptionist.

Is Mr Smith here, or is he waiting outside?

Who? she peered at me, her expression mystified.

Mr Smith, with Fang?

Smeeth?

No, Smith...S.....M...I....T...H....

Oh, Smith!

I looked at her, wondering if she was having a wee joke with me. I smiled, English humour no doubt.

Could you ask him to come in please?

Fang tottered in ahead of his master. His rigid gait, pained expression, and guarded position of his head suggested neck pain.

Hi, Mr Smith, it looks like Fang has a painful neck, is that why you have brought him today?

Neek? What is a neek?

I looked at Mr Smith carefully. Luxurious eyebrows hovered over concerned eyes, the only example of hair on his head. He was completely in earnest.

I pointed at my neck.

The neck, this part... I waved my finger over the seven vertebrae in question.

The eyebrows remained unmoving.

Ummm....the neck is between the head I patted my head, and pointed again... Head? There was still no sign I was being understood, so I forged ahead, uncertain how else to make myself understood.

The neck is between the head and the back.... I waved at all the appropriate parts of my body and the corresponding parts of the patient's body.

Mr Smith peered at me.

Wot's a 'beak' on a dog then? He looked genuinely confused. I did not like to admit defeat so early on, but retreat seemed necessary.

Excuse me one minute...

I dived out the back and found the receptionist.

That chap, he is English, isn't he?

She looked up in disbelief.

He certainly is! she looked at me with a giggle flittering round her mouth.

It's just he doesn't seem to understand me...could someone come and translate please?

And so, in the land of my grandfather, I had to ask for an interpreter.

Nancy, the head nurse, was only too willing to assist. She had mothered a succession of Australian and Kiwi locums through the strange phonics of the east and delighted in watching us blundering along innocently, baby hippos in the convoluted tea shop society of the modern Empire.

Fang was examined, and booked through for an anaesthetic and x-rays.

I continued consulting with Nancy, who took tremendous but mysterious enjoyment in my history-taking techniques, till morning tea. Then I was to start my operations.

While we were nibbling biscuits, I asked Nancy if the vet I was filling in for was on holiday somewhere exotic. Flights from London crossed the planet in a spider-web of impossible locations, at unbelievable prices opportunities which seemed impossible to resist.

No, not really. James is still in hospital.

Hospital? Why?

Nancy looked at her biscuit.

We had an armed hold-up two weeks ago, and he was beaten up really badly. He will be alright eventually.

James had offered no resistance and had taken them directly to the dangerous drugs safe. It was rather worrying that there was a practice policy on armed hold ups, alongside the list of options when dealing with stray cats and squirrels.

They beat him up when he gave them all the drugs?

I was somehow shocked at such unethical behaviour.

Yeah, rather poor form. More tea?

After I had recovered from that little revelation Nancy showed me round the theatre and x-ray suite. A huge and powerful machine of cutting-edge technology shone dimly in the lead-lined x-ray room.

I squeaked in pleasure at the thought of illuminating Fang's spine with such a fine piece of equipment.

Fantastic! Where's the on switch?

I started fiddling with dials, as my employer leapt from the darkness and in urgent tones, pleaded with me not to touch the buttons. It was our first meeting. Having never referred to any employer by anything other than their first name, I naturally called Philip Green, Philip, or variants of Philip at least.

Sorry Phil, don't you want me to do the x-rays of this dog then?

No, Philip did not want me near his pride and joy. I was to get on with the cat spays and he would look after

Fang.

Apparently he also preferred his hired help to call him Mr Green. Interpreting his hesitancy with my familiarity as shyness, I made even greater efforts to make him feel relaxed in my presence. While I whipped through the list of ova-hysterectomies I chatted away to him as he passed through, sharing my impressions of English life with him. As he was a fellow vet I assumed that this bond between us would be greater than any possible cultural differences. I asked him about washing, and the origins of this English aversion to soap.

Nancy bit her lip while he fumbled over the reply. I found out that night he had installed a coin operated hot water meter in the locum flat. He was of the opinion that all those from Down Under were genetically cursed with obsessive-compulsive issues over personal hygiene.

In the afternoon I was consulting again. Nancy was assigned to me for the duration. I made heroic efforts to mimic Nancy's accent, and although it felt like being an actor on a stage production of Dad's Army, my new vowel attempts appeared well received and Nancy had to intervene less often.

As the day progressed I noticed that there were an extraordinary number of intact males coming through the door. I started addressing this problem, and discussed the advantages of castration at every frequent opportunity.

I was so busy typing notes from the examinations that these additional clinical discussions were conducted while I was wrestling with the computing system, so my one-way conversation bounced off the computer screen and boomeranged over my shoulder back to the client.

Well, there are no disadvantages really, and it dramatically reduces the incidence of prostatic disease. I mean, you are a bloke, you must know about prostates, and how unpleasant all that business can be. In humans they sometimes use a miniature vacuum cleaner up the urethra to Hoover out the prostate from inside, but it cannot be pleasant, can it? So much better to be castrated, don't you think?

Nancy coughed. I looked up, wondering if she had swallowed something. She was hunched over the sink, shaking, fist jammed in her mouth. Her eyes were watering.

Nancy, you OK?

She nodded, and busied herself by cleaning the thermometer with vigour.

The client had become strangely silent. I hoped he had been paying attention and turned round, giving him a sharp look. Dark, dilated pupils stared from a pallid visage. He was clutching the dog lead defensively across his groin. He did not look well.

You OK? I asked him kindly.

Yes, thank-you... he scrabbled at the door handle, keeping his back to the wall.

Think I will just get the tablets at the desk, do excuse me.

Nancy, what is wrong?

Between bouts of helpless giggling, Nancy explained to me the rather delicate nature of the English male psyche. My attempt to develop an empathy with the middle-aged owner, over the matter of his dog's possible health problems, was doomed to failure. He went into shock at the mere mention of the word castration. Nancy thought he was about to collapse when I breezed on to discussions of aspirant treatments.

Nancy was an expert in antipodean assimilation, and told me the numerous ways in which the English were less robust than my south Auckland clientele.

By the end of the week, not only could I muster a passable British vowel sound on a second or third attempt, I also had a vague idea of which subjects required verbal coyness and which I could approach more directly. Shocked silences in the consult room became less frequent, although admittedly, even now they have never completely disappeared.

However, Nancy never told me about Philip's nominal hang-ups. She let me carry on calling him Phil till the last day.

When my two weeks at Green and Partners was up, I rang the agency to ask for another job, somewhere less

exciting I felt might be appropriate.

Linda the manager was delighted to hear from me.

Yes, dear, they really enjoyed having you, and they even tell me they have taught you to speak English!



The author

Britain-based veterinarian Fiona Dalzell seen here with Sally is doing a BA in English and Philosophy at Massey. She is also a keen paraglider pilot. The Land of Babel was written for Massey's extramural travel writing paper.



The illustrator

With a story to publish, but no illustration to run with it, who better to turn to than Massey's own talented students? Tutor Stefan Messam set the project as a class assignment. It proved a fascinating exercise, showing the many ways in which a story can be read and how variously it can be illustrated.

The student whose work was selected was Lawton Lonsdale. Originally from New Plymouth, Lawton came to Wellington to study film. However during his first three years at university he discovered a passion for illustration which would come to outgrow his love of film. Next year he enters his fourth and final year as an illustration major, after which he looks forward to paying the bills by doing what he loves. He hopes to combine both his passions by entering the film industry as a conceptual artist and illustrator.

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The player

Di Billing meets Professor Charles Corrado

Mug of coffee in hand, Professor Charles Corrado is on the move. He has an idea and who better to share it with than his colleague Professor Henk Berkman. The chance to work alongside other world-ranked finance researchers like Berkman is one reason Corrado decided to join Massey. (Eight other prominent researchers from the US and the UK have also recently joined the programme.)

Another may have been his spacious office with its panoramic view over Albany's green fields. It literally broadens my view. Until now I have only worked in small, dark cupboards which tend to dampen the mind, he says.

Not that this mind ever seems to have been dampened. Corrado has two PhDs, one in economics and the other in finance no mean feat for someone whose academic training was interrupted by service in the Vietnam War. (US-born Corrado recently returned to Vietnam for the first time since 1968 in the company of a young Hanoi-born PhD student. It provided, he says, two very different perspectives, which greatly increased the value of the experience.)

In his current work, Corrado specialises in statistics and investments with a particular interest in options and futures. For example, I am sometimes enlisted as a consultant to place a fair monetary value on employee stock option programmes.

Despite his expertise, he says he can't say and nobody can really say for sure what is going to happen to the stock market. You may get a cycle, an 'up' and a 'down', and within that cycle there will be confounding effects. But no stock market is readily predictable. After all, the people involved are not predictable much less the events that may have an impact on the market.

Here, he says, we may be surprised to learn what does and does not affect the markets. This year's general election? It will have had an impact, of course, but perhaps not as much as some might think. Terrorism attacks? He is glad I asked. Now that is very interesting. We would think yes. But an article printed recently in the Wall Street Journal finds that the attacks in New York and Washington in September 2001 did not have as much impact as is generally thought. The article concludes that on average terrorism incidents have little impact. Cold as this may seem, investors do not react strongly to something affecting what is, after all, a small proportion of the population.

Despite the difficulty in predicting market behaviour, he is a player and has been for three decades. He started with mutual funds and bonds but these became boring, so he switched to the share market.

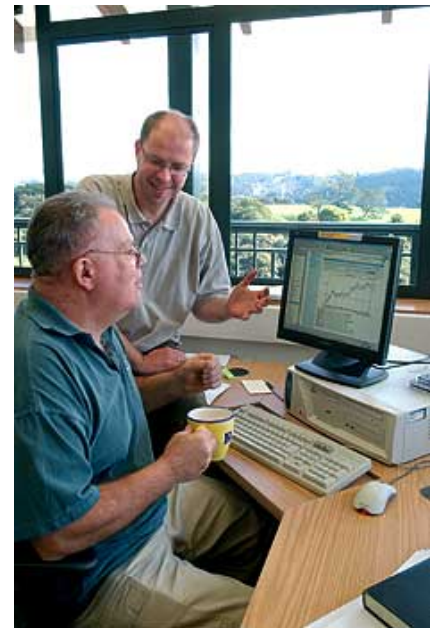
He agrees that there is such a thing as a risk-taking or gambling personality, someone attracted by the excitement as well as the potential for financial gain, and acknowledges that he may fit the profile. He lights up as he talks about his investment portfolio: I have been a technology investor, which I suppose shows some foresight but means I have seen my portfolio go up and down by huge amounts over the years. I still remain mainly interested in technology investments, mostly offshore, but I also keep part of my money in so-called stock index funds.

I'm hooked, although I'm becoming aware that retirement will come up sometime and around about then, the high-risk levels in my portfolio may have to be reduced.

In the meantime, his research and investment interests are served by a virtually paper-less office. Once he subscribed to every major financial journal, enough to fill his office twice over. Now, almost everything is available online. He spends little time with New Zealand commentary.

Is most of it useless? I wouldn't go that far. The public here does seem to have an insatiable appetite for finance news, particularly about the share market, even if it contains limited information. I seldom read more than the headlines. To me it's mostly noise.

Local publications, including National Business Review, do feature among his Internet favourites. But the Wall Street Journal is at the top, just above CNN. And there is one hard-copy resource on hand: a veteran, rather battle-worn copy of Kendall's Advanced Theory of Statistics by A. Stuart and J.K. Ord (originally by M. Kendall).



published by the Oxford University Press and regarded by Corrado as the best single reference work in statistics. This is my bible, he says, taking it off the shelf and proudly showing off its dog-eared pages. I refer to it constantly.

Professor Charles Corrado

Born in the US, Charles Corrado completed two PhDs, in economics and in finance, at the State University of New York and the University of Arizona respectively. In an academic career that has largely focused on investments, he has taught at Loyola University in Chicago, the University of Missouri in Columbia, the University of Auckland, and the University of Technology in Sydney. He is a senior associate of the Australian Institute of Banking and Finance, a member of the American Finance Association, the Financial Management Association, and Western Finance Association; and is an elected director of the Multinational Finance Society, as well as associate editor of the Multinational Finance Journal and the Journal of Futures Markets. A recently published paper covers forecasting stock index volatility, and his many research awards include two for the best paper on Australian and New Zealand capital markets.

In a survey based on publication between 1990 and 2004 in 21 leading financial journals, Professor Corrado was ranked 12th among individual academics in the Asia-Pacific region. Massey's finance programme strengthened by the arrival of a further eight prominent researchers from the US and the UK was also ranked 12th in the Asia-Pacific region. The survey, conducted by researchers at Western Kentucky University and the University of Daytona, recently appeared in the Pacific Basin Finance Journal.

Professor Henk Berkman

Professor Henk Berkman completed his PhD at Erasmus University, Rotterdam. Before joining Massey, Professor Berkman served on the faculties of Erasmus University and Auckland University. He was visiting professor at the Universities of Sydney, Kansas and Maastricht.

His teaching experience covers most areas in finance at undergraduate, honours and postgraduate levels. He has published in a number of major international journals, including the Journal of Financial Economics, the Review of Financial Studies and Financial Management.

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Oh islands in the sun

Professor Kerry Howe investigates the unreliable histories of Oceania. Malcolm Wood meets him on the Auckland campus.

He fell for the Pacific early. From Narrow Neck Beach, close by the family home, the boy would gaze out past the pohutukawa, past the volcanic cone of Rangitoto, to where the ships came and went, their destinations distant and exotic.

He had an uncle, a merchant seaman, who would tell him tall, sometimes macabre tales. One tale from the tropics, he remembers, was of sharks, fed newly boiled whole pumpkins, churning the sea in their death throes as the pumpkins burst.

Around the bays, beaches and mangroves north of Auckland he fished, snorkelled and messed about in small boats. He read Defoe's Robinson Crusoe, Melville's Moby Dick, Stevenson's Treasure Island, Bligh and Christian's [Edward Christian, Fletcher Christian's brother] The Bounty Mutiny (some in the Classic Comic editions) and Thor Heyerdahl's The Kon-Tiki Expedition. He traced Cook's voyages on the map.

In hindsight it seems inevitable that he would one day light out for the Pacific islands.

In 1971 Kerry Howe made it. The boy was now a PhD student undertaking his field work, and the Loyalty Islands had all the travel-brochure tropical trappings: atolls fringed with expanses of white-sand beach, azure water and coral reefs. But it was a strait-laced paradise.

Sunday you basically went to church for the entire day, says Howe. I remember sitting in these dreadfully hot churches and not understanding a word of what was going on with the singing and preaching. You'd look out the windows and there would be these absolutely glorious beaches with not a soul on them. Beside him in the pew Marilyn, his wife, sweltered in the neck-to-knee Mother Hubbard propriety demanded of her.

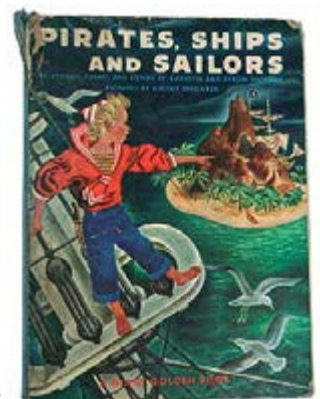
What is the Pacific like? It is not a question that can really be asked without asking another: How has the Pacific been imagined to be?

For centuries the West has projected its vision on to the Pacific and its islands, which have variously been seen as paradise and as paradise lost, as a paradigm for man living in harmony with nature and as cautionary examples of what happens when environmental destruction goes unchecked.

The peoples of the Pacific have been depicted as noble and as brutish; as the hapless victims of colonialism and as participants in the colonial enterprise. Their epic journeyings around the Pacific have been depicted as controlled and purposeful, and as little more than the consequence of drift and chance. They have been cast as one of the lost tribes of Israel, and as Johnny-come-latelies who have usurped the place of older, more sophisticated civilisations of Atlanteans, Celts, Egyptians or what-you-will.

What is the Pacific like? How would you like it to be?

Kerry Howe now Professor Kerry Howe is talking to me in his office on the Auckland campus at Albany, not far from where he grew up. The boy who messed about in boats has become an academic who in his free time messes about in sea kayaks. (On a wall map the red line of Howe's kayaking travels snakes up the coast from East Cape to North Cape, and he has recently published Coastal Sea Kayaking in New Zealand: A Practical Touring Manual.) And while he is no longer as absurdly youthful as he appears in his photos from the Loyalty Islands, there is still a certain exuberance to him. In a well-mannered way he is still a bit of a stirrer, a debunker of received opinion.



For 40 years he has been studying the history of the Pacific and the historiography of the Pacific the history of the writing of the history. The histories of the Pacific tell us as much about the historians and the times they lived in as they do about what happened, says Howe. What we think of as histories are, more often than not, thinly veiled morality tales.

If history is as much about the teller as the tale, then who is Kerry Howe?

Kerry Howe, the kid from Devonport, headed to university in 1965, the first of his wider family to do so. It wasn't really until I got to university that I became conscious of things called ideas: economic ideas, political ideas. It was quite a mind-blowing experience. There were people there who had written books I'd never met people who wrote books.



He reels off the names. Historians like Keith Sinclair, Keith Sorrenson, Russell Stone and Howe's thesis supervisor, Judith Binney. He became aware of painters like Don Binney, Ralph Hotere, Colin McCahon and Pat Hanley. Poets like Hone Tuwhare and, again, Keith Sinclair. Writers like Maurice Shadbolt, who was exploring the nature of postcolonial New Zealand society in novels and short stories. Looking to them and their like, Howe became, as he puts it, a romantic nationalist.

The sixties also ushered in the Vietnam War and accompanying protest, the American civil rights movement which Howe credits with having had a huge and still largely underestimated influence in New Zealand and a swag of ideologies, among them feminism, anti-racism and anti-colonialism.

But the greatest 'ism' the one that left its imprint on his generation was optimism. We grizzled about the world and we grizzled about the Vietnam War and we started to grizzle about the environment, but there was always this sense that the future was only going to get better and better and better, says Howe. By being involved in mainstream politics we would make the world a better place.



It was a good time to make one's mark as a Pacific historian. Hallowed orthodoxies were being overthrown. The Great Migration with its Great Fleet of canoes was no more, demolished by Andrew Sharp and David Simmons as being the product of a nineteenth century historian's efforts to tidy up oral traditions. (As a guest lecturer Sharp would declare to his Auckland University audience: I stand before you as a heretic.) Archaeology was being revolutionised by carbon dating, and instead of solely addressing material culture it had begun to take a broader ecological approach.

For his masterate thesis Howe chose to examine the interaction of Maori, missionaries and civilisation in the upper Waikato from 1833 to 1863. Superficially the examination of a thin slice of history, the thesis would allow Howe to delve into one of the controversies surrounding contact history: the validity of the 'fatal impact' interpretation. In essence, the fatal impact version of contact history follows a simple narrative in which a superior culture meets and overwhelms a primitive culture; perpetrator meets victim.

Howe's supervisor, Judith Binney, leaned towards a fatal impact interpretation of the contact between Maori and European. Howe's belief which his thesis would turn out to support was that contact histories tend to represent a more complex interplay, with each culture learning from and exploiting the other.



His MA thesis completed, Howe headed to Canberra and the Department of Pacific History at the Australian National University to do his PhD. Well resourced and internationally staffed, the Australian National University was an amazing place, Howe remembers, where everyone was writing books. (A visiting fellow who particularly impressed Howe was David Lewis, who studied Polynesian navigational methods and had sailed single-handed around the Antarctic.)

In place of imperial history as seen through the eyes of missionaries, traders and administrators the Australian National University had pioneered an 'island-centred' perspective, placing island events in the context of the indigenous culture.

Howe's field research took him to the Loyalty Islands, which lie in a band along the east coast of New Caledonia, to which they belong. For Howe the islands looked like an ideal place for a field study.

For one thing, unusually for Melanesia, the Loyalty Islanders had responded to the overtures of the missionaries in the nineteenth century and become ardently Christian which interested Howe. For another, blessed with an absence of covetable resources, the Loyalty Islanders had been left largely to their own

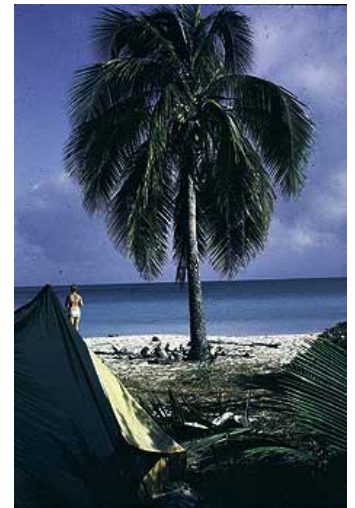
devices, unlike mainland New Caledonia, where the exploitation of the island's huge reserves of nickel was accompanied by mass dispossessions and social disruption. (Being obviously non-French speakers did the Howes no social harm.)



The Loyalty Islanders took the Howes into their lives. They fed and clothed us and took us around. They did everything for us. This wasn't just courtesy or custom. It genuinely was a very welcoming society, says Howe, for whom the experience was life-defining. People lived very simple lives. None of the roads were sealed. People were still cooking on primuses, and there were Coleman lamps at night. In our romantic youthful way we thought this all was quite wonderful.

Howe would visit sites unchanged from the nineteenth century the hill where there had been a battle between the Catholic and Protestant factions of the Islanders, or the beach where the sandalwood trade had been conducted and talk to Islanders for whom the last century's events lived on.

The Islanders could remember stories going back to the 1840s and the 1850s and the names of traders and which island women they had married. These were aspects of their history that were part of their everyday world.



Why had the Loyalty Islanders proven so susceptible to Christianity when their near neighbours in New Caledonia had not? The answer lay in the structure of their societies: the Loyalty Islands had tribal, chiefly structures, which New Caledonia largely did not, and Christianity could be used to a chief's political advantage. Some chose English Protestant missionaries, their enemies then chose French Catholic ones.

Back in Palmerston North courtesy of a Massey University postdoctoral fellowship, Howe turned his PhD thesis into a book, *The Loyalty Islands: A History of Culture Contacts 1840 1900*.

Now he nurtured wider ambitions. He was wary of micro-history: writing ever more detailed monographs about ever more esoteric subjects. He yearned for some larger synthesis, to pull back from cinematic close-up to a more instructive wide focus.

These days he quotes the New Zealand philosopher Peter Munz. Had Darwin been a historian rather than a naturalist, Munz wrote, he might well have described the different shapes of finches' beaks on the various islands of the Galapagos and left it at that. Instead, because he was looking for more overarching explanations, his observations helped form and support his ideas about natural selection.

Howe looked at the Pacific and its host of different societal interactions and wondered where he might make some attempt at explaining human cultural interaction more broadly.

Where the Waves Fall: A New South Sea Islands History (1984) was the result, a wide-ranging survey and synthesis which found patterns in the detailed research findings of others. Howe found, for example, that through much of Polynesia the early period of contact with Europeans tended to bring about a political centralisation by indigenous leaders.

But one of the lessons of *Where the Waves Fall* is that no one narrative holds true. Each island's contact experience and subsequent history are uniquely its own. If, for example, Christianity in the Loyalty Islands had been driven by chiefs seeking political advantage, then in New Zealand and Samoa the tendency had been for ordinary individuals to convert first and the upper echelons to follow. Howe describes *Where the Waves Fall* as the most influential of his books.

Howe now struck out into a new genre with a biography, *Singer in a Songless Land: A Life of Edward Tregear, 1846-1931*, though his choice of subject would still involve him in his specialist interests contact history and Pacific historiography and in much else.

One of the attractions of writing a biography is that you are dealing with the smallest unit of history: a person. But you can't just write about that. You have to write about the life and the times. So I ended up having to write an enormous amount about New Zealand's history during Tregear's lifetime.

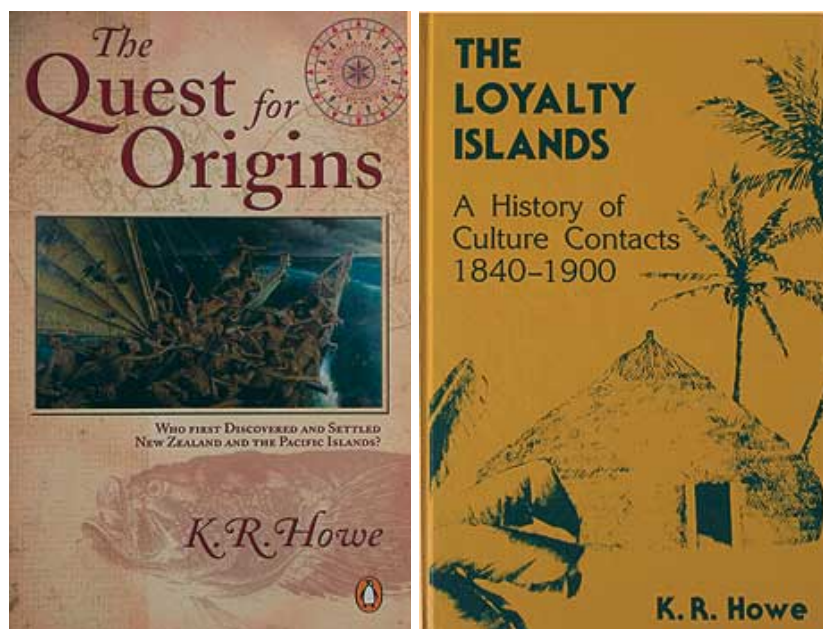
Born in England in 1846 and raised in comfortable circumstances, Edward Tregear had emigrated to New Zealand in 1863 at age 17. With him he brought his family, which was in newly parlous circumstances; Tregear's father, a sea captain, had died two years earlier after first squandering the family wealth.

Tregear became a soldier and then a surveyor, spending months at a time in Maori communities. It was a hard scrabble for existence in an alien land, but one to which Tregear brought his own peculiar sensibility. Classically schooled, Tregear had been able to read and write Greek and Latin at age seven. From his early years he had been captivated by Celtic, Nordic and classical legend. Now, as he acclimatised, Tregear set about applying his learning and his passion for the new sciences of comparative mythology, religion and linguistics to his new land and its people. In 1885 he published *The Aryan Maori*, which was able to find relics of Aryan heritage embedded in Maori language, mythology and custom.

Tregear was one of the founders of the Polynesian Society. He compiled well-regarded dictionaries of Maori and Polynesian languages. This is Tregear the interpreter of matters Maori and Polynesian.

The other Tregear is the civil servant and social reformer. In 1891 he was appointed Secretary to the Department of Labour. He largely administered the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act of 1894, and he became the leading publicist and theoretician of New Zealand labour reform. Did Howe find himself liking his subject? The question is off the point. You don't have to like them, but you have to connect. You need to understand why they did what they did, he says.

I didn't approve of a lot of things that he believed in; he was a creature of the nineteenth century and I am one of the twentieth. In many ways he is an archetypal kind of New Zealander; some of the values and concerns he stood for you can see continuing on through New Zealand society: his concern that we should have an ordered and a decent society. A society that would have none of the evils of the old world. A society that would have no class conflicts. He was an idealist, but he was a practical idealist.



It isn't hard to see Tregear as Howe's spiritual kin: both romantic idealists, both nationalists, both authors, both followers of literature and the arts.

The times in which it was written also gave the biography a personal resonance. It's what we now call 'presentism', says Howe, the sub-agenda I had in the 1980s gave the book a particular slant. I often think that had I written it in the 1970s it might have been quite different.

Even as Howe was writing, the welfare state, which had nascent beginnings in Tregear's times and which Howe and his parents had grown up in, was being dismantled by Roger Douglas and David Lange. It was quite jarring. It wasn't just institutional change. It was a change in values from those of the collective common good to those of the market and the individual.

Within the universities the change was also visible in a new managerialism that challenged the primacy of older, more academic values.

Writing *Singer in a Songless Land* brought home to Howe how shallow the time frame is for New Zealand history and how close-knit the political scene. Howe tracked down two of Tregear's grandchildren and one of his nephews. All had adult memories of Tregear, who lived into his eighties, dying in 1931. I got an enormous amount from them.

The book was launched at Massey in Palmerston North by former Prime Minister Bill Rowling and with

Tregear's relatives present. I rang him to see if he would read the book and then launch it, and he said 'Yes, yes, I'll do that', says Howe. So we had the Tregear extended family there and Rowling, who was the last representative of a particular philosophy, beginning with Tregear and the Liberals, in New Zealand political behaviour.

There may be another reason why it was a good time for an excursion into biography: for the moment the writing of contact history had become highly politicised, to the point of being a no-go area.

Who 'owns' history? Writing from within the nineteenth century colonial enterprise Tregear had, of course, 'appropriated' Maori history without qualm. In nineteenth century New Zealand the ownership of history was not an issue. Come the mid-twentieth century and there was a consciousness that the issue existed. Yet even in the 1970s there were voices from within Maoridom urging Pa-keha- historians to do more to incorporate Maori history into their accounts of Aotearoa. However, in the late 1970s and early 1980s factions within Maoridom began to argue vehemently that non-Maori should not be writing about Maori history at all.

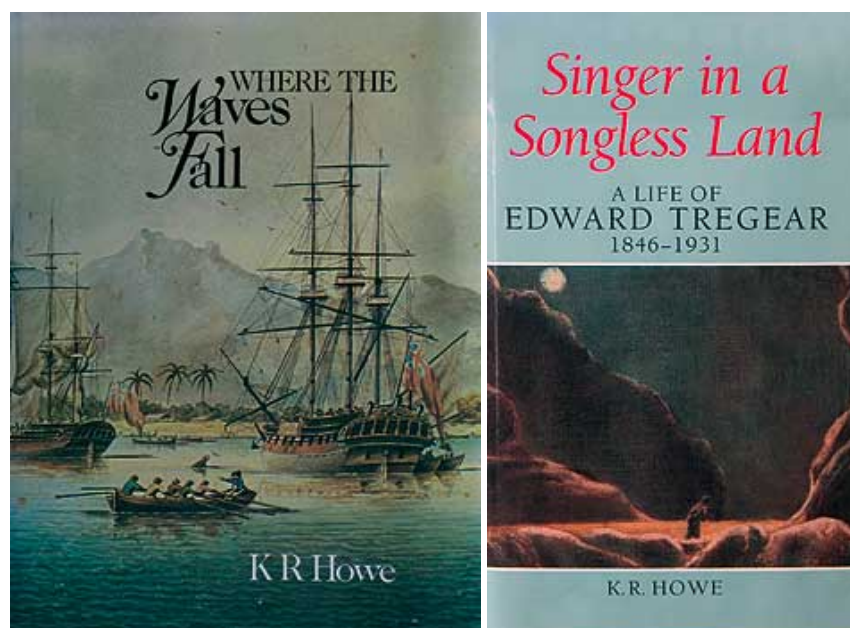
One of the most famous exchanges, says Howe, took place in 1978 between the historian Michael King and Professor Sydney Mead in the pages of the New Zealand Listener. Mead took Pa-keha- to task for, as he put it, reaching into Maori culture and pulling out features with which they can identify, taking hold of quite generous portions which they then try to fit into a Pa-keha- cultural world .

Within factions of Maoridom, Pa-keha- historians were accused of being cultural raiders, too arrogant to realise that as Pa-keha- they would never understand tikanga Maori.

King never went back to Maori history in the same way even in later years, says Howe. There was what amounted to censorship. The historiography of cultural contact as it was written in this country came to an end in the 1970s and it only got going again in a different guise, with what I call grievance history, when the Waitangi Tribunal came along. It is only now that we are moving along again.

In other Pacific islands usually those where indigenous people were heavily outnumbered by later immigrants and their descendants there was a similar backlash. During a period of teaching at the University of Hawai'i, Howe received death threats from extreme nationalists, which he now understands were more a matter of form than of intent. Elsewhere the sentiment was present but muted.

You would get up at conferences and the locals would berate all the white faces in the audience for being white academic imperialists, then have a cup of tea with you afterwards. It was sometimes an uncomfortable time. You had to maintain your own sense of integrity and get on with it. Some people survived and some people didn't they gave it up.



Howe's next book was a return to Pacific history, or, more accurately, to historiography. Nature, Culture and History: The 'Knowing' of Oceania is a mature-career book, an erudite meditation building on decades of careful reading and research, and expanding on his Macmillan Brown Lectures.

Just as Howe had bucked against the orthodoxy of the fatal impact, now he would tilt at postcolonial extremism, first because of its insistence on a grand narrative the rise and fall of imperialism and second because of its reductive moralising: colonialism bad; postcolonialism good.

It can be a shallow game, Howe says. Instead of reading Cook's entire journal, for example, you only have to read and deconstruct a single paragraph and find in it every possible sin such as racism, sexism, culturalism. Cook becomes the personification of all modernist evil.

Howe is less dismissive of that other major movement to sweep through the humanities, postmodernism; in fact he has taught courses in it. In the postmodern understanding interpretation is everything; reality only comes into being through our interpretations of what the world means to us individually.

Postmodernism, Howe says, was useful in its insistence that the question not be, 'What is history?' but 'Who is history for?' But then history, Howe says, has always had a sceptical approach, and the race relations and contact history Howe wrote had always had an awareness of the 'other'. And no matter what approach postmodernism brings, things (deaths, wars, acts of Parliament) indisputably happen.

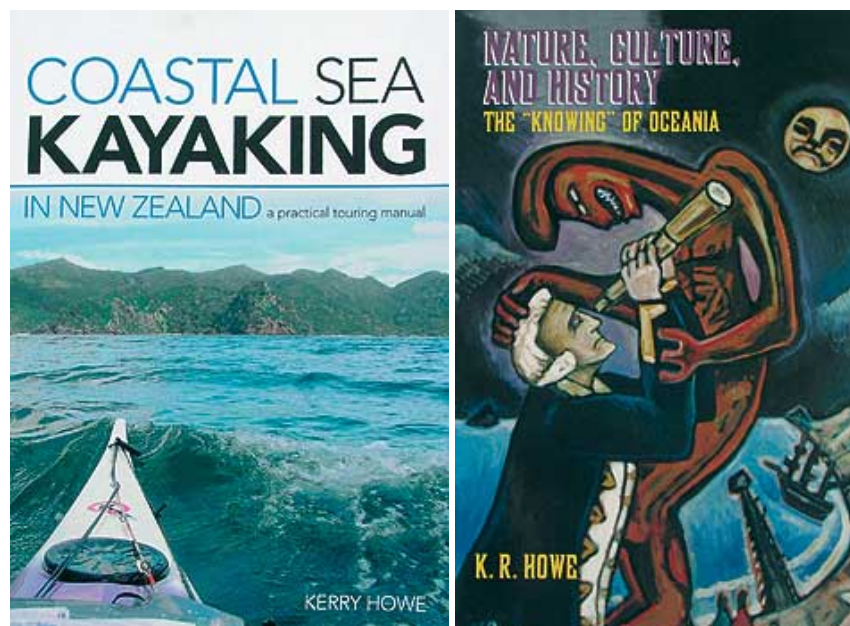
But he has his criticisms. Postmodernism, he says, can be a cul-de-sac that disables historians from talking outside of their tribe. It has had a corrosive effect on the traditional teaching of some disciplines, notably English. And there has been a flavour-of-the-month character to it. He remembers conferences, Howe writes, where every young presenter (and some of the older ones) fell over themselves to spend the first half of their papers wallowing in their ideological positioning. I used to seethe at the waste of time as they went through the convoluted arguments of dozens of crazed French poststructuralists, before turning their attention to some event in the Pacific and then there was usually no connection.

If Howe disagrees with some of the orthodoxies of academic historians, then he is more than testy about the strains of Pacific 'history' that find evidence of visits by Chinese caravels, of settlement by Peruvians (sorry Thor Heyerdahl) or Celts, or, for that matter, of the existence of advanced civilisations that flourished tens of thousands of years ago. Notions like these should not stand without challenge.

When there are issues of public comment that historians or anybody else know something about, then they should be saying things on the radio or in the columns of the newspaper, says Howe.

The Quest for Origins: Who First Discovered and Settled New Zealand and the Pacific Islands?, the bestseller that is the most recent of Howe's history books, was written in part as a response to the proliferation of nonsense history. Quest for Origins sets out the linguistic, archaeological and biological evidence for the pattern of New Zealand settlement, as well as presenting the theories that once held sway and locating them within the context of their times.

As to the examples Howe looks to, he suggests that historians would do well to attend to writers outside of their profession. The history that has made the most impact in recent years has been history written by non-historians, he says. I am thinking of Jared Diamond [Guns, Germs and Steel and the recently published Collapse], Simon Winchester [The Map that Changed the World and Krakatoa], Dava Sobel [Longitude and Galileo's Daughter]. They are all writing about historical things in a way that strikes a chord. People find it accessible and they respond to it.



Howe's current project is a collaboration with five other academics that will result in a high-tech exhibition, which will tour internationally, and an accompanying scholarly, large-format lavishly illustrated book, for which

Howe is the general editor and the author of two chapters.

An initiative of the Auckland War Memorial Museum, *Waka Moana: Voyages of the Ancestors* will be of a similar scale to the much-lauded Te Maori exhibition of 1990. *Waka Moana* will set the Pacific islands and New Zealand in the context of global settlement. Oceania was the last region on earth to be settled and New Zealand, settled just 700 years ago, truly is, in the words of Kipling, last, loneliest, loveliest, says Howe.

The exhibition will explore the origins of the peoples of Oceania and how and when settlement took place. It will illuminate some of the debates. And it won't be, says Howe, just a white man's scientific story. We've gone to a lot of effort to present how indigenous peoples may have thought about the cosmos and their place within it.

So the stars, for example, are not just navigational instruments. They represent such things as ancestors, explains Howe. The names people gave things can be traced all the back way across, the Pacific. These are cultural footprints.

How does Howe feel about the current state of Oceania: the failed state of the Solomons, the Fiji coup, the depopulation of some islands, the pollution and overcrowding of others?

In many ways, says Howe, we shouldn't have been too surprised that these things have happened. Most of us didn't see that in the sixties, seventies and eighties because we wished for something else.

When the new nation states in the Pacific achieved independence, which was late in global historical terms it wasn't really mostly until the 1970s that it happened there was this enormous sense of optimism. All you needed was a constitution. Pull down the colonial flag and put up a new one and it would be marvelous, and of course it wasn't.

The sort of divisive tribalism that people talk about and the lack of a 'national' cohesive society in a Western sense was always there. It was just masked by the overlay of colonial rule and colonial control.

But it is simplistic to finger colonialism for the woes of the Pacific, or to blame the nature of Pacific island societies. For many of the Pacific islands the geographical disadvantages of being small, resource-poor and isolated are overwhelming, yet their inhabitants are still saddled with the expectations of modernity.

Something is happening to human societies everywhere on earth. We had the industrial revolution and the electronic revolution. We are a technologically and industrially driven world community, and some countries have the capacity to benefit in a way that others don't, says Howe. You can't give everybody the ability to go to The Warehouse and put goods on the credit card. It isn't going to work.

Kerry Howe would like to show me something. From among volumes that line his walls he excavates his battered talisman: *Pirates, Ships and Sailors*, a Giant Golden Book. This is one of the books he credits with snaring his childhood imagination and starting him along the path that would eventually lead him to his professor's office.

The enchantment of history is the enchantment of stories, and stories successful stories set up and meet certain expectations, conform to certain templates. Many first-time readers of Thor Heyerdahl's *Kon-Tiki Expedition* must still be enthralled. So Easter Island was settled by South Americans. Extraordinary! The daring adventurer is vindicated.

Who can blame them? Even readers who know that Heyerdahl got it wrong must catch themselves thinking, 'Wouldn't it have been great if Heyerdahl had been right?' It would be more satisfying, a better campfire story. But if enough people believe them, stories factual, ill informed or flights of fancy have consequences. Tregear's writings claiming erroneously an Aryan ancestry for the Maori people affected the way generations of Pa-keha and Maori viewed themselves and each other.

If we want to change the world then it helps to understand it accurately.

Do we now have truth in history, or at least in history as practised within academia? Not invariably, says Howe. Some history has been written to conform to fit the critical theory of the day, some to comply with what he terms a lazy political correctness. Some misapplies the standards of the present to the past. Some shows little evidence of the requisite reading and research.

Howe, who started out in his career puncturing the orthodoxies of his day, still has his work cut out.

In an age hungry for simple verities, Howe is one of those who believes the truth to be seldom pure and never

simple. Good history is self-aware, complex sometimes to the point of being contradictory and confused and seldom deals in moral certainties. That's what makes it so interesting.



Different legacies

Race relations in Australia and New Zealand

In 1970, three months into his PhD at the Australian National University, Howe and his wife skived off from Canberra in a Holden station wagon for an extended trip to see the country. Outback Australia, with its immensity and beauty, enthralled him; the condition of its Aboriginal inhabitants left him distressed and appalled. Their lives were afflicted by poverty, drunkenness and brutality.



His response, partly my own way of sorting out things in my own head, was a short book, *Race Relations Australia and New Zealand: A Comparative Survey 1770s-1970s*.

Why were the contact histories of Australia and New Zealand so different? Perhaps more than any other single factor, the respective natures of Maori and Aboriginal societies in pre-European times help to explain why Maori and Aboriginal relations with Europeans have been very different in the two countries, writes Howe in the book's opening sentence.

In turn the societal differences were in part an expression of the physical environment: New Zealand, rugged, fertile and temperate; Australia, largely flat, infertile and arid.

The Maori practised agriculture as well as hunting, fishing and gathering and lived relatively settled existences; the Aborigines had no agriculture, moving their campsites according to the seasonal availability of food. Maori society was stratified and hierarchical; Aboriginal society was not. The Maori were practised warriors whose object was often land; such Aboriginal intertribal warfare as took place was mainly skirmishing, and territorial conquest was virtually unknown.

These very different societal characteristics combined with European ethnocentricity and racism put the Maori far closer to the accepted British norm.

The stark difference in European attitudes to Maori and Aborigines is made flesh in the person of missionary Samuel Marsden, who arrived in Sydney in 1794 and would later mount a series of voyages to New Zealand. He was only too keen to proselytize among Maori [he favoured the idea of the Maori being one of the lost tribes of Israel], but he wanted nothing to do with Aborigines, who he thought were cursed with the mark of Cain, says Howe.

For their part, unlike the Maori, the Aborigines initially had little use for Christianity or indeed for many of the European beliefs and trappings.

The book led to Howe teaching a course in comparative race relations at Massey for many years, until the Springbok tour made this untenable. Many people felt obliged to nail colours to wall. It was all tied up with post-colonial mentality. It became impossible to hold a rational discussion about contact history when there were such heated emotions all tied up in an explosive mix of rugby and race.

I don't think you could teach a course like that now. Unless you were taking a line that indigenous people were

universally damaged and dispossessed all to the same extent you are probably on a hiding to nowhere. Any attempt to say that New Zealand has a better record on race relations than Australia and I think you'd just be screamed down.

Nor, despite approaches from publishers, has he any inclination to update the book. I think books are creatures of their times. You write them and move on.

Date: 05/10/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Book; College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Massey Magazine

Fresh and exciting documentary wins

Massey University graduate Richard Sidey won the short documentary section at the New Zealand Documentary Festival this week, for a project he completed in 2004 as a final year design student.



"Aeon" takes a unique look at Wellington city, combining quick, montage shots edited to percussion, with an eastern birth/life/death structure and haiku.

The primary objective was to offer new perspectives of time that we experience every day, says Mr Sidey. Secondary objectives included creating a multi-narrative experimental documentary, revealing elements of design through time manipulation, and deriving a personal touch by involving locations around Wellington that I have come to know.

The eastern perspective creates a cyclical structure, and builds a solid structure to which the film can be composed.

"Aeon" contains more than 50 hours of recorded footage compressed into 12 minutes.

The judges say they were bowled over by the filmmaker's visual technical skill and his sure handling of a non-narrative film, taking a format that has been done many times before, but making it fresh and exciting.

View "Aeon" at <http://digitalmedia.massey.ac.nz/exposure/student.php?id=6>

Date: 06/10/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Creative Arts

Religious groups or potential terrorists?

Some New Zealand religious groups fit an internationally-recognised definition of a potential terrorist organisation, according to Dr Heather Kavan, a specialist in world religions.

Dr Kavan, who lectures in the Department of Communications and Journalism, told a counter-terrorism seminar in Wellington on 16 August of the similarities between the terrorist organisation Aum Shinrikyo, responsible for the fatal nerve gas attacks on the Tokyo subway a decade ago, and the Falun Gong movement, outlawed in China despite never having engaged in terrorist activities.



In a paper entitled *Dangerous organisations or dangerous situations? Comparing Aum Shinrikyo and Falun Gong*, Dr Kavan cited a United States intelligence report description of the Tokyo nerve gas attack, which killed 12 and injured 5000, as a textbook case of apocalyptic religious violence.

The authors of that report, known as Project Megiddo, asserted that any religious group in which a guru induced others to be totally dependent on him and his allegedly supernatural powers, while preaching the imminent end of the world, was intrinsically violent.

This description could, of course, apply to many religious organisations that have never engaged in terrorism, including New Zealand groups, Dr Kavan says.

She says there are several triggers that could push a non-violent cult into violence, including unwelcome attention from authorities or the news media, often resulting from disgruntled former members speaking publicly.

Leaders who profess to have an omniscient edge on the rest of us obviously have a greater potential than others to incite violence. Factors that may trigger violence (including suicides) in so-called cults are: negative publicity, impending police raids, exposes from ex-members, public humiliation of the leader, and more importantly likely loss of credibility.

She says groups who perceived their enemy as the United States are more likely to turn to terrorism.

Dr Kavan agrees with the Project Megiddo definition of religious groups that were intrinsically violent.

It's difficult to say how many New Zealand groups this definition applies to because most cults keep their dangerous aspects cleverly hidden.

Even cult scholars didn't see through Aum Shinrikyo, and the cult wasn't on any intelligence agency's radar. Even so, the definition applies to a range of groups from Destiny church and the Exclusive Brethren to the former cult led by Andy Narain.

Date: 06/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business



Meeting parents at the central information area in SSLB

Making the most of Open Days

More than 1500 visitors made the most of campus Open Days. Held on Wednesday 3 and Saturday 6 August, the event attracted high-school leavers, friends, family and mature students to the Turitea and Hokowhitu sites.

Soccer-playing robots, live Shakespeare, and a working television studio were among a number of highlights on display.

Staff and students showcased academic life through presentations and demonstrations across colleges, while student life representatives were on hand to deliver information on the University's student services, as well as hall tours which proved especially popular, according to event organiser Nicola Martin.

As expected, there was a lot of interest in the residential facilities that Palmerston North has to offer, she says. The Open Days gave us a unique opportunity to showcase not just these, but many of our leading-edge facilities, some of which are still under development.

Group tours led by students ushered visitors around the campus, which helped them navigate the campus safely.

I don't think that the construction on campus was a huge obstacle for us, Ms Martin says. Instead, visitors were fascinated by it. Staff had put such tremendous effort into showcasing the many opportunities that Massey offers, and conveyed a real sense of community.

I think visitors were excited to see first-hand how that community is constantly developing and the feedback we received from both Open Days has been very positive. I think the weather helped!

Wellington Open Day: 19 August. Auckland Open Day: 17 September.

Below left; Robots extinguishing fire proved a fascinating exhibit in the Riddet Atrium as part of the Explore Science programme; Band Skooter performs on concourse as part of lunchtime entertainment on Saturday. Below right: A working television studio goes live during a Media Studies presentation; and soccer-playing robots make it hard to score a goal.



Date: 06/10/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Palmerston North

Alumni launches Australasian chapters

The Office of Development and Alumni Relations successfully launched the Australian Alumni and Friends Network recently in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane.

The launches were held in the week of the 24 July and were headed by the Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear, with Professor Robert Anderson, Pro Vice-Chancellor, College of Sciences, attending the Melbourne launch.

The Melbourne launch was attended by 50 Massey graduates and partners, 35 attended the Sydney launch, and 45 in Brisbane.

Alumni Relations Manager Leanne Fecser says the chapter networks provide a means of communication between the University and its alumni and friends. The aim is to create an environment of opportunity and support that is beneficial in a range of ways to all involved, Ms Fecser says.

Our alumni were very pleased to see us and have the opportunity to discuss ways that the University could assist them and vice-versa.

Professor Kinnear provided alumni with an update of The University Today and her vision for its future, while Development and Alumni Relations Director Mike Freeman spoke about the importance of the relationship between alumni and the University. He described the development role of the Massey University Foundation in support of the University and ways in which alumni could contribute.

Suggestions received by alumni included facilitating collaborations between them and University staff, providing mentors for new graduates, offering a pool of excellence that alumni could tap in to for advice, and connecting alumni with relevant research initiatives.

We will be working on these ideas as we continue to build our networks, Ms Fecser says.

These launches follow on from the Auckland Alumni Chapter Launch that was held in November last year. That chapter met again in June and elected its first, nine-member, committee convened by John Barrand with Elizabeth Warner as Deputy Convenor.

The Wellington Alumni Chapter launch is scheduled for Tuesday 5 September and the Palmerston North Alumni Chapter launch is scheduled for Wednesday 27 September. The Office also plans to launch Hawke's Bay and Christchurch alumni chapters later this year or early next year.

It holds records of approximately 83,000 alumni and has current contact details for 56,000. Ms Fecser says it is a challenge to maintain an accurate and up-to-date database of such a scale.

We encourage people to keep us informed of new contact details to ensure they are kept up to date with Massey events and news.

Date: 13/10/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Alumni

Diabetes study looks at Manawatu Chinese

Manawatu's Chinese community is being called on to help with a study of type-two diabetes. A Masters student in the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, Ying Jin wants 150 volunteers for her study.

Participants must be over 30, be New Zealand citizens or permanent residents, have at least one parent who is fully Chinese, and must not have been diagnosed with diabetes.

Miss Jin says China has a high prevalence of type-two diabetes, which is generally associated with lifestyle and diet rather than genetics, as with type-one diabetes.

Chinese people living in other countries also had a tendency to gain weight faster due to a change in diet to include foods higher in fat content and more highly processed.

They are more likely to be sedentary living away from China because they stay at home or in their communities, she says.

Some get it even when not overweight or obese due to different body fat distribution.

While type-two diabetes tends to hit people in Western communities over the age of 40, with Asians the disease is often found in people aged in their 30s.

Her study looks at the relationship between diet and health of Chinese people living in the Manawatu. She hopes that of the 150 participants she can get at least half to agree to blood tests to check whether they have type-two diabetes.

Date: 13/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - HEALTH

The impact of housing loans

Banking researcher David Tripe will look at the likely future impact of lending by the banking sector, at a New Zealand Futures Trust forum in Wellington this week.

The overall title of the lunchtime forum series is Futures Thinking Aotearoa. Dr Tripe's presentation is titled 'The housing market, the balance of payments and New Zealand's foreign debt - exploring the linkages'.

He will look at the banks' lending on housing, and how the steady increase in such lending is likely to relate to the balance of payments deficit and the steady increase in private sector foreign indebtedness.

Dr Tripe is Director of the University's Centre for Banking Studies, and a senior lecturer in the Department of Finance, Banking and Property. Before joining the centre, he worked in a number of New Zealand banks.

He publishes a quarterly newsletter reviewing the financial performance of New Zealand banks. Other areas of interest include financial institution efficiency, competitive conditions in the banking market, issues arising from the foreign ownership of the New Zealand banking system, bank supervisory policy, securitisation, payments systems, and bank risk management. He is also interested in comparisons between the New Zealand banking system and that of other countries, particularly Australia.

The New Zealand Futures Trust is an independent non-profit organisation whose members aim to identify developments and changes affecting the lives and aspirations of New Zealanders, and to promote debate about possible futures.

Dr Tripe's forum will be held on Wednesday 16 August from 12.15 - 1.30 pm at the Museum Room, Turnbull House, Bowen St, Wellington.

Date: 13/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Top athletes vie for Massey education

Massey is increasingly being recognised as the University of choice among New Zealand's top athletes.

Facilities such as the Sport and Rugby Institute, the athletics track, the Recreation Centre and the Equine Centre make the Palmerston North campus particularly well-suited to athletes who want to study while continuing their training and advancement in national and international sports competition.

But all three campuses are home to some of New Zealand's best and brightest stars in a variety of sports.

The University also offers a range of increasingly popular sports-related courses and qualifications in areas such as sports management (marketing), science, and health and physical education (psychology).

Of the 587 recipients of this year's Prime Minister's Athlete Scholarships, 98 are Massey students 24 from Palmerston North campus, 21 from Auckland, five from Wellington and 48 extramural.

The scholarship programme aims to assist talented and elite athletes achieve tertiary and vocational qualifications while pursuing excellence in sport. It offers each student up to \$10,000 a year to assist with course fees and, where eligible, living allowances.

Massey students are representing New Zealand in golf, canoeing and kumite karate at the World University Championships next month and in September.

At the golf championships in Torino, Italy, from 5-9 September will be Ewan Westergaard and Amy Smith from Palmerston North campus, and Jenna Hirst (Auckland); at the canoeing in Krakow, Poland, from 7-10 September will be Michael Dawson and Tania Perrett (both Palmerston North); and at the karate in New York, from 4-6 August Amy Thomason (Wellington).

Massey sportsmen and women dominated this year's University Blues Awards for sporting achievement presented on 14 July, scooping 18 of the 52 awards a record number for the University.

Among them was Ms Perrett, who was recognised both for canoe/kayak and canoe polo.

The others were Rebecca Reidy (beach volleyball); Anne Cairns, Mr Dawson, Johan Roozenburg, Mark Yungnickel (canoe/kayak); Clive Cooper (duathlon); Kate Mahon, Lloyd Stephenson (hockey); Claire Patterson (orienteering); Anna Richards (rugby); Alison Fitch, Helen Norfolk, Scott Talbot-Cameron, Te Rina Taite (swimming); and Michael Bullot and Sarah Winter (yachting).

The full list of Massey winners of this year's Prime Minister's Sports Scholarships can be viewed at: http://masseynews.massey.ac.nz/2006/Massey_News/issue-13/stories/PMSportsSchols2006.pdf

Created: 31 July, 2006

Date: 13/10/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Institute of Sport and Rugby; Palmerston North; Sport and recreation

Sports Club of the Year awarded

The inaugural Sports Club of the Year Awards hosted by Sport Manawatu reinforced the increasing influence of the Massey Sport Management and Coaching programme in Palmerston North.

The award evening, involving more than 150 guests, was held at the FMG Stadium at Arena Manawatu on Friday 30 June.

It was organised by Massey Sport Management practicum (or intern) student Ross Wilson, and hosted by Jamie Webster, Sport Manawatu's Sport Development Manager and a former graduate of the Sport Management Programme.

The guest speaker was New Zealand Warriors coach Ivan Cleary whose contribution was organised by Dan Burton, general manager of Manawatu Rugby League, who successfully completed his practicum with the organisation last year before securing his current position.

Dr Andy Martin, from the Department of Management noted significant awards presented during the evening, which involved Massey Sport staff or Sport Management alumni.

- Jason Burton Brown, Manager of Squash Gym and Club Palmerston North collected two awards for Facility Development and Volunteer Development.
- Marist Rugby Club collected the Marketing Development award. Martin Brady is now Manawatu Rugby Unions Club Development Officer and was formerly President of Marist Rugby.
- Feona Sayles, Massey Sport Law Lecturer and former Sport Management graduate, collected the Organisation Development award, in her role as Vice-President of the Palmerston Bowling Club.
- Dr Andy Martin, Senior Lecturer in Sport Management collected the Event Management award, in his role as Vice-President of the Manawatu Triathlon Club.

The awards were made in recognition of club development during the year, from April 2005 to March 2006.

The upcoming World Junior Squash event in Palmerston North also involves Sport Management alumni in the roles of Event Director (Stu Baker), Assistant Event Director (Martin Brady), and Venue Manager (Jason Burton Brown).

Two current practicum students also have significant roles in merchandising and sponsorship, with many other Sport Management students acting as volunteers during the event.

Created: 14 July, 2006

Date: 13/10/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Sport and recreation; Uni News

Service coordination key to housing needs

Better coordination of the agencies that work with mental health patients could dramatically improve problems many have obtaining and keeping a home to live in, a study by social policy and social work staff has found.

Associate Professor Mike O'Brien and research associate Dr Chez Leggatt-Cook have just completed a report for the Northern Regional District Health Board Support Agency on the housing needs of users of mental health services in Northland.

The authors say better housing and more effective links between health, social and welfare agencies are the key to well-being and to staying out of hospital for mental health consumers.

Extensive interviews with 26 patients and 35 people involved in the health, welfare, housing sectors in Whangarei and Kaitia centred on problems people had in finding, getting and keeping accommodation.

Housing, in the minds of mental health consumers, is the most critical issue, both in terms of well-being and day-to-day living, Dr O'Brien says.

The study set out to identify strategies that work and those that need improving or changing. It found a shortage of affordable housing generally and a particular shortage of housing for single people.

Links between housing, health and welfare agencies were also often poor.

While many mental health patients need or want to live alone, that in itself can jeopardise their housing situation.

If their health deteriorated when they were not in regular contact with support agencies or family, they could be hospitalised leaving rent and other bills unpaid and jeopardising the tenancy.

Most participants agreed that a well coordinated network of social workers, consumer advisors, health staff, housing agents and family for support and monitoring was vital to achieve the best outcomes.

Housing providers said their key concern was having ready access to support if problems arose with their tenants a stance shared by families caring for mentally-unwell relatives.

A hospital worker said housing was one of the biggest contributors to stress in patients.

Their major concern [is] money and where they live, and if more people were not getting stressed we would have fewer [hospital] admissions.

The cost of suitable accommodation for people on a restricted budget also created huge stresses.

Mental health service providers reported instances of discrimination from landlords and neighbours, while patients themselves said they were dogged by a fear of discrimination and often preferred not to say they were mental health consumers.

Strong iwi and whanau networks were evident in some areas. But lack of coordinated professional support could have dire consequences for patients and their families.

Dr Leggatt-Cook said in one case reported by participants, a man had burnt all the bridges at home where he was being cared for, then he literally almost burned the home down .

Another case had a more positive outcome as a result of family support. A man's family stepped in to help when friends moved in to his new flat and drug and alcohol abuse occurred, food ran out and the rent went unpaid.

His family moved him to more suitable but more costly accommodation and helped him link up with community support groups, which saw him getting involved in creative activities and finding a positive niche in life.

The report says such stories highlight the need for more emergency and respite accommodation when existing accommodation was no longer viable.

While many of the issues are likely to be common to mental health consumers in other regions, the report found some issues were specific to Northland.

Because coastal Northland spots are popular summer holiday destinations, some landlords try to move tenants out over the Christmas holiday period because they can charge higher rents.

Although the report did not yield any great surprises, its authors say it provides tangible data based on people's experiences in all aspects of mental health on what is required.

They also see the document as timely in terms of taking stock of ongoing changes instigated three decades ago when mental health services embarked on a process of de-institutionalisation from psychiatric hospitals to a community-based model of care.

The hub of life is the house, the where where you live and sleep...accommodation is just about 99 per cent of your life...that's why it's got to be right, said one mental health consumer interviewed for the study.

Created: 19 May, 2006

Date: 13/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Combatting beetle pests with parasites

As a PhD student in Australia, Professor Qiao Wang spent four years searching for a parasite to combat a beetle unintentionally introduced to the United States, South Africa and South America via the export of eucalyptus logs.

So when a similar pest turned up in the trees more than a decade later, the University of California contacted Professor Wang now in the Institute of Natural Resources, who flew to the origin of the eucalypts. Alongside the Murray River in New South Wales, Australia, he worked in a sweltering daytime temperature of 45 degrees Celsius to supervise the felling of trees. In the evenings, the Institute of Natural Resources entomologist returned to the scene in a comparatively cooler 30 degrees to examine the insects that live on the trees.

Immediately after felling, Professor Wang wrapped two trees in netting to encage the insect population collected at the nights and to protect this population from invasion by new insects arriving.

The remaining felled trees were used as traps, where he collected the beetles. Professor Wang opened the netting around the trees a few days later and marked the eggs laid by those beetles. Then he waited for an event he says is inevitable in nature the parasitization of the beetle eggs by another species.

The parasite species that injected its own eggs into the beetle eggs does so to ensure a nutritious environment for the larva upon hatching. This process kills the beetle egg which is large enough to hold as many as five parasite eggs. The parasite's niche is a necessary one to the ecology of eucalypts as it controls the numbers of beetles. The beetles accidentally imported by other countries lack the parasite and are consequently damaging the eucalyptus plantations.

Professor Wang says the new species of parasite a tiny wasp is so similar to the first he found that it will have to be identified at a molecular level by scientists at the University of California.

While he waits for this identification, he will arrange for the exporting of the parasite from Australia to California, and the University of California will arrange for its import. The project is funded by the California Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program.

Professor Wang leads a research programme on insect biological control ecology at the University's Entomology and Integrated Pest Management Laboratory, which provides research services to New Zealand industry and overseas.

Created: 21 April, 2006

Date: 13/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture

Profiling sport and charity volunteers

New research from the College of Business provides a profile of a group of largely unsung heroes volunteers.

What motivates New Zealanders to volunteer and what strategies could be adopted to recruit and retain them was the basis of research conducted by Jan Charbonneau and Mike Brennan from the Department of Marketing and Andrew Hercus from the School of Business, Christchurch College of Education.

According to Volunteering New Zealand, more than a million New Zealanders actively volunteer in the 60,000-plus organisations that make up the community and voluntary sector.

The research included a confidential mail survey that attracted responses from more than 1700 volunteers in four charities and six sporting organisations from Wellington and Christchurch. The overall response rate was 56 per cent.

Two very different profiles emerged when the data was analysed. The typical charity volunteer was female, aged 56 plus, retired, earning \$20,000 per year, with no children at home, says Jan Charbonneau. The typical sporting volunteer was male, aged 36 to 55, employed full time and earning over \$50,000 per year, with an average of three children at home.

Although the profiles were different, she says their volunteering histories, what motivates them to volunteer and satisfaction with current volunteering were quite similar.

Overall, the average length of service was 8.5 years with more than 80 per cent volunteering on a regular basis. Almost 70 per cent volunteered for other organisations, be they other charities or sporting organisations or schools, clubs and special interest groups.

Both charity and sport volunteers expressed similar reasons for doing volunteer work: Values and Understanding. Values refer to showing concern for others and causes important to individuals personally. Understanding refers to the desire for self-development and new learning experiences.

According to Ms Charbonneau, this is an interesting result: The values category focuses on doing something for other people, while understanding focuses on doing something for themselves.

The study looked at whether increased training, responsibility and out of pocket costs, as well as the risk of liability, would stop volunteers from taking on certain roles or result in their reducing their volunteer hours.

Overall, these issues are not likely to deter future volunteering, a positive result for volunteer organisations. says Ms Charbonneau.

The study also looked at how satisfied volunteers were with their current organisations. Overall and not unexpectedly, the New Zealand volunteers surveyed expressed satisfaction with their organisations and their experiences as volunteers.

Two areas that would benefit from increased attention by volunteer coordinators are interactions with paid staff and recognition of individual volunteers when they do a good job.

In terms of recruiting volunteers, being invited by someone in the organisation worked well for charities. Most sporting volunteers were active participants, either themselves or their families, says Ms Charbonneau.

In terms of recruiting younger volunteers, current volunteers had some interesting suggestions, from offering incentives such as reduced playing fees to approaching corporations to allow junior staff time off to volunteer. The most common suggestion was also the simplest: ask them and then make them feel welcome!

Date: 13/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Academic writing for non-English speakers

Writing correctly and fluently in academic-style English can be challenging enough for many native speakers, let alone for those whose first language is not English.

Developing a programme that will help non-native English speakers write good academic English is the thrust of newly-arrived Applied Linguistics lecturer David Ishii's doctoral thesis.

Mr Ishii, a third-generation Japanese-Canadian who moved from Toronto this year to teach Applied Linguistics, is working on a task sheet model called Language Dia-Logs that will provide helpful feedback to students struggling with the nuances and quirks of English grammar and usage in academic writing.

Going against current trends in which students are encouraged to overcome language errors by learning rules, Language Dia-Logs instead concentrates on providing examples and learning through dialogue. He believes this approach is better suited to aspects of English grammar with its many idiosyncrasies that don't conform to general rules.

Although he has not been living here until this year, Mr Ishii has been trialling the method of New Zealand for the past few years using a group of around 100 young adults. He hopes to incorporate a computer component into the method in the future.

With a relatively high number of foreign students in New Zealand universities, demand for specialist English for Academic Purposes courses is growing.

There has been very little consensus over which methods are most effective for improving learners' language development, says Mr Ishii, who has taught English in Canada, the United States and Japan.

Since marking and providing constructive feedback on writing errors is time-consuming, instructors need to know if time spent on providing feedback is well-spent or not.

With his strong interest in computer-assisted language learning Mr Ishii is keen to develop and adapt new teaching methods for future language courses at Massey.

Technology seems to be underutilized as a tool to develop the learner's language abilities something I hope may one day change, he says.

Introducing ideas from new research into the socio-cultural aspects of language learning is another area of special interest. Theories of applied linguistics that explore behavioural codes and social rules such as the different ways people make requests, refusals, greetings in different languages and cultures enable students to dip into other relevant fields that influence communication such as psychology, sociology and cognition.

Created: 21 April, 2006

Date: 13/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences



Open Days - Palmerston North

Secondary school pupils and prospective extramural students spent a day on campus for a hands-on university experience. Volunteers in distinctive Massey gowns directed people to the variety of presentations, lectures and activities across the colleges.

Student clubs were also out on concourse to demonstrate martial arts, abseiling, fire-dancing and medieval re-enactment. Wellington Open Days take place 25 August with Auckland Open Days to be held on 16 September. Openday-tech-06: Getting down to the basics of propulsion physics pupils find the best way to propel ping-pong balls in a technology demonstration.



Openday-technology: as above

Openday-engineering: Openday-martial: Martial arts in demonstration during the common lunch-break.

Openday-abseiling: Members of the student alpine club scaled the library to impress open-day participants at lunchtime.

PHAT students make the most of open day

Māori secondary school students from Manawatū and Whanganui visited the campus this week under a programme designed to encourage young Māori to enrol at tertiary institutions.

The PHAT (Progressive, Holistic, Achievement Tertiary Training) programme is an annual event and is a joint initiative between tertiary institutions and the Māori Secondary Teachers Association.

Massey Māori Student Liaison Adviser Te Ahu Rei (Taranaki, Waikato) says the programme is an opportunity for students to discuss their career ambitions with Massey staff and consider Massey as a pathway to achieving their goals. The students and their teachers stay at Te Pūtahi-a-Toi (the School of Māori Studies) for two days. Students are expected to develop career goals, meet with career services, lecturers and student liaison officers.



While students can access information about Massey on the web and in our publications, it's important that they see first-hand what Massey has to offer and talk one on one with staff about possible career options, says Mr Rei.

Māori are less likely to consider university as an option than non-Māori, but by bringing them on campus, under a Māori kaupapa, we are sending the right message to the students. By meeting Māori staff and Māori students, they can see that there is a place for Māori here and Māori can achieve at university, he says.

The PHAT programme has been running for three years.

Created: 11 August, 2006

Date: 13/10/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Extramural; Palmerston North



Massey elite athletes honoured with Blues

Extramural students scooped the top awards at the 2006 Palmerston North Massey Blues Awards last night an acknowledgement of their outstanding ability to perform at the highest levels in their sports while studying.

A collaborative effort between the University and the Students' Association, the annual event celebrates the sporting and cultural excellence of Massey students. This year 32 students representing 20 sports were presented Blues and another three received Cultural Awards for significant contributions to recreation and sport clubs.

The Bank of New Zealand Palmerston North Campus Sportswoman of the Year trophy was awarded to Tania Perrett for Canoe Polo and Canoe Slalom. Perrett is a Palmerston North-based extramural student and member of the Paddle Ferns women's canoe polo team, who won silver at this year's World Canoe Polo Championships in Amsterdam in August. She was also a member of the New Zealand Senior Women's White Water Kayak team.

From Wyndham, Southland, rugby player Jamie Mackintosh won the BNZ Palmerston North Campus Sportsman of the Year trophy. Loosehead prop Mackintosh captained the New Zealand Colts team to Argentina and France earlier this year and captained the 2006 Southland Stags in the national provincial championship Air NZ Cup.

Outstanding contribution awards were presented to Brent Atkins for his contributions to the Massey Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) Club and to Geoff Walker for his services to the Massey University Alpine Club and SIFE. Former Recreation Centre Manager, Christine Scott also received an Outstanding Contribution Award for her dedication to sport and recreation at Massey University over the past 15 years

Former Black Fern, Silver Fern and Massey Blues winner Louisa Wall was guest speaker.

BNZ Massey University sportswoman of the year

Tania Perrett Canoe Polo and Canoe Slalom

BNZ Massey University sportsman of the year

Jamie Mackintosh - Rugby

MUSA men's sports team of the year award

The MUSA Men's Sports Team of the Year trophy was won by the Varsity Colts, unbeaten on the field this season. The team's only loss in 17 matches was a default due to players being away during the holidays.

The team won the first round of the NZ Universities Shield and the Manawatu Colts Premier Grade (Gordon Brown Trophy) for a most successful season. They also won the Massey University Rugby trophies for best U21 team and best overall team of the year.

MUSA women's sports team of the year award

The Women's Sports Team of the Year Award had three potential winners: Last year's winners Ezibuy Massey volleyball team who won the Central Zone league this year; along with the Massey 1st XI soccer team and Massey women's A netball team. However, the Blues Committee did not award the trophy because none of the teams met the criteria of having at least 75 per cent current students.

2006 Massey Blues recipients

Badminton - Leck Sheng Tham

Barefoot waterskiing - Nick Hamblyn

Beach volleyball - Rebecca Reidy

Canoe polo - Joanna Wright

Canoe polo & canoe slalom - Tania Perrett

Canoe slalom - Michael Dawson and Mark Yungnickel

Cricket - Rachel Candy and Nicole Thessman

Golf - Stephanie Mckillop and Amy Smith

Hockey - Melanie Aiken, Zoe Gilmer, Stephen Graham, Ash Holwell, Shaun Matthews, Emily Naylor and Jesse Workman

Inline hockey - James Trevena-Brown

Judo - Timothy O'hara

Karate - Amy Thomason.

Netball - Erika Burgess, Lauren Burgess, Lana Phipps

Motor rally - Sarah Randall

Rugby - Luke Goodin, Jamie McIntosh, Fraser Murray

Skating - Sarah Jane Jones

Table tennis - Grant Gordon

Target shooting - Ian Westcott

Ultimate frisbee - Rene Corner

Outstanding contribution awards

MUAC/SIFE Geoff Walker

SIFE Brent Atkins

Sport and recreation Christine Scott

Date: 17/10/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Extramural; Sport and recreation

New strategy chief has Army background

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Judith Kinnear, has announced the appointment of John Griffiths as the General Manager Strategy and Finance.

Mr Griffiths most recently held the civilian position of General Manager Corporate Support, New Zealand Army, responsible to the Chief of Army Staff.

Previous roles have included: Chief Financial Officer, New Zealand Army, responsible to the Chief of Army; and, Manager Government Services, New Zealand Treasury, responsible to the Director External Relations.

A Massey alumnus with a Bachelor of Business Studies (Hons), Mr Griffiths has a Master of Commerce (Hons) from Charles Sturt University and is currently completing a PhD at Monash University.

He also holds professional membership as a Chartered Accountant with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand and is an Associate Fellow of the New Zealand Institute of Management.

He takes up his role in early December.

Date: 20/10/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Any

'Small' magazine gets big win

Student magazine Magneto won an ASPA (Aotearoa Student Press Association) Award for Best Small Publication at the 2006 awards ceremony at Auckland University earlier this month.

Managing Editor Hannah Ngaei, who has run Magneto for more than two years, says she was stoked at receiving the ASPA award.

We had a really good magazine this year.

On the night I was surprised that we weren't getting more individual placements, but getting the Best Small Publication justified it for me.

Ms Ngaei says the Massey postgraduate journalism class, who contribute to and co-edit the magazine throughout the year, were really committed and talented .

In judging, TVNZ reporter and Sunday magazine features writer Olivia Kember says she would definitely read Magneto every week if she was a student at Massey.

Its scope is small student culture in the capital city but it's covered with enough depth and variation to keep the magazine interesting, and, I imagine, useful.

The magazine's also very attractively packaged, and the health column and fashion pages are nice twists on the usual fare.

Magneto also placed third equal alongside Auckland University's Craccum for Best Design.

Judge Chris Elder from IceBreaker says Magneto was an excellent example of a publication that communicates well and looks great .

Judges also singled out Christian Bonnevie's feature Ever wondered about selling your body? for special comment.

NBR journalist Ben Thomas described the feature as a terrific piece, well rendered .

A Small Publication has to have a circulation of 3000 issues or fewer, and a print run frequency less than weekly.

This year's Best Publication was Otago University's Critic for the second year running.

In 2005 Magneto was runner-up for Best Small Publication.

Date: 20/10/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Wellington



Manager, Environmental and Emergency Management, Theresa Parkin and Wellington Mayor Kerry Prendergast, who commended the University for its foresight and innovation.

Safety competition acclaimed

The University's Safety Week initiatives have been recognised with a Safety in the City Award from Wellington City Council.

The Wellington campus ran a competition for staff in August, linked to the ACC Safety New Zealand Week's take 5 campaign. The aim was for staff members to identify a safety issue on campus and think of a solution that was reasonable to implement and would improve safety at work.

Theresa Parkin, Manager, Environmental and Emergency Management, says it could be any issue to enhance safety, for example, processes, equipment, procedures, facilities, environment, or culture.

We received 25 fantastic entries, and were amazed at the effort some entrants put in to highlight their issue, she says.

Some entrants developed powerpoint presentations detailing their safety concern; others manufactured mock-ups of products that could be implemented on campus or sent photos and detailed their concern and how things could be improved. The competition encouraged staff members to consider safety at work and think about how they would remedy the issue.

I have had many staff members commenting to me that they now understand how to be more proactive in their areas and how much they enjoyed the exercise, she says.

The winner of the competition was Associate Professor Anders Warell, from the Institute of Design for Industry and Environment, with his entry entitled Massey University: Caring about your future . His entry considered staff and student safety both on and off the campus by suggesting the University provide reflective decals that could be given freely to staff and students to wear on their clothing, shoes, cycle helmets etc, so they are more visible in the dark to traffic. The Committee found this entry to be extremely timely in light of the recent tragic incidents occurring in Wellington involving pedestrians and vehicles.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Wellington) Professor Andrea McIlroy says she is delighted that the University received the recognition, but more importantly, well done to Theresa for initiating the competition and to our creative staff for putting their thinking caps on and reminding us that safety is everyone's responsibility:.

All suggestions are being reviewed by Facilities Management and the Campus Health and Safety Committee. Staff will be updated on safety improvements that are made on campus following these suggestions.

We felt the exercise was a great success, says Ms Parkin. It helped educate our staff on the importance of identifying safety issues. We plan to run the competition again next year, and next time we will open it up to a wider audience to include our students.

The award from the City Council was a welcome bonus.

The University's other campuses held a range of activities during Safety Week, including a safety forum and competition.

Date: 20/10/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Wellington

Claude McCarthy Fellowships for 2007

Four Massey doctoral students have won category-A Claude McCarthy Fellowships worth a total of \$18,000 that will enable them to travel overseas next year to present research work at conferences or conduct further research.

Awards worth more than \$160,000 were made when the Claude McCarthy Fellowship selection sub-committee met in Wellington last month.

The Vice-Chancellors' Committee-administered fellowship scheme is funded by a bequest by the late Mr McCarthy, a New Zealand university graduate. Fellowships are awarded in four categories, with 14 of 19 awards for 2007 being in category A.

Three of the winners were from Auckland University, three from Otago, two from Waikato, and one each from Victoria and Canterbury.

The Massey recipients are:

Petra Buergelt, who will use her \$5000 award to travel to Germany to undertake research at the Munich University of Applied Sciences. Her topic is Increasing immigrant retention: Psychosocial factors influencing the experiences of German migrants.

Tamara Diesch, who will use her \$6800 award to work with the Fetal and Neonatal Research Group at Monash University in Melbourne on her thesis, with the draft topic Postnatal onset of awareness: Impact of brain maturation and functional state.

Matthew Brodie will use his \$3900 award to present a paper called 'Fusion Motion Capture' and the optimisation of athlete movement using fusion motion capture at the International Society of Biomechanics in Sport (Brazil).

Gareth Rouch will use his \$2300 award to attend the Annual Conference of the Australian Institute of Family Studies.

His research is in the area of the experiences of fathers in low socio-economic groups.

Date: 20/10/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; College of Sciences



Left to right: Julie Catchpole (lecturer, Museum Studies), Detlef Klein (conservator and lecturer in Museum Studies), Liz Russell (standing) and Sian van Dyk, students in the Postgraduate Diploma in Museum Studies.

Juxtaposition highlights takeaway sound

Juxtaposed in exhibition, the phonograph and the MP3 player illustrate the leap in portable audio technology.

The phonograph (or gramophone) is on loan from the Museum of Audio Visual Technology in Foxton, and the Museum Studies students behind the exhibition had no problem sourcing the ubiquitous MP3 player.

Sian van Dyk, Grant Collie and Liz Russell designed Takeaway Sound From the Phonograph to the iPod as part of their practical coursework, and it is one of three exhibitions currently on display at the Palmerston North city library.

Ms van Dyk says the experience exhibiting in a library rather than a museum has been satisfying. We feel we are contributing something very positive back to the community. At the same time we're putting the concept of museums-without-walls into practice, she says.

Dr David Butts, programme co-ordinator of Museum Studies in the School of Māori Studies, says the exhibitions are a vital learning experience for the students.

Museums and libraries contribute significantly to the economic, cultural and social well-being of the communities they serve. To do this they must also advance understanding of environmental, cultural and social issues. Projects like this help students come to grips with the realities of those challenges in a professional manner.

The purpose of the museum and the library is to assist a people to become more aware, become more reflective, and so, become more complete.

Sarah Pettigrew, Jessica Tocker and Manaaki Tibble developed a show of lithographs by Christchurch artist Marian Maguire for their exhibition titled *Who are you? Nō hea koe?* Part of the University's art collection, the prints explore the stories and similarities between Māori, Pakeha and ancient Greek historical heroes of exploration and battles. The exhibition delves into history and art by looking at past and present, including Greek vases, drawings by Sydney Parkinson, and modern lithography.

Moana Colmer, Chris Cliff and Lui Weihua borrowed pieces from the Palmerston North Medical Museum and supported these with a series of optical illusions and images for their exhibition *Out of sight: Vision and perception*. The exhibition aims to draw public awareness to the city's collection of historical medical artefacts and aims to create a greater understanding of the different types of eye problems and diseases.

Date: 20/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Exercise prescription pays off

Getting fit is good medicine, according to born-again gym buddies Jack Sutherland and Diane Wallace.

Each week they box, grind, row, step and stretch their way to fitness, under the supervision of exercise science lecturer Sandie Choate.

They are taking part in the green prescription programme run by exercise science students at the University. A green prescription is a doctor's written advice to a patient to be physically active. The programme is supported by Sport Wellington and Sparc.



Students gain experience in planning and running fitness programmes, while our participants get fitter, says Ms Choate. It's a win-win solution.

For stroke survivor Jack Sutherland, 72, boxing is a highlight. I used to do a bit, and it's coming back to me, he says. He likes the relaxed pace of the classes, and supplements them with daily walks and exercises at home.

The exercise bike is Diane Wallace's favourite piece of equipment. It makes me feel good, she says. I never would have stepped into a gym without the green prescription. And I never realised how much fun it could be.

I'm an old bird, but even with all the young ones around I feel really comfortable here.

She is a member of a walking group and steps out five times a week.

For Diploma of Exercise Science student Matt Needham it's all about putting the theory into practice. It's really valuable to run classes with 'real' people, he says. We learn how to manage a fitness programme, and help them with exercises they can do at home to stay fit and healthy.

Ms Choate says she wants to hear from anyone who is interested in joining a class.

Date: 20/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - HEALTH

Trends show Catholic numbers growing

More new immigrants are becoming Catholics, contributing to an overall growth in the number of Catholics in New Zealand, according to a Massey expert.

Peter Lineham, Associate Professor of History and head of the School of Social and Cultural Studies at the Auckland campus, was commenting on recent religious trends for a forthcoming free public lecture on the subject on 31 October.

Religious trends were these days much more likely to be affected by ethnic groupings, he observes.

The numbers of Catholics has remained stable, rising slightly from 1996 to 2001, in contrast to diminishing congregations of other mainstream Christian denominations such as Anglicans, Presbyterians and Methodists over the past 30 years.

This was in large part due to new immigrants becoming Catholics in order to fit in to New Zealand society.

Catholicism in New Zealand is more and more marching to the concerns of the new immigrants, he says.

Non-English speaking immigrants were likely to be familiar with the Catholic Church ahead of other churches, he said.

Schooling was also a factor in the rise of Catholicism, he added.

One very striking thing is that people coming into New Zealand are troubled about public education and nervous when they discover New Zealand is a much more violent country than they expected. They think 'private education', which is mostly Catholic.

The result has meant swelling waiting lists for entry into Catholic schools and even new Catholic schools being built, says Professor Lineham.

According to figures from the last census in 2001 (the next lot of figures is due out at the end of this year), there are more Anglicans than any other religious group with 584,793 belonging to that church. Catholics came second at 486,012, but the number has been rising overall during the past 50 years, while the number of Anglicans, Presbyterians and Methodists has fallen.

But more New Zealanders than any other group more than a quarter of the population said they did not belong to any religious group, according to census figures.

Meanwhile, the rise in the number of people joining conservative charismatic churches (such as the Destiny Church) was likely to be the result of social change, and a response to moral issues, he suggests.

Charismatic and Pentecostal churches were also becoming more oriented towards trendy youth culture, to the extent that they are ignoring older people, he noted.

Professor Lineham, who frequently comments in the media on religious matters, says religious groups were in dynamic state right now, but that there was no single, clear trend emerging. Similarly, there are patterns emerging in New Zealand that don't exist in other westernised nations.

Unlike the United States and Australia, where conservative Christian churches were becoming stronger and louder, New Zealand had retained a strong sense of idealistic, secular liberalism.

We're watching New Zealand society become less a synthesised and more of a smorgasbord of a variety of religious groupings, he observed.

Tolerance, understanding and dialogue between religious groups would become more important as groups jostled for influence, he says.

Date: 20/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: Any

No foot, no horse

No foot, no horse the old saying is as relevant today as it was when horses were relied upon for transport and draught power, says equine researcher Dr Chris Rogers.

Dr Rogers, from the Institute of Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Sciences in Palmerston North, says a new first-year extramural paper is designed to provide people who work with, and are interested in horses with a comprehensive course on the equine lower limb.

The paper will teach equine foot physiology, the role of the farrier in horse husbandry, and the impact of different types of farrier treatment and horseshoes on the hoof and lower leg.

He says shoeing a horse at an average of every five weeks is a substantial component of the overall expense of keeping a horse fit and healthy, and that owners are increasingly interested in learning about the things they can do to help.

Researchers in the University's equine studies group have been collaborating with the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands to study the impact of different gaits, and different horseshoes, on the lower limb and hoof, and the knowledge gained through this innovative study is delivered in the paper.

Date: 20/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; School of Veterinary Science



Nelson Speirs samples a muffin enriched with Omega3 with Professor Paul Moughan and Riddet Centre technologist Amit Taneja.

Functional food first for Omega 3 joint venture

▶ VIDEO Watch the ONE News, ASB Business item: [Dialup 56k](#) or [Broadband 128k](#)

Led by Professors Moughan and Harjinder Singh, the centre has developed an emulsion-based micro-encapsulation technology that allows the active ingredients of Omega 3 in fish oil to be incorporated into foods at very high levels without the smell and taste of fish.

Blueberry muffins containing the recommended daily dose of Omega 3 oils were served at the launch of Speirs Nutritionals Ltd, which will develop, licence and market Omega 3 technology developed by the Riddet Centre.

A breakthrough in Omega 3 food technology is just one of a growing number of examples of the commercial possibilities arising from an international mega-trend towards value-added and functional foods that keep people healthy, says Professor Paul Moughan.

Professor Moughan is co-director of the Riddet Centre, which this month announced a business partnership between it and Manawatu-based businesses the Bio-commerce Centre and Speirs Foods to make and sell Omega 3, a fish oil extract.

Almost every major food company in the world is focusing on wellness, health and convenience, and value-added and functional foods are changing the face of the food industries worldwide, he says.

He says the centre anticipated changes recently articulated by the Government's Food and Beverage Taskforce, and the Ministry of Research, Science and Technology, to transform the country's food industries.

The Riddet Centre was established to innovate, to move New Zealand past commodity trade to high value-added premium specialised food products.

Professor Moughan says scientific studies of the nutritional benefits of fatty acids such as Omega 3 have been accepted by the United States Food and Drug Administration and the Health Claims Initiative in Britain. He says the oils particularly benefit heart health in adults and growth in children. The general view is that there are few food ingredients that can compete in terms of research that supports its health benefits, he says.

The new company holds exclusive global rights to commercialise the emulsification technologies, the first of many to come from the centre that are intellectual-property protected and knowledge-embedded says Professor Moughan.

Scientists in the centre are currently working on four products in collaboration with major New Zealand businesses partnerships which are characteristic of the centre he says.

Even though the science is fundamental and first-class, we have our feet on the ground, and are working with food industries to achieve goals identified by the Government.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Nigel Long says this is the third major joint venture for the University in a decade and the most important to date, as it takes break-through technology developed at Massey to the international consumer market.

The new company will produce and sell Omega 3 emulsions to food manufacturers in Asia, Australia and New Zealand, and will seek licensing arrangements with partners in Europe and America to manufacture and sell the emulsion to other food and dietary supplement producers. This month market researchers Frost and Sullivan reported sales of \$NZ450 million for Omega 3 oils in Southeast Asia at an annual growth rate of 12 per cent.

Speirs Nutritionals will invest \$2.7 million to establish a manufacturing facility at Marton. The company will be managed by Speirs Foods, a division of the Palmerston North-based investment company, Speirs Group Limited.

Speirs Group Ltd executive chairman Nelson Speirs says the new partnership is a natural fit and furthers the company's future in functional foods.

The Riddet Centre is a partnership between Massey University, the University of Otago, and the University of Auckland dedicated to fundamental research in foods, essential to the task of innovating the New Zealand economy.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Audio Visual

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - HEALTH; Video Multimedia

Mental illness how we see it

A new survey shows that most New Zealanders are sympathetic to people with experience of a mental illness and willing to have them as neighbours, workmates and friends.

However, compared to people with a physical illness, those with a mental illness are more likely to be seen as less trustworthy, less productive and less employable.

Professor Phil Gendall, head of Massey University's Department of Marketing, says the survey shows that stigmatism of mental illness varies depending on the specific circumstances involved.

For example, people are less willing to have a personal relationship with someone with a mental illness, to have them marry someone related to them, or to have them teach or look after children, Professor Gendall says.

Some even believe they should not be allowed to have children, to hold public office, or to supervise others at work. On the other hand, most people believe someone with experience of mental illness is just as intelligent as anyone else, and should be hired like any other person, if they are qualified for a job.

Furthermore, this is a relative phenomenon. Some measure of stigmatism applies to anyone with an observable physical condition: stigmatism of mental illness is simply higher than that of physical illness.

Professor Gendall says one surprising result was the relatively high number (at least a third of those surveyed) who believed that people with schizophrenia or depression should be forced by law into medical or psychiatric treatment.

As many as 60 per cent thought people with schizophrenia should be forced by law to take prescribed medication and 50 per cent thought they should be forced to be examined at a clinic or by a doctor.

This willingness to coerce seems rather high but is tempered by the knowledge that similarly high numbers considered people with schizophrenia or depression not very able to decide whether they should receive treatment.

He also notes a paradox in the findings: Few respondents believed that schizophrenia or depression were something to be embarrassed about or kept secret. But between 40 and 50 per cent agreed that someone with these conditions would lose friends or opportunities if people knew they were having treatment. Perhaps getting treatment implies the condition has been officially diagnosed, which in turn implies a level of severity likely to result in stigmatisation. If so, it is not surprising that many with experience of mental illness do not seek treatment.

Professor Gendall says overall the survey results are in line with findings by the Ministry of Health and confirm that the Ministry's Like minds, like mine advertising campaign has improved public attitudes to and understanding of mental health.

The survey was conducted between August and November last year and involved 1020 New Zealanders aged 18 and over. Participants were given three vignettes, describing schizophrenia, depression and asthma, to test whether stigmatism varies for different disorders and to compare attitudes to mental illness with those to a physical condition.

It is part of an international study of the stigmatism of mental illness, involving 16 countries. Professor Gendall notes that such research is not simply a matter of curiosity: Understanding the stigmatism of mental health will help to develop interventions designed to combat it.

The full report is available at: http://marketing.massey.ac.nz/files/NZ_Attitudes_to_Mental_Illness.pdf

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Whaddarya? Defining young Kiwis' identities



A Massey sociologist is seeking participants aged between 18 and 29 for a study of young New Zealanders' views of culture and identity.

Dr Avril Bell is particularly interested in talking to New Zealand-born individuals of European-descent.

There's quite a lot of research being done with migrant communities, which is great, but so far no one's been asking the majority culture for their views and experiences, she says.

There's been a lot of talk about culture and race in the media lately. Questions have been raised about Māori identity, and there has been talk of 'mainstream' New Zealand and 'bedrock' New Zealand values.

Dr Bell says that although these questions are typically raised by politicians, the conversations continue among young people at home, at work and in public places.

What do they think about our current immigration policies? What do they think about Treaty issues? I'm also really interested in what they think about New Zealand culture and identity generally and their own place and identity within it.

Participants will take part in small focus group discussions around these topics, for about two hours over a light meal in Palmerston North.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences



Edna Howe, in the striped dress, at Lake Rotoiti circa 1970, with Joan Chettleburgh, Associate Professor Ken Jolley from the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, Vern Chettleburgh (in the hat) and Alannah, Deborah and Ingrid Chettleburgh.

High Court ruling opens up \$15,000 teaching scholarship

A bequest by an academic who died 35 years ago has finally become available to teachers wishing to further their education.

The Edna Joyce Howe Scholarship has been on offer since her death from cancer in 1971, but the terms covering applicants were so restrictive that very few ever applied for it.

The trustees of the scholarship had to obtain approval from the High Court to amend the regulations, which previously limited the scholarship only to unmarried women who trained as teachers of homecraft (the predecessor to home economics).

Miss Howe was born in London in October 1923 and moved to New Zealand soon after WWII with qualifications in domestic science and cordon bleu cooking. She taught what was then known as homecraft in New Zealand schools before becoming a tutor in extension studies at Otago University.

While there she completed a Masters in Science from Syracuse University in New York. She had a special interest in television teaching.

In 1965 she moved to Palmerston North to work as a home science extension lecturer for Victoria University, transferring to Massey University in 1970 when it took over extension (short course) studies in the region.

Before her death Miss Howe was based in Napier, responsible for establishing Massey's branch of extension studies in Hawke's Bay.

An outdoor enthusiast, she was involved in Girl Guides, the NZ Alpine Club, Tasman Ski club and learned to fly with Otago Aero Club. She was also known as a writer and broadcaster on the topic of home economics.

One of the trustees of her scholarship is Horizons Regional Councillor and former long-serving Massey staff member Vern Chettleburgh, who says Miss Howe did a great deal to improve the lives of women.

The other trustee is Peter Alloo, a Dunedin solicitor who went to Otago Boys' High School with me, Mr Chettleburgh says. Peter's wife knew Edna and we met her at a party in Dunedin. When she came to Palmerston North she lived with us for a time and she had quite a profound influence on our three daughters.

He said one positive outcome of the lack of people being able to take up the scholarship under the original terms was the amount of money held in trust had grown considerably.

We now think we can basically inflation-proof it and offer the equivalent of \$15,000 every year without eating into the capital.

The new terms open the scholarship to anyone, male or female, who is a trained teacher of food technology, 735

clothing, textile and design technology, home economics or another home and life science development to enable them to further their studies or research.

Applicants for next year's scholarship should send full details of qualifications and intended study or research along with two references to the office of Albert Alloo and Sons, Box 292, Dunedin, by 15 December.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Scholarships; Teaching



Chopper, vets, firefighters to horse rescue

A 27-year-old horse was airlifted by helicopter after it fell down a hill on a farm near Palmerston North last night.

Massey University veterinarians and the Fire Service were called to the Harrison Hill Rd farm after the owners discovered Amagh had slipped or fallen several metres into a slip containing gorse.

Owner Sue Leathwick says Amagh was trapped on his back and completely exhausted when they found him this morning.

We couldn't move him and we thought he may have broken something so we called the Massey vets and the Fire Service, Mrs Leathwick says.

Dr Kirstie Dacre, a senior lecturer in equine medicine at the Institute of Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Sciences, says if Amagh had not been caught up in the gorse he could have tumbled or slipped a lot further.

Being on its back is not a good position for a horse to be in, Dr Dacre says. We checked for broken bones but he didn't appear to have any. Amagh was dehydrated so we sedated him and administered fluids into the vein as well as painkillers.



Massey has a special large animal lift sling designed at The University of California, Davis, which was attached to Amagh and using a four-wheel drive and a rope the rescuers were able to get the horse into a sitting position.

Mrs Leathwick says by then Amagh was completely exhausted and was obviously not going to be able to get to his feet, so a Helipro helicopter was called in to airlift him back up the hill and onto his feet.

Dr Dacre says Amagh will spend the night at the Massey Veterinary Teaching Hospital and is likely to go home tomorrow.

He's coped with the ordeal amazingly well, given his age and the position he fell into.

Mrs Leathwick says the vets were absolutely marvellous and she praised the firefighters and helicopter crew for their professionalism.

Date: 30/10/2006



Type: University News

Categories: College of Sciences; School of Veterinary Science

Differing cultural attitudes to sexual identity

Asian lesbians, gays and bisexuals in New Zealand are less open about their sexuality because of differing cultural attitudes - a fact that social and health workers need to be aware of in order to effectively help Asian clients, says a new report.

In his just-published study of sexual minorities living in New Zealand, senior social work lecturer Dr Mark Henrickson says his findings reinforce the notion that "the whole idea of having an LGB [lesbian, gay or bisexual] identity is a highly-westernised, European concept".

The findings carry implications for the way health and social workers communicate with Asian clients who may not readily respond to blatant questions about sexual orientation, Dr Henrickson says.

"Depending on the context, behavioural questions, such as 'Are you sexually active with men, women, both or neither?' may elicit more useful information for the practitioner than identity-oriented questions such as 'Are you lesbian?'"

The study, *Lavender Immigration to New Zealand: Comparative descriptions of overseas-born sexual minorities*, is part of the larger *Lavender Islands: Portrait of the Whole Family* study, which is the first national, strengths-based survey of gay, lesbian and bisexual people in New Zealand.

Of the total 2269 respondents to the survey, 491 (21 per cent) were overseas-born, and of these, nearly 11 per cent were born in Asia.

While Asian respondents were aware of having same-sex attractions at an earlier age than non-Asians, they were much less likely to have told their families, friends and colleagues as they grew older, the study found. Four times as many non-Asians as Asian-born immigrants had told everybody in their lives they were gay, while 15.3 per cent of Asians had not disclosed their identity to anyone compared with only 3 per cent of non-Asians who hadn't, the study showed.

Dr Henrickson, who teaches in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Auckland, says the idea of "coming out" as a gay person did not have the same meaning for most Asians because their identity stems more strongly from family ties and marriage, rather than individual expressions of identity. The idea of same-sex oriented identity was simply not meaningful in countries such as China, Taiwan and Korea, even though such relationships have occurred throughout the histories of those cultures as well as in contemporary Asian societies.

"Whereas people from western cultures are more likely to be open and positive about the fact that they are lesbian, gay or bisexual - 'it's me, it's my major identity, who I am' - Asians, regardless of sexual orientation, regard their identity as linked to who their parents or grandparents are, who they are married to," he says.

They were also more likely to remain silent about their sexuality.

"These identity challenges are highlighted for immigrants to 'Europeanised' countries (that use sexual identity as a cultural construct) from cultures where stigma around same-sex orientation remains firmly in place," he says in the report, published in the latest issue of the *New Zealand Social Work Review*.

The study found that Asian gays were much more likely to remain isolated because when they did make contact with other gays and lesbians they tended to do so through the internet.

"Of Asian-born respondents, 34.7 per cent had used the internet to make first contact, compared with only 10.6 per cent of other immigrants," the study says. And a further 18.4 per cent of Asian-born respondents said they had not made any contact with the lesbian, gay and bisexual community in New Zealand.

Dr Henrickson points out that by participating in the study, the Asian respondents to the survey had already identified themselves, albeit anonymously, as being gay, lesbian or bisexual. But there remained, in all likelihood, a significant portion of Asian immigrants "who have not adopted Western signifiers or identities".

It was "probable that Asian-born LGBs (lesbians, gays and bisexuals) manage their sexual identity as only one aspect of the constellation of identities that they manage as new immigrants, and that sexual identity is not the most important signifier for Asian-born respondents," Dr Henrickson says in the report.

There were practical implications from the study's findings for social and community workers, especially in the area of sexual health education, Aids awareness and prevention, he added.

"No social worker should assume that their client is heterosexual, or exclusively heterosexually active."

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences



Massey University and the Tertiary Education Commission sign the funding agreement for the National Centre for Tertiary Teaching Excellence. From left: AUT University Vice-Chancellor Derek McCormack, Massey University Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear, TEC Chief Executive Janice Shiner, and University of Canterbury Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Sharp.

New Centre for Tertiary Teaching Excellence established

New Zealand's first Centre for Tertiary Teaching Excellence is underway. The Massey-led centre is part of a \$20 million, five-year Government initiative to boost the quality of teaching in all branches of the tertiary education sector.

The university Vice-Chancellor, Professor Judith Kinnear, signed the funding agreement with the Tertiary Education Commission on Friday. The centre includes AUT University, the University of Canterbury, the Christchurch College of Education, the Universal College of Learning, and Manukau Institute of Technology.

It is focused on supporting the development of teaching expertise across the tertiary sector. Based at Massey Wellington's campus, it will have regional hubs in Auckland, Palmerston North and Christchurch.

Professor Kinnear says there are high expectations of the centre and the challenge is to deliver.

Interim Director Professor Tom Prebble says the new investment in teaching excellence complements the Government's focus on research.

The centre will help tertiary education organisations and educators to deliver the best possible learning outcomes for students.

He says about half the \$4 million annual budget will be spent on projects, while some of the money will be spent on research, and monitoring and evaluation of effective teaching.

Professor Prebble says the first task is to appoint a Board of Governors and an advisory panel.

The centre will:

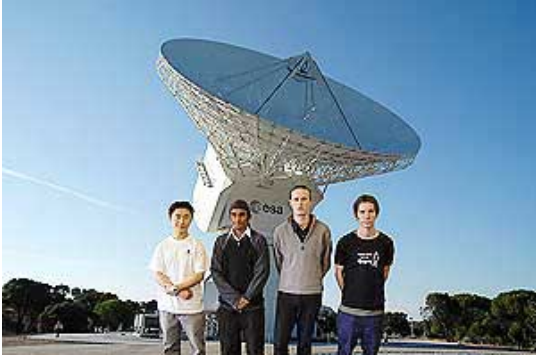
- Establish benchmarks to improve teaching practice.
- Support the development of subject expertise in tertiary teaching.
- Research, identify and share effective teaching and learning practices.
- Explore the need for professional standards including entry requirements to the tertiary teaching profession.
- Administer the Tertiary Teaching Excellence awards.

Its establishment board includes representatives from wananga, polytechnics, private training establishments and other tertiary education providers.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any



Students in space, 2008

Technology and engineering students are working towards the launch of a satellite to be controlled and monitored from ground stations at the University's campuses in Auckland, Palmerston North, and Wellington.

The European Space Agency has accepted Massey's application to host the New Zealand ground station as part of the Student Space Exploration and Technology Initiative.

Third-year communication and networking engineering students will take part in the special space satellite programme alongside student groups from more 15 European countries.

Dr Ibrahim Al-Bahadly, a researcher in the College of Sciences at the University's Palmerston North campus, says the space programme will enable students and staff to work on projects across international boundaries as well as develop their own satellite applications.

Dr Ibrahim Al-Bahadly says New Zealand is the first country outside Europe to join the initiative (established in 2000), and staff from the Institute of Information Sciences and Technology will oversee the students' work.

Please visit <http://www.sseti.net> for more information about the initiative.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Agriculture student of the year 2006

Chosen as the cream of the crop by his classmates, James Barbour has been named Agriculture Student of the Year for an unwavering enthusiasm for student life and learning.

Mr Barbour has nearly completed his Bachelor of Applied Science, and has job interviews lined up for fertiliser consultancy positions. But before he buttons himself into a business shirt, he will work one more summer driving tractors in his hometown Matamata.

Mr Barbour, who has won scholarships from Dexcel and Balance Agrinutrients each year, says the third and final year of his degree has been thoroughly enjoyable.

You get to know your lecturers and classmates really well, and the lectures get really interesting, he says.

Growing up on a dairy farm I've always wanted to work in the rural sector, and although I will work in consultancy for a while to learn more about the business I intend to run a farm one day.

Established in 1992 by Pro Vice-Chancellor of the College of Sciences, Professor Robert Anderson, the Agricultural Student of the Year Award acknowledges those who go the extra mile for their fellow students.

Professor Anderson says Mr Barbour has been a vital team member of the Massey Agriculture rugby and cricket teams, and at the same time managed to maintain an excellent academic record. In his nomination, classmates praised his leadership in group seminars and his readiness to lend a hand with others' study.

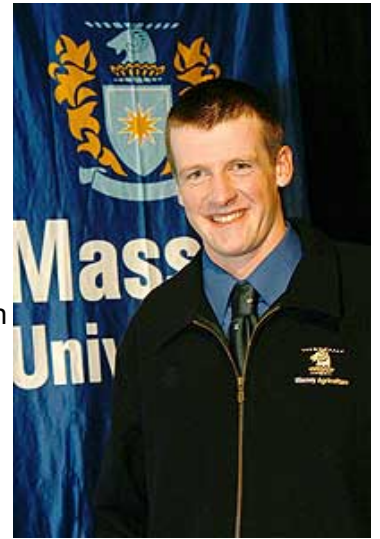
Recipients of the 2006 Massey Agriculture & Applied Science Award are:

- Applied Sciences and Sciences Practicum Award: Simeon Ward (100 level), Douglas Benn (200 level)
- Bruce Coleman Prize: Rosanne Worsfold (300 level)
- John Gunderson Prize: Rosanne Worsfold (300 level)
- John Salinger Prize: Julia Collins
- The New Zealand Institute of Primary Industry Management: Andrew Beijeman
- Young Farmers' Club Cutting Edge Award: Victoria Perderson
- Young Farmers' Club Sally Hobson Award: Rosalind Perry and Rebecca Monks
- William Gerrish Memorial Award: Hayden Ashby
- Massey Equine Student of the Year: Stacey Brew

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture



Three Journalism students win scholarships to Asia

Three Massey University Journalism students have won scholarships to travel to Asia and write for English-language papers in the region.

Lachy Forsyth and Bex Shannon will write for Cambodia's Phnom Penh Post, and Kate Chapman will work at China's Shanghai Daily for several months early next year.

I am incredibly excited about it. I see it as an amazing opportunity to kick-start my career in journalism, Mr Forsyth said.

I really hope I can get stuck into some good, hard news. To be able to do it in another country will be a fantastic learning experience, particularly in a country like Cambodia, which has such a rich culture and history.

The opportunity for travel while over there is, of course, an added bonus! I believe the experience I can gain there will prove incredibly beneficial in understanding and reporting on Asian culture within New Zealand.

The work placements are arranged by the Asia New Zealand Foundation, which also funds the students' travel costs to the region. Asia New Zealand media adviser Charles Mabbett said the scholarships helped address the increasing need for more New Zealand journalists with Asian experience.

Levels of general knowledge about Asia within newsrooms are low. This is one way to address that, by developing a pool of up-and-coming journalists who have spent time working in Asian countries.

The scholarships are available to Massey's Graduate Diploma in Journalism students.

Beginning with scholarships to the Phnom Penh Post in 1999, the scholarships were extended to the Shanghai Daily three years ago.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business; Scholarships

Dust harms sawmill workers

New Zealand sawmill workers have a significant reduction in lung function and are more likely to have allergies compared with other workers, according to a new study by the Centre for Public Health Research.

A previous study showed that pine sawmill workers had an increased risk of asthma. The new study, published in the European Respiratory Journal, aimed to assess the association between dust exposure, lung function and allergies.

Researchers from the Centre, part of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, measured lung function and allergic reactions among 226 pine sawmill workers. They also measured levels of inhalable dry and green dust.

Dust associated with processing fresh timber before it is kiln-dried is known as green dust, while dust associated with processes that take place after kiln drying is dry dust.

We found that sawmill workers exposed to high levels of dust had more asthma, says the Associate Director of the Centre, Associate Professor Jeroen Douwes.

The study, supported by the Health Research Council, also found that sawmill workers exposed to green pine sawdust had more allergies the first time in the world such an association has been shown.

Workers exposed to high levels of green dust had significantly lower lung function, as measured by total lung capacity and airflow. This means they are more likely to wheeze or run out of breath.

Dr Douwes says the problem needs to be taken seriously. The New Zealand sawmill industry employs more than 10,000 workers.

As with any other occupational disease, this is preventable.

Previous studies have shown that reduced lung function is associated with increased illness and mortality.

Dr Douwes says there is a range of solutions, starting with reducing workers' exposure to dust through technical measures. You can install exhaust ventilation, shield machinery, or change the layout of the sawmill to reduce exposure to dust.

Due to the cross-sectional nature of this study it is not clear whether sawmill exposures cause respiratory disease or whether they exacerbate pre-existing respiratory conditions. It is also not clear which specific exposures cause symptoms and lung function decline. Dr Douwes says his team will address these issues in future studies.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Explore - HEALTH

Launching case studies in Māori business

The College of Business Māori Research Unit, Te Au Rangahau celebrated Māori success in business with the launch of He Wairere Pākihi recently, a book that profiles 17 businesses owned and operated by Māori.

Director of Te Au Rangahau, Dr Farah Palmer (Ngāti Mahuta), says He Wairere Pākihi is a response to the need for more information on Māori in business.

Given the economic trends presented at the Hui Taumata (National Māori Economic Development Hui), it's clear that Māori participation in economic and business activities is increasing at a considerable rate. This has led to an increasing demand for Māori business and management education, Dr Palmer says.

Māori success in business is not new. History tells us that Māori business activity was certainly sophisticated, advanced, robust, entrepreneurial and resilient before European arrival.

He Wairere Pākihi will contribute to anyone interested in Māori management and business development and will provide an avenue for students and teachers to reach clearer understandings of Māori management and leadership in practice.

Editor Malcolm Mulholland (Ngāti Kahungunu) says the collection of profiles shows the range of skills and business expertise in the Māori community.

It has been an honour to contribute to the production of this book. I hope the book will inspire Māori entering business. The case studies are an important addition to the increasing debate around the Māori contribution to economic development in Aotearoa, he says.

Case studies include profiles on Ebony Espresso Bar, Dan Joe Outdoor Pursuits, IHI Wear Ltd, Kia Kaha Clothing, the New Zealand Sports Academy, Bio-farm Products Ltd, Kiwa Film and TV Productions, Paewai-Mullins Shearing, Mike and Heather Tapsell Payless Plastics, Whale Watch Kaikoura Ltd, Ngāti Whātua o Ōrakei Corporate Ltd, Āti-hau Whanganui Incorporation, Māori Touch New Zealand, The Wellington Māori Consultants' Cluster, Ngā Whakataetae mō Ngā Manu Kōrero and the Māori Education Trust.

Dr Palmer retired recently from the Black Ferns after the World Cup win against England. She was voted Māori Sportsperson of the Year in 1998 and International Rugby Board International Women's Personality of the Year in 2005. Dr Palmer lectures in sport management and coaching. Mr Mulholland is a journalist and researcher and also editor of State of the Māori Nation, a collection of 22 short essays drawn from Māori commentators, historians, teachers, researchers and academics dealing with a diverse range of issues.

Copies of He Wairere Pākihi can be purchased by contacting Tania Jahnke at the College of Business, ph 06 356 9099 ext 5076.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: Book; College of Business; Maori





Downhill racers test their engineering savvy

Students on Massey's concourse may have been surprised to see Dracula whip past the library in a coffin-shaped downhill racer, hot on the tail or toga of a Roman chariot racer.

The pedal-powered racers were the inventions of second-year Bachelor of Technology students competing in a time-trial with a cinema-genre theme.

Starting at the top of a ramp on concourse, the students rode a curvy course past the Vice-Chancellor's residence and Refectory down to the Business Studies car park. A few tight corners challenged the steering mechanisms of the machines, and the mettle of their drivers, resulting in more than one buckled wheel and slipped chain.

Technology lecturer and race co-ordinator Roger Billington says the annual competition tests the students' mechanical engineering, design, and teamwork. Eight teams entered, with two prizes awarded to the fastest machine, and the best design fitting the theme.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Sciences; Palmerston North



Professor Ian Warrington, Dr Morgan Williams, Professor Judith Kinnear, Garrick Murfitt

Successful free bus service extended until 2012

A two-year trial of a free bus service for Massey staff and students in Palmerston North has proved so successful it is to be extended for a further five years from February, Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear has announced.



There were congratulations all round followed by a tour of the Palmerston North campus on a Tranzit bus for guests, students and staff at a function to mark the millionth passenger on the unlimited access bus service yesterday.

Guest speaker was the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, Dr Morgan Williams, who hailed the service as an example to other university cities in New Zealand wanting to achieve environmental objectives by cutting traffic volumes.

It's a superb initiative, well grounded and you are showing the way, Dr Williams said. In the mobility area we really need to be focusing on the resource intensity, he said.

The total number of passenger vehicles has gone up 75 per cent in the last 15 years. Our vehicle age has gone up 3.5 per cent over that time our average vehicle age is 12 years engine size has gone up, total energy use in domestic transport has gone up 21 per cent, and fuel consumption in New Zealand is 11.5 litres per hundred kilometres. We're the highest in the OECD.

This sort of issue is really fundamental in raising awareness in where energy fits into a country's future, where energy fits into our economy.

Raising awareness about transport energy efficiency helps raise awareness about things like energy consumption in homes and businesses, and gets people thinking about sustainability, Dr Williams said.

So it's a great step forward. You are being watched very closely by other universities and so you should because it's great leadership.

Students' Association president Paul Falloon confirmed that other universities were watching. He regularly heard from other students' associations eager to have a similar service in their city.

Mr Falloon thanked the organisations that funded the scheme for the way they had collaborated.

It's not just the environmental advantages, which are very important in today's society, but also economically as a student it's getting tougher and tougher to run a car with petrol prices increasing and more stresses on warrants of fitness, it's getting really expensive, he said.

He said he particularly liked the fact it was available to students on any day for any trip around town. That's really fantastic and may it extend and other businesses look at this as well and encourage people to stay in Palmerston North after they finish their studies.

Garrick Murfitt, the chairman of Horizons Regional Council, which funds the \$750,000 a year service along with

Massey and Land Transport New Zealand, thanked everyone involved in planning the scheme and congratulated Massey and its students for using the buses in such large numbers.

The host of the function, Palmerston North Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Warrington, outlined the background to the service, saying before it started motorists could spend 30 to 40 minutes getting from the city to Massey at peak times, then struggle to find a park.

The service was given a two-year trial but within six months we'd proved the scheme .

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Palmerston North

Huge backing for higher drinking age

Three out of four New Zealanders say the legal drinking age should go back up from 18 to 20 and nearly half of us want television advertising of alcohol banned, according to a new survey.

The mail survey sent to 2250 people chosen at random from the national electoral rolls by the Department of Marketing found 74.6 per cent of respondents favoured the higher drinking age that applied until 1999.

The survey, conducted over the past two months, had 1258 responses. It is part of the Department's involvement in the International Social Survey Programme, which this year examined the role of government.

The findings come as the New Zealand Drug Foundation begins a survey of members of Parliament on their support for the raising the drinking age and the Law and Order select committee's report to Parliament on the Youth Alcohol Harm Reduction Bill, which would raise the drinking age to 20, is due to be tabled today.

As well as indicating whether they supported or opposed stricter enforcement of existing regulations, respondents to the Massey survey were also asked their views on additional regulation, such as bans on alcohol advertising and sponsorship, and supply restrictions at sports events. Forty four percent supported banning alcohol advertising on television, while 26 per cent opposed such a move. Support for a ban on alcohol sponsorship was more evenly divided, with 35 per cent in favour and an equal proportion opposing a ban.

Professor Philip Gendall, who led the research team, and colleague Professor Janet Hoek noted that similar results were obtained in polls conducted before stricter tobacco regulations were implemented.

However, our experience with tobacco shows that New Zealanders' support for stricter regulation quickly follows the introduction of restrictions.

Half the respondents supported serving only low-alcohol drinks at sporting events, while 26 per cent opposed this suggestion. Respondents also supported the use of warning labels to highlight possible health hazards associated with alcohol consumption, with 52 per cent in favour and 17 per cent opposed.

These findings suggest respondents would like interventions that reduce the risk of excessive alcohol consumption and that provide them with better information about the health risks associated with excessive consumption.

Respondents also supported moves that would make alcohol less accessible and less attractive to young people. Nearly 60 per cent supported increasing the tax on ready-to-drink alcopops (20 per cent opposed) while 41 per cent said they should be banned from sale altogether (32 per cent opposed this suggestion).

These results reflect community concern over young people's drinking behaviour and the way in which alcopops are thought to lead to more harmful drinking behaviours.

More than 90 per cent support for stricter enforcement of the law against selling alcohol to customers who are underage or who have had too much to drink.

Professor Gendall says the survey results are very timely, given the current review of alcohol marketing. Respondents clearly believe that existing regulations should be more effectively monitored and enforced. However, our findings also reveal strong support for additional regulation that would reduce the salience of alcohol brands and their availability, particularly to young people.

Question: To what extent would you support or oppose the following measures to reduce alcohol use?	% Support or Strongly Support	% Oppose or Strongly Oppose
Raising the drinking age back to 20 years	74.6	14.4
Stricter enforcement of the law against selling alcohol to customers who are underage	94.1	1.3
Stricter enforcement of the law against serving customers who have had too much to drink	90.4	1.9

Banning alcohol advertising on television	43.8	26.3
Banning alcohol sponsorship of sporting events	35.4	34.9
Requiring alcoholic beverages to have warning labels about possible health hazards	52.2	16.7
Serving only low alcohol drinks, such as low alcohol beer, should be served at sports events	50.1	26.3
Increasing the tax on cheap alcopops drinks favoured by young drinkers	59.4	19.9
Banning the sale of cheap alcopops drinks favoured by young drinkers	41.4	32.0

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business; Government Policy commentators



Turbos sign up to make SRI as home base for two more years

Massey's Sport and Rugby Institute will be the home base for Manawatu's first division rugby team, the Turbos, for the next two years following the signing of a deal with Manawatu Rugby.

The agreement involves the commercial lease of two offices at the institute for Turbo's coaches and management and the use of the grounds and other facilities for three days a week for 17 weeks of the rugby season, from June to October.

University Commercial Operations and Events Manager Denis Jenkins says the Turbos made the institute their base for the first year back in the first division under new coach Dave Rennie and liked what they experienced.

Mr Jenkins says the facilities at the institute, which is about to complete its first full year under Massey management, are world-class, with a gymnasium, recovery pools, an indoor training ground, conference centre, and modern changing rooms and accommodation. The grounds encompass three rugby fields, all floodlit.

Formerly sponsored by Adidas and leased by the New Zealand Rugby Union, the institute has proved a major success story for the University this year. Its occupancy rates have gone from below 30 per cent to mid-70 per cent and it has a growing base of regular clients that includes the NZRU and former All Black Murray Mexted's International Rugby Academy.

We've turned what a few people thought was a white elephant into something that is making a financial contribution and has enormous potential to do more, particularly with Massey's strong sport, fitness and health-related academic programmes.

Turbos manager and the union's Director of Rugby, John Knowles, says the Institute provided exactly what the team needed to prepare and compete in the coming seasons.

In my view it's a facility that any other union in the country would be envious of and it's right here on our doorstep, so why not use it.

He praised the quality of the playing fields and the range of facilities for training, fitness and recovery work.

It really is a complete sporting facility and it works ideally for Dave Rennie with his role in IRANZ.

Manawatu Rugby chief executive Hadyn Smith says the institute was the best solution for the team even down to the ability, with all the computers you've got set up there, to analyse a game or a particular player's performance .

Although 58 per cent of the institute's clients remain from rugby, 32 per cent have been from other sports and 10 per cent non-sport corporate clients, Mr Jenkins says.

The corporate gym at the SRI has turned out to be the most perfect marketing tool because James Amon, the trainer, is working with elite national athletes from six or seven codes, including cricketers, netballers, golfers and hockey players.

That gives you an entrée into the team coaches and management that you wouldn't normally get, so you can

suggest to the Black Caps or the Warriors or the Silver Ferns they might like to run a training camp here.

Two weeks ago the Warriors Under-19 teams was here and that has opened the door to us talking to the Kiwis about this as possible venue for one of their training camps.

It's all based on relationships creating the right relationship with the right people. The facility speaks for itself."

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Institute of Sport and Rugby; Palmerston North; Sport and recreation



Sarah Warnes, Ujwala Subedi and Janelle Reynolds with the fruit snack they developed as part of their fourth-year food technology programme.

Future foods from technology students

Janelle Reynolds' bite-sized chewy feijoa balls, four in a packet, sold out within hours of their unveiling to her food technology classmates.

With fellow fourth-year Massey students Sarah Warnes and Ujwala Subedi, Ms Reynolds developed the concept for the fruity snack, developed the cooking process, marketed and finally sold the product.

She says the feijoa drops, with a real fruit centre and white-chocolate flavoured coating, were designed to sit in the same shelf-category as muesli bars as a fresher, fruitier alternative. Each drop contains a minimum of 50 per cent feijoa fruit pulp, apple pulp, locust bean gum to bind the ingredients, and preservatives.

The eight teams of food technology students used an industrial kitchen in the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health in Palmerston North to develop their individual products spicy pork meals, breakfast cereal, ice-cream snacks, heart-healthy muffins, long-life energy drinks, roasted carrot spread, and a nut-free spread alongside the feijoa drops.

The exercise is a major assignment in the students' final year, and demands that they integrate skills learnt in the previous three years. Small-scale commercial production, problem solving, marketing and budgeting extend the challenge of developing the perfect recipe. Sales are constrained to classmates friends and family because of the pilot status of the projects, but the students later develop a theoretical larger-scale model for commercial manufacture.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

\$5000 prize for Manawatu business dream

There's a catch to the prize money in the Launch Entrepreneurship Initiative and it's one that puts it out on its own in New Zealand.

The new competition, sponsored by Massey University, the Palmerston North City Council and the Bio Commerce Centre, offers a winning prize of \$5000 to the best business plan submitted by a Massey student.

The prize is to be used as seed money for the start up business outlined in the student's plan, but on one condition: It must be based in the Manawatu.

The condition was the brain wave of Palmerston North MP Steve Maharey who was consulted earlier this year by organisers Brent Atkins and Massey PhD student Eugene Lai. The region loses so many of its bright young entrepreneurs to bigger centres, said Mr Maharey. Why not do something that encourages them to stay?

The competing students will present their business plans at an awards evening to be held at the Bio Commerce Centre on Friday.

Mr Atkins says there are similar competitions elsewhere, but to his knowledge this is the only one that earmarks the prize money for use within a specific region. The aim is to retain the human capital trained at Massey, to encourage entrepreneurship and inspire students to create their own ideas for businesses.

We want to launch future entrepreneurs who can contribute to growth and employment in the Manawatu, he says. We're looking for innovative people who are capable of realising their dreams.

Students from all disciplines have been encouraged to enter and workshops have been held to help non-business students with the skills needed to put together a business plan. The workshops were run by local business professionals, members of the Massey Students in Free Enterprise group, and staff who volunteered their time.

Mr Atkins says this year's competition is a pilot, organised with the help of the Students in Free Enterprise group, with entry restricted to Massey students. But in the future we hope to extend eligibility to include all residents of the wider region.

Apart from the \$5000 seed money, the winner will be provided with a business base at the Bio Commerce Centre.

What: The inaugural Launch Entrepreneurship Initiative

Where: The Bio Commerce Centre, Dairy Farm Road, opposite the Massey Palmerston North campus

When: Friday 20 October 5.40 p.m.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business



Design students' cars crash and burn

The smell of cooked electrical parts filled the Great Hall this month, as radio-controlled cars raced, crashed and burned.

Third-year industrial design students, in 10 teams of four, were each given a budget of \$350 to design and build the vehicles, testing their design, construction and racing skills on a tough, four-lap course. Each was powered by a cordless drill motor, 14-volt battery and standard remote control equipment. Parts were scavenged from fishing reels, and laser-cut in the Industrial Design workshop from aluminium and acrylic.

Each car carried two cans of the sponsor's product (Red Bull) and had to negotiate tight turns and a 40-degree slope without losing its load.

Everything had to have a mechanical function, says Industrial Design lecturer, Brandon Syme. Cars were not allowed superficial body panels. The challenge for the students was to integrate the aesthetics which they were judged on into the vehicle's structure.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Features

Categories: College of Creative Arts

New vet nurses now qualify to work in Britain

Veterinary nursing graduates graduating at the end of the year will be the first from the University to enter their careers with a qualification recently awarded British equivalency by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

The University is one of two institutions in New Zealand that offers this equivalency, through its two-year Diploma in Veterinary Nursing, and it means that graduates can automatically register as veterinary nurses in Britain. Practicing vet nurses who previously graduated through Massey will also be granted equivalency.

Hayley Squance, director of the University's Veterinary Nursing Programme, says a significant proportion of the nurses who graduate from Massey each year seek work overseas.

Massey veterinary nurses have a good reputation for their academic ability and veterinary knowledge as well as their readiness to work hard, Ms Squance says. In Britain there are a lot of satellite hospitals to main hospital centres, and vets see comparatively more companion animals than they do here, largely due to a huge trend to take out pet insurance.

She says the rigorous equivalency application to the Royal College took two years, in which the Royal College inspected all aspects of the University's Veterinary Nursing programme, from curricula content to the ways in which students were examined. This is an asset to our programme and is likely to attract more national and international students to the programme.

She says that previously vet nurses could work in Britain as unregistered nurses, but this often restricted the type of work they could do in a practice.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Sciences; School of Veterinary Science



Massey Blues honour top NZ athletes

Athletes of national and international ranking, from a wide variety of codes, are among those to receive Massey University Blues awards on Monday 16 October.

All of the 32 recipients of this year's awards have reached exceptional standards in their chosen codes, are succeeding in their studies and, in many cases, are national and international representatives, says Dr Sarah Leberman, Chair of the Blues Awards Committee.

To receive a Blue's award is a double achievement for these students because not only do they need to represent the University and the region, they must also be passing their studies as well, says Dr Leberman, who is a senior lecturer in sport management and coaching.

We have some of the top sportspeople in the country studying at Massey and it's great to be able to honour their achievements.

Dr Leberman says this year there is even more diversity in the sports being represented at the awards, with a move away from the codes such as rugby and netball that have dominated in the past. Some of the smaller codes to be represented this year are badminton, barefoot waterskiing, canoe polo and canoe slalom, golf, judo, karate, motorsport and ultimate frisbee.

Presentations to this year's blues recipients from Massey University's Wellington and Palmerston North campuses will be made at the awards dinner at the Palmerston North Convention Centre. Auckland campus hosted its Blues awards earlier this month.

Guest speaker for the evening will be Louisa Wall, who represented New Zealand in netball (1989-1992) and rugby (1994-2002) and was part of the 1998 World Championship-winning team. Ms Wall has a Master of Philosophy in Social Policy from Massey University.

At the Palmerston North award ceremony the Bank of New Zealand Award for the Palmerston North campus sports man and woman of the year will be announced. The Students' Association will present their MUSA Award for the top performing Men's and Women's Sports Team.

Outstanding contribution awards will also be presented to those who have helped in the administration or support of the University's 160 clubs for at least two years. Dr Leberman says it is these people who make the clubs function effectively. These are our real champions, our unsung heroes.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Sport and recreation



Massey University scientists Dr Fakhrul Alam and Dr Tom Moir with a high-sensitivity digital sound recorder.

Investigating strange hums in the night

▶ VIDEO Watch the ONE News item: [Dial-up 56k](#) or [Broadband 128k](#)

▶ AUDIO [Listen to a simulation of the sound](#) (most people won't be able to hear it, but if you play it in something like Windows Media Player and turn on the visualisation you will "see" the sound waves).

Researchers have attracted widespread interest since they began investigating a mysterious humming noise in a house on Auckland's North Shore where only the householder can hear the sound.

Although the pair of computer engineering scientists could not detect a humming sound when they visited the Brown's Bay house, they are now leading a growing investigation into reportings of unidentified sounds.

Since local media reported that Massey scientists had been to investigate, Dr Tom Moir and Dr Fakhrul Alam have been inundated with phone calls from people reporting that they can hear hum-like noises that others with them cannot hear.

Reports of hearing a hum, the Massey pair say, are a regular occurrence, world-wide. They are now preparing to investigate further, what they have dubbed, the Unidentified Acoustic Phenomena.

Once the Brown's Bay 'hum' became publicised, the two were contacted by groups and individuals across the region, some of whom had been conducting their own investigations into the mysterious low level, background noises they say they can hear.

The fact of the matter is that we do not yet have an answer as to why only some people hear these sounds, even though there has been keen interest and plenty of speculation world-wide on this phenomenon, says Dr Moir.

At this stage we believe there are two possible explanations. The hum could be a very low frequency sound that only some people can hear. Or, it could be that microwaves in the atmosphere trigger a hum-like sound in the heads of some people that would not necessarily be heard by others or picked up by recording equipment.

Dr Moir says his group hopes to learn more from the data they are now gathering and from the use of more sophisticated sound recording equipment capable of picking up low frequency sounds.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Home affordability still falling

 Watch the ONE Close Up item (10min 6sec): [Dial up 56k](#) or [Broadband 128k](#)

Home affordability declined again in the three months to September 30, despite a slowdown in the growth of house prices in the same period.

The latest report from the Massey University Real Estate Analysis Unit also shows that affordability in the Central Otago/Lakes district declined by nearly 30 per cent in the year to September, four times the national rate.

Other key points in the report:

House prices still dominate the affordability equation
Auckland affordability improves a little
Central Otago/Lakes is the least affordable region
Southland is the most affordable region.

During the September quarter home affordability declined by 1.4 per cent. Property Studies director Professor Bob Hargreaves says this represents the 17th consecutive quarter in which the national index has declined.

The measure is driven by three variables: house prices, wage rates and mortgage interest rates. Professor Hargreaves says the continuing decline in affordability appears to owe most to the fact that wage increases have not been high enough to compensate for house price and interest rate rises. However the 1.4 per cent decline for the September quarter is lower than the 2 per cent reported for the June quarter.

Professor Hargreaves says on a regional basis the quarterly results were a mixed bag, with the main driver being differential changes in house prices.

Affordability improved in five regions and declined in seven. Leading regions with improved affordability were Northland (8.2 per cent), Auckland (1.1 per cent) and Otago (1.2 per cent). Leading the declines were Central Otago/Lakes (6.8 per cent), Wellington (5.6 per cent), Manawatu/Wanganui (5.4 per cent). Professor Hargreaves says these results appear to be largely a result of regions being at different stages on the property cycle.

Over the year to September, national affordability declined by 6.9 per cent. This was again largely driven by house prices increases of 6.9 per cent outstripping increases in wages (3.5 per cent) and increases in the weighted average interest rate on home mortgages (3.5 per cent). All regions posted annual declines in affordability.

The largest regional annual decline was in the Central Otago/Lakes region (28.9 per cent) followed by Manawatu/Wanganui (16.6 per cent) and Nelson/Marlborough (16.0 per cent).

The smallest regional annual decline was Hawkes Bay (0.8 per cent) followed by Canterbury Westland (3.6 per cent) and Auckland (5.1 per cent).

Southland remains the most affordable region with the index now at 51.7 per cent of the national benchmark of 100 per cent. Manawatu/Wanganui, with an index of 71.8 per cent, stays in second place, followed by Otago (74.4 per cent). Central Otago Lakes is still the least affordable area with an index of 16.1 per cent followed by Auckland on 121.8 per cent.

The full report on home affordability for the September quarter, including graphs, is available at <http://property-group.massey.ac.nz>

The graphs include an illustration of the relative movements in home affordability for New Zealand, Auckland and Southland over the last decade.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business; Video Multimedia



Equine root canal a New Zealand first

A 15-year-old mare named Bonnie will be able to graze in greater comfort after Massey equine veterinarian Dr Ian Dacre performed what is thought to be the first equine endodontic filling, or root canal, in New Zealand.

The mare was sedated and locally anaesthetised for the two-hour operation on two of the lower incisors. She will return to the hospital at a later date for a root canal on her two upper incisors.

Equine incisors are the nibbling teeth used in grazing, and their roots reach deep into the jaw at a length of up to 8cm. A root canal is performed to relieve the pain of infected teeth, and a dentist will drill into the root cavity before filling the hole.

Dr Dacre, who holds the only PhD in equine dental pathology since 1979, says troublesome incisors may be removed, but as a result, other teeth tend to shift along the jaw leaving gaps in which food gets stuck. This may lead to further dental complications, and may adversely affect a horse's chewing mechanism.

The University's veterinary hospital director Dr Frazer Allan says the clinic is the only place in New Zealand where horses can receive this type of treatment, and that the hospital's equine veterinarians conducted dental procedures ranging from filing through to specialised operations such as the endodontics.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; School of Veterinary Science

Bloodline argument racist rubbish, says researcher

National Party leader Don Brash's suggestion that Māori are no longer a distinct indigenous people due to intermarriage is inherently racist, and intended to divide, says Massey sociologist Dr Avril Bell.

Dr Bell, who researches both Māori and Pākehā identities, says that Dr Brash is being disingenuous when he acknowledges that many New Zealanders identify as Māori, while arguing that Māori are no longer a distinct people.

While Dr Brash might claim to be just stating the facts, he is appealing to racist sentiments against Māori. To state that there are few, or no, full-blooded Māori left is not a simple statement of fact. The tenor of this kind of comment is to question the validity of claims to Māori identity, Dr Bell says.

The underlying assumption that to be a real Māori a person had to be full-blooded is an inappropriate and archaic way to define cultural identity that smacks of 19th century race theory, she says.

People don't actually have different blood. It is our DNA that determines things like physical characteristics and skin colour. Within Maori culture, identity claims are based on whakapapa which, unlike the blood metaphor, works to include rather than to divide people. Having one ancestor with links to a particular hapū or iwi can be the basis of a claim to belong to that hapū or iwi. That claim isn't diluted because the rest of your ancestors come from elsewhere.

She says the racism inherent in this kind of argument is clear when you consider how it is used only against non-white peoples. We never hear claims to Pākehā identity being questioned on the basis of their not being full-blooded. It is always used to question the identity claims of minority groups. You have to ask why that is.

Created: 2 October, 2006

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Maori

Success is in fashion

School of Design graduate Rodney Leong won the Supreme World of Wearable Art Award after being runner-up in 2005.

The Love of Icarus is made from 20,664 plastic collar stays, and was inspired by the quote On certain night, when there is a full moon and the stars lay cast out, a shadowy figure can be seen floating within the moon .

Mr Leong holds a Diploma in Textile Design and a Diploma in Fashion Design and Technology. In 2003 he was hand picked by international designer and judge Trelise Cooper after she saw his work in the WOW awards.

He has been entering the awards show since 1989. Never afraid to try new things, he has created garments in everything from hand painted silk to recycled zips.

I am drawn to the freedom to try new things with fabric and the ability to ignore the constraints of a commercial fashion career. There are no expectations of what you should create when entering WOW, only the aim of personal growth and the abilities of your own imagination, he says.

His prize includes \$10,000 cash, \$10,000 of travel and a trophy.

From more than 300 entries, 170 made it through to the show, including two fashion design students from the University: Donna Walford (Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Kahungunu) and Megan Coombes.

Also held last month, Air New Zealand Fashion Week was another opportunity for New Zealand designers to showcase their talent to the world. Names like Karen Walker, Trelise Cooper and Kate Sylvester are best-sellers overseas, but Fashion Week offers smaller designers a chance to kick start their exporting and make a name for themselves.

Design School graduate Deb Sweeny won the Air New Zealand Fashion Export Award valued at \$18,000; and current student Sarah Smeath is one of four finalists in the Air New Zealand Inspiring New Zealanders award. She will be an intern with Karen Walker at the next stage of the competition.

Fashion design lecturer Mary-Ellen Imlach says graduates who showed at Fashion Week for the first time included Kathryn Wilson, Jimmy D (James Dobson), Docherty Wilkins, Veronica Keucke, and Juliette Hogan.

And for final-year student Kenzy Cheeseman the trip to Auckland for Fashion Week paid off twice. As well as getting to see cutting-edge fashion, she brought home a \$500 prize from Apparel magazine.

At a dinner hosted by Apparel, 40 fashion design students from around New Zealand, including 12 from the University, were invited to showcase their designs. Ms Cheeseman describes her outfit as a moss-green tailored waistcoat, with curved, sculptured panels worn over a draped lemon silk chiffon dress. The waistcoat can be worn either fitted or open. She says the prize was perfect timing, as she will pump it back into buying fabric for her final year collection.

The public will have the chance to see graduating students' work at the Exposure fashion show, to be held at Massey's Great Hall on November 18.

Created: 7 March, 2008

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Creative Arts



2006 Research Medal winners announced

This year's winners of the University's most prestigious research awards, the Massey University Research Medals, have been announced by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Nigel Long (pictured, right).

The 2006 Medals and Teaching Awards will be presented at a gala dinner to be held in Palmerston North on 5 October to pay tribute to research and teaching excellence.

A highlight of the dinner will be guest speaker Nobel Laureate Professor Peter Doherty. Professor Doherty, an

immunologist from St Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, who was jointly awarded a Nobel prize in physiology/medicine in 1996 with Rolf Zinkernagel

for their discoveries concerning "the specificity of the cell mediated immune defence" research undertaken while employed at the John Curtin School of Medical Research in Canberra, Australia.

The Research Medal winners are:

Professor David Lambert Individual, Professor Robyn Munford Supervisor, Dr Barbara Holland and Dr Sara Ross Early Career, and the Centre for Public Health Research the Research Team medal.

Other research awards include Māori awards, women's awards, post-doctoral fellowships, research fellowships, and technicians' awards.

Many of the winners will be recognised from previous years and a large number were also recipients of the recent Marsden and Fast-Start awards from the Royal Society of New Zealand. See earlier release:

http://masseynews.massey.ac.nz/2006/Press_Releases/09-07-06a.html

Massey Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear says this is a tribute to their sustained excellence in their fields and their abilities to collaborate with others nationally and internationally to remain at the cutting edge of knowledge and discovery. Equally exciting, Professor Kinnear says, is the crop of young and emerging researchers. This is an area Massey prides itself in. An example of that future potential is that Massey had the second highest number of Marsden Fast-Start awards of all New Zealand tertiary organisations, as well as the third largest number of overall grants and the third highest value of total grants.

Outstanding Individual Researcher

Professor David Lambert is a Distinguished Professor and Professor of Molecular Ecology and Evolution based in Auckland, whose successes in ancient DNA research, and those of his research group, feature frequently in leading publications and attract international attention.

A principal investigator in the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution one of the centres of research excellence established by the Government, Professor Lambert has published more than 130 research papers and made a major contribution to evolutionary genetics.

Most recently, through his work with DNA analysis, he has made news with revelations on the New Zealand moa and his evolution study with Adelie penguins.



In the decade that he has been at the University he has been awarded approximately \$26.4 million in research funding including nine Marsden grants. The award is worth \$20,000 to the centre.

Team Research Medal

The Centre for Public Health Research

In the six years since the establishment of the Centre, Professor Neil Pearce and his team have produced an extensive track record in public health research, workforce development and team-based research.

The Centre is a multi-disciplinary team of researchers based on the University's Wellington campus. Its research programme covers all aspects of public health research, with a focus on

- non-communicable diseases (respiratory disease, cancer, diabetes)
- occupational health
- environmental health
- socio-economic determinants of health
- Māori and Pacific health research.

Research findings have major implications for prevention and treatment of asthma and cancer, provision of health services to Māori and Pacific people, and managing occupational health and safety.

Associate Director Jeroen Douwes says the centre was delighted to win the Research Medal. It is wonderful to receive recognition for the centre's work. It is a great pleasure to be able to work with a team of highly motivated and talented researchers.

The continuous support of Massey's Research Services, our international collaborators, and funding agencies such as the Health Research Council, Marsden and Lotteries has of course also been crucial. Finally, Neil Pearce's vision to bring together an international group of researchers the Centre includes people from Tonga, England, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, and of course New Zealand has been paramount in the group's success. I am looking forward to celebrating this recognition with all of those who have made this happen."

The principal investigators on the centre's research projects are Professor Neil Pearce, Associate Professor Jeroen Douwes, Dr Mona Jeffreys, Dr Lis Ellison-Loschmann, Dr Andrea 't Mannetje, Dr Dave McLean, Dr Ate Moala, Dr Sunia Foliaki, and Dr Christine van Dalen. The team also includes researchers, biostatisticians, field workers and support staff. The award is worth \$25,000 to the centre.

Supervisor

Professor Robyn Munford graduated with New Zealand's first social work degree, from Massey University in 1979. She achieved first-class honours. She ran an Intellectually Handicapped Children residential home for two and a half years then studied at the University of Calgary in Alberta for her masterate, returned to Massey in Palmerston North to complete her PhD and, in 1991, took up a position as a lecturer.

In 1998 she became head of the School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work, a position she vacated at the end of August this year to devote more time to research, the mentoring of new researchers, and her work on international boards.

Since 1991 Professor Munford has supervised 20 doctorates and 15 masterates, mostly as leading supervisor. All of her masterate students received distinction or honours and many have gone on to become respected researchers in their own right or to occupy important managerial positions in New Zealand and overseas.

She has also made a substantial contribution to staff development by encouraging staff (particularly Māori and Pacific Islanders) to complete higher degrees. The support of Māori research and the completion of postgraduate qualifications by Maori researchers is a key goal in the school's research strategy, she says.

Professor Munford's PhD research on women caregivers of disabled children led her to further research into families. She is co-director of a project funded by the Foundation for Research Science and Technology, looking at people's experience as teenagers and raising teenagers. She also works with the Italian-based International Association for Outcome-based Evaluation and Research on Families and Children's Services. The project brings together researchers from New Zealand Australia, Europe, North America and Israel.

In 2002 the value of Professor Munford's contribution to social progress was further recognised when she became an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to social work education and policy. The award is worth \$10,000.

Early Career Medalists (\$10,000 each)

Dr Barbara Holland is a research fellow in the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution who has moved rapidly from her position as a PhD student to a researcher of international reputation.

Centre co-director Professor Mike Hendy says Dr Holland has achieved more in research output than any other graduate he has known, and cites her success in winning research grants as a particular highlight for the centre.

Dr Holland was awarded the Royal Society of New Zealand Hamilton Memorial Prize last year for her mathematical research in evolutionary biology, described by the society's academy council as pioneering work.

After a one-year post-doctoral position at the University of Bochum in Germany, she was awarded another at the Allan Wilson Centre, returning to Massey in 2002. Last year she was awarded a Foundation of Research, Science and Technology Bridge to Employment grant and received a full Marsden grant as the project's principal investigator.

Her research focuses on phylogenetics the study of evolutionary relatedness among various groups of organisms. An evolutionary tree, or a phylogenetic tree, maps the evolutionary interrelationships among various species. She says biologists seeking to estimate evolutionary trees are often forced to use inadequate mathematical models.

Dr Sarah Ross is a scholar of early modern English literature who joined the School of English and Media Studies in 2003 and is rapidly building a reputation as a significant contributor to the academic field of women's renaissance poetry.

In addition to her individual research focus on poetry, women's writing, literature in relation to poetry and society, manuscript studies and bibliography, Dr Ross has contributed to two major British projects specialising in 17th century literary history.

While completing her DPhil thesis at St Hilda's College, Oxford, on women and religious verse in English manuscript culture (1600-1668), Dr Ross was awarded the Margaret Roper Prize for graduate research. From there she was appointed to the prestigious post-doctoral post of John Nichols Research Fellow at the University of Warwick.

Since 2001 she has published major articles on renaissance religious manuscripts and the poetry of Katherine Austen, four items in the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, two articles on Hester Pulter in a collection of essays on early modern women for Routledge, several reviews, and a co-edited edition of essays on contemporary British novelists.

Professor Warwick Slinn, head of the School of English and Media Studies, says Dr Ross' work has quickly drawn the attention of established scholars in her field. He says the sustained quality and volume of her work places Dr Ross on a par with early career researchers in any field.

It is unusual for humanities scholars to produce this level and quality of work so early in their career, since research success for them usually follows a lengthy apprenticeship.

Technicians' Awards

These awards provide for an annual salary of up to \$35,000 to be paid for two years to provide technical support and assistance for a specific research project undertaken by the recipients. This year's recipients are:

Dr Armaz Aschrafi and **Dr Evelyn Sattlegger**, Institute of Molecular BioSciences, are studying the role of protein synthesis regulators in the formation of long-term memory in the brain. In particular they will focus on the involvement of two translation regulators, IMPACT and GCN2, in the formation of memory. Drs Aschrafi and Sattlegger are experts in protein synthesis and Dr Aschrafi has expertise in investigating protein synthesis in neurons. Their study requires a steady supply of neuronal cultures, which due to their short life span, will have to be generated freshly and regularly from rat embryos. Dissociated neurons prepared from the rat brains will exhibit mature neuronal architecture and physiological properties necessary for the experiments. The award will fund a technician who is specialised in brain tissue culture techniques skills which could not be acquired by a PhD student while producing results within the three year thesis period.

Professor Bob Hodgson, Institute of Information Sciences and Technology, aims to develop an intelligent digital microscope to be used in the automation of palynology the process of pollen counting and recognition. Palynology is an important tool in areas such as climate change research and health related studies, and a recent European-centred register of palynologists listed 6000 practitioners. Professor Hodgson, an expert on digital image processing, has been part of a multidisciplinary group who have worked for more than six years towards an automated system. The other team members are: Professor John Flenley, an Oxford DSc who is internationally recognised for his applied palynology on Easter Island; Dr David Fountain, an expert on live pollen; Dr Steve Marsland, a 2005 Massey medallist and specialist in intelligent classifier design; Greg Arnold, an applied statistician, and Gary Allen, a masterate student. The award will fund a technician to refine the system and to run a number of research trials to demonstrate the effectiveness of the system and generate research results.

Dr Max Scott, Institute of Molecular BioSciences, leads a project supported by the Australian wool industry to study gene function in the Australian sheep blowfly. His team is developing a system for making transgenic or genetically modified blowflies, and collaborates with the University of Melbourne who are determining the DNA sequences of fragments of most of the blowfly genes. The genome project will underpin further new projects studying the unique biology of blowflies. Unlike microbes, blowflies cannot be stored frozen, and therefore all flies must be maintained in a labour-intensive regime of feeding (fresh water, protein-rich cookies and fresh liver). The award will fund a technician to assist with this project and with a proposed study of the genes expressed in the salivary glands of blowfly larvae. Sterile maggots are being increasingly used to treat inoperable wounds and stimulate wound healing in humans. The proposed project will determine which genes are most active in the larvae.

Massey University Postdoctoral Fellowships

These fellowships recognise researchers with established records, allowing them to employ a young postdoctoral student for two years to carry out research on their behalf or to conduct the research themselves, with an additional \$15,000 available for research expenses.

Dr Fiona Alpass from the School of Psychology for her project, Cultural Pathways to Retirement, which will investigate the cultural and ethnic influences on the retirement process.

It will complement a Health Research Council-funded project on the health of older people in the transition from work to retirement. Analysing data from that project will enable the research team to make comparisons with longitudinal data from the United States and 11 European countries.

The project will study the factors influencing continued labour force participation decisions, such as the ability to work, financial need, and the desire to continue working. Comparisons will be made across Māori, European, Pacific and Asian groups in New Zealand and internationally, with a focus on indigenous people and new immigrant groups.

Dr Isabel Castro from the Institute of Natural Resources (Ecology) for her project, Predator-prey Interactions in New Zealand, which aims to study the ecology of predators and their prey in order to develop better management of introduced mammalian pest populations.

The traditional response to predation has been to kill the predators. This has backfired on many occasions because of the consequent ecological responses by other predators and prey. For example, eradicating feral cats may cause an increase in other pest populations such as rats, which are preyed on by cats.

The project will establish baseline data about the numerical and functional relationships between vertebrate predators and prey in a defined New Zealand ecosystem. This will enable future experiments leading to more effective pest management.

The two-year project will study feral cats, ship rats, kiwi, ruru (morepork) and other forest bird species on a Hauraki Gulf island.

Professor Martin Hazelton from the Institute of Information Sciences and Technology, and Professor Nigel French from EpiCentre for their project, Spatial Models of Animal Diseases.

The fellowship will fund the appointment of a postdoctoral fellow, to improve collaboration and productivity of statisticians and epidemiologists.

The project aims to develop new statistical methods for analysing spatial data on the determinants of veterinary

diseases. It aims to apply these methods to designing better disease surveillance. Better surveillance systems would improve our preparedness for infectious diseases, such as foot and mouth disease or bird flu.

The project will benefit veterinary public health, biosecurity and disease control organisations.

Professor Janina Mazierska from the Institute of Information Sciences and Technology for her project on Cellular Low Temperature Co-fired Ceramic-based Filters.

The project could lead to smaller and lighter wireless communication devices such as cell phones.

Progress in electronic systems has been achieved through the miniaturisation of active components and circuits, such as transistors and silicon chips; however passive components such as capacitors and inductors have only halved in size over the past 50 years.

The size and capability of cell phones is determined by passive circuits, so new technologies aimed at their miniaturisation are required. Low temperature co-fired ceramic (LTCC) based filters are emerging as the most efficient and powerful way of achieving this.

The fellowship will fund the appointment of a postdoctoral fellow to develop advanced microwave filters for wireless telephone handsets based on new LTCC technologies. Results are expected to have a significant potential for commercialisation. Dr Jasna Rakonjac from the Institute of Molecular BioSciences for her project, Unlocking the Gate of a Giant Channel.

The project has two aims: To determine the structure of pIV secretin at atomic resolution and to investigate how opening the secretin is triggered by its payload.

Secretins are gigantic outer membrane channels of bacteria. They can be open or closed, like a gate. When open, genetic material or disease-causing toxins can exit the bacteria, including those that lead to cholera, salmonella or gastric ulcers.

The project will identify and characterise the gate of secretin pIV, a safe and easily amenable model secretin channel that exports filamentous bacteriophage from non-pathogenic *Escherichia coli* strain K12.

If successful, high resolution studies of the structure of the protein pIV will significantly increase understanding of how an important group of bacterial proteins work. Understanding the secretin gate will help combat bacterial diseases.

Massey University Research Fellowship

Professor Klaus-Dieter Schewe is based in the Department of Information Systems at Palmerston North. He receives his Research Fellowship for his project, Design and Development of Web Information Systems. These are databased-backed information systems that are realised and distributed over the web.

Professor Schewe says a web information system is a series of abstract locations between which users navigate in a story space .

Data can be manipulated by the user or adapted by the system. Web information systems have been a focus of an international research collaboration for Professor Schewe for many years. The research has led to a sophisticated methodology for the design and development of systems capturing various levels of abstraction, modelling techniques for each level, mathematical foundations of these models, and pragmatic guidelines for their use.

The fellowship, worth up to \$20,000, will enable Professor Schewe to focus on completing a 600-page research monograph on the project next year.

Māori Awards

The awards provide up to \$10,000 to enable each recipient to work on a specified project.

Nick Roskrug (Te Ātiawa ki Taranaki, Ngāti Tama), a lecturer in horticulture and Māori resource studies in Palmerston North, for his doctoral project Hokia ki te whenua, which aims to produce a decision-making model for the return to economic horticultural development of Māori land, based on tikanga Māori and modern

technology.

Hokia ki te whenua aims to empower Māori to utilize their own land in a fully economic sense, Mr Roskruge says. Tino rangatiratanga [self-determination] is an important part of the empowerment process. So issues such as ownership of the knowledge gathered and access to that knowledge and its continued management are key issues for this project.

The project involves case studies with Māori groups including Wakatū Incorporation (Te Tau Ihu), Ngāti Parewahawaha (Bulls), Waioturi Marae (Patea), Tānehopuwai Marae (Te Kuiti) and Tui Tuia Trust (Te Tai Tokerau). Each group offers a unique approach to land assessment and utility that will contribute to the overall study.

Dr Fiona Te Momo (Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāti Konohi, Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Kahungunu), from the School of Social and Cultural Studies in Auckland, to assist the university in understanding why there are low numbers of Māori enrolled in social work degrees.

Māori have a high rate of participation in voluntary services such as the Māori Womens' Welfare League and the Māori Wardens Association. In comparison, we have much lower numbers enrolled at Massey University in our social work programmes, or taking up social work as a career, Dr Te Momo says.

Her research among Māori in North Shore and Waitakere will also focus on possible pathways to build a relationship between Māori communities working in social services and the university.

The data gathered will highlight reasons for falling numbers of Māori enrolments in social work degrees and provide recommendations on ways to remedy this.

Kura Puke (Te Ati Awa), a Māori Visual Arts masters student and lecturer at Massey's Auckland School of Design, to assist in the completion of a set of illuminating animated tukutuku panels.

The project, entitled Muramura: Twinkling Mnemonics in the CBD, features a series of panels built from polished aluminium and acrylic. The main features are the animated patterns created by fibre optic points illuminated by software driven LEDs (light-emitting diodes). Other features include variable timing, colour spectrum and intensity and pattern options that can be varied by remote control.

In some ways, these works are a radical departure from customary tukutuku patterns we see in whareniui [meeting houses], says Ms Puke. While they are constructed from modern materials and have a commercial and contemporary appearance, the concepts draw on Māori knowledge and values. The panels revitalise customary knowledge and call for a reconfiguration of our changing perception of environment, time, space and notions of reality.

Jhanitra Gavala (Ngāpuhi), a lecturer and registered psychologist at the School of Psychology in Palmerston North, for his doctoral research aimed at identifying the tensions, problems and issues around the formation of contemporary Māori identity.

Mr Gavala says identity is an important issue for Māori because it is a cornerstone of psychological well-being and given the diversity of Māori lifestyles in today's world, an analysis is warranted.

The research will initially focus on personal identity. I am interested in the factors and influences that shape the individual. The latter part of the research will examine social identity, place attachment, and identity formation.

His thesis entitled 'Ngā Take o Te Tuakiri Māori: Issues Surrounding Contemporary Identity Formation' will also assist Māori psychologists and practitioners to gain a better understanding about the tensions, problems and issues for Māori within contemporary society and how they affect Māori in their everyday lives.

This research also contributes to the body of research on the need for a greater understanding of national identity, which the Government has identified as a priority, he says.

University Women's Awards

These awards enable staff involved in teaching or administrative work to take time out to write up research results for publication, or to collect and analyse further data. Each award is worth up to \$10,000.

Dr Karen Jillings is working on a research project that involves the translation, annotation and critical analysis

of Scotland's earliest printed vernacular medical treatise, *Ane Breve Descriptoun of the Pest*. The treatise on the plague, by Aberdeen physician Gilbert Skene, was published during an outbreak in 1568.

Dr Jillings, a lecturer in the School of History, Philosophy and Politics, at Palmerston North, will make a research visit to Scotland where the only extant copy of the treatise is preserved in the National Library. Her project will result in a book containing a reprint of the original manuscript, with annotations and a commentary.

This critical edition is expected to be of interest to historians of medicine, of Scotland and of early print culture. She says while the significance of Gilbert Skene's treatise has been acknowledged by historians of Scottish medicine, it has never been the subject of focused academic study.

Aiqun Li is a lecturer in the School of Language Studies, in Wellington, whose PhD research is titled *A Study of Chinese Students' Learning Strategies in English Language Learning in New Zealand and China*. She observes that for many Chinese students studying in New Zealand, their language competence and learning styles may affect their ability to achieve their learning goals.

Her longitudinal study focuses on the learning strategies of a group of seven students who enrolled in a project jointly operated by the Auckland University of Technology and Harbin Institute of Technology in China. The students first study at Harbin before transferring to AUT.

Ms Li's research will establish how these students prepare themselves for their overseas study and how they adapt after they arrive in New Zealand. Next year she will interview the participants in Auckland and will transcribe the interviews, translating from Chinese to English.

Dr Regina Scheyvens, a senior lecturer in the School of People, Environment and Planning at Palmerston North, specialises in research on tourism, particularly as it relates to poverty issues. Her new project is the re-working of her 2002 book, *Tourism for Development: Empowering Communities*, following an approach by Stirling University in Britain.

She intends to turn her earlier book into more of a research monograph by removing some case study material and providing a more comprehensive review of writing on tourism and development. In particular, this will require drawing on recent writing on the relationship between tourism and poverty alleviation, sometimes described as pro-poor tourism. Her new book will be titled *Progress in Tourism and Development*.

Dr Kimberley Powell, a lecturer with the School of Arts, Development and Health Studies in the College of Education based at Palmerston North, recently completed a research project funded by the New Zealand Playcentre Federation titled *The Effect of Adult Playcentre Participation on the Creation of Social Capital in Local Communities*. She intends to use her award to provide a break from teaching to write up the research for journal publication and conference submissions.

The research, for which Dr Powell was director, was an innovative project in New Zealand's early childhood research and took two years to complete. It involved two stages: A national survey that targeted all playcentres in New Zealand, and a case study phase which looked at the perspectives of playcentre members in two rural and two urban communities.

Dr Penelope Shino, a lecturer in the School of Language Studies in Palmerston North, has a project arising from her PhD research on the poetry of Shotetsu, a Zen monk of medieval Japan. She has undertaken a fully annotated translation, with an interpretive introduction, of Shotetsu's travel diary *Nagusamegusa*.

She says *Nagusamegusa* is normally described as a travel work but is an intriguing composite of travel diary, love story and literary treatise, the art of poetry, and aesthetics. It is also a vivid social and historical document of life in fifteenth century Japan.

Dr Shino says Shotetsu records the lives of the provincial military elite as well as the lives of the common people he saw on his travels. The book provides a firsthand account of the transformation of Japan in the medieval era, as artists and intellectuals began to instruct the military, allowing them to rule through the prestige of cultural refinement as well as by the sword.

Thomasin (Tammy) Smith, a lecturer in the Institute of Fundamental Sciences at Palmerston North, has a research project is called *Modelling Hydrothermal Eruptions*.

It will use laboratory, field, conceptual and mathematical models, as well as numerical simulation, to contribute significant new knowledge to the field. She says this will help provide a better assessment of risk conditions so they can be avoided to provide a safer environment.

Ms Smith describes hydrothermal eruptions as naturally occurring violent events that are particularly common in New Zealand. Without warning, they can result in the eruption of large volumes of rock particles mixed with liquid water, water vapour and other gases. These events alter the immediate surroundings, sometimes felling trees, scorching foliage, damaging property and in injuring or killing people.

She says the problem of understanding the phenomenon has become increasingly important, with the need to reduce the risks to lives and property.

To view the earlier release on Massey's Tertiary Teaching Excellence awards, see:

http://masseynews.massey.ac.nz/2006/Massey_News/issue-06/stories/01-06-06.html

For the release on the national awards: http://masseynews.massey.ac.nz/2006/Press_Releases/06-27-06.html

Created: 25 September, 2006

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Any

He Poroporoaki ki Ta Hugh Kawharu (1927-2006)

Massey staff who worked with the late Sir Hugh Kawharu say his contribution to the academic world, to Maori development and international relations was outstanding.

Sir Hugh was the foundation Professor at the Department of Social Anthropology and Maori Studies at Massey in Palmerston North from 1971 to 1985, when he took up the position of Professor of Maori Studies at Auckland University, where he remained as a Professor Emeritus until his death on Tuesday 19 September.

Massey Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori) Professor Mason Durie says Sir Hugh's association with the University was greatly valued.

His own research interests in Māori land tenure and Māori community development provided a basis for later research initiatives at Massey, Professor Durie says.

Apart from his outstanding academic leadership, he was a member of the Waitangi Tribunal and was to play a hugely significant role, not only for his own people Ngāti Whātua but also for Auckland and indeed for the nation.

Professor Durie will attend his funeral on Saturday and will ensure that Massey is well represented and able to convey the University's condolences in the appropriate manner.

Professor of Te Reo Māori, Tairahia Black says it was Sir Hugh's exceptional leadership and academic ability that attracted him to a position within the department.

He was indeed a scholarly man who had extensive knowledge about traditional Māori land tenure systems and tribal aspirations of autonomy, Professor Black says.

He was a competent speaker of Māori, a tribal scholar, a literary scholar and an anthropologist. Whenever he spoke in meetings or in lectures, you always felt extremely privileged to be in his presence. Massey University was very fortunate to have his academic wisdom for all those years.

Sir Hugh gained a Bachelor of Science from Auckland University, an MA from Cambridge University and an MLitt and PhD from Oxford University.

As well as the long-serving chairman of Ngāti Whātua o Ōrakei Māori Trust Board, he was on many national and international bodies including the Royal Commission of the Courts, the Board of Māori Affairs and the Waitangi Tribunal. He was also a Commissioner for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation.

He was knighted in 1989 and in 2002 was appointed to the Order of New Zealand, the nation's highest honour.

I tua mai o te ata hāpara kua rewa ake te kōrero mai i Ngāti Whātua, i Tainui, i Ngā Puhi, i Te Tini o Kawerau. Ngā tai timu kōrero o ngā wai whakapokopoko o Waitematā, o Rangitoto o Maungawhau. He kupu tāku, kua moe mai tō tatau kaihautū o te hohonutanga o te mātauranga o roto i ngā whare wānanga tawhiti o Oxford me Cambridge, o Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa o Tāmaki Makaurau. He kāinga, he tangata tēnei i hīkoi i te karangatanga o te tangata ki mua ki muri, moe mai rā e Hugh te mūrau a te tini. Moe mai e Hugh, te kupu kōrero a te rahi whakaaro, te rahi tangata, te rahi o te hunga kua hīkoi atu i mua i a koe. Kāhore tō haere i te haere mokemoke, he tūtakitanga o ngā wairua tūhono tangata. Moe mai rā e te rangatira.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Alumni; Maori; Palmerston North



Little spotted kiwi dies leaving egg with mate

An endangered little spotted kiwi found unconscious on Kapiti island died shortly after being transferred to the University's Wildlife Health Centre.

Department of Conservation staff bought the female adult kiwi to the ward for treatment in the morning of 14 September, and she died that evening. Avian wildlife veterinarian Dr Brett Gartrell says a post mortem showed that the kiwi had recently laid an egg and was likely to have suffered seizures shortly after laying, possibly due to low calcium levels. Her lungs were also congested and she had a plug of food material in her trachea.

Her difficulties from that time on were a combination of exhaustion from trying to lay an egg, plasma calcium imbalances and a partial obstruction of her trachea and aspiration pneumonia, Dr Gartrell says.

On the bright side, the kiwi has left an egg on Kapiti Island which Dr Gartrell says is probably being incubated by her mate. He says the kiwi's death does not have implications for other kiwi on the island.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Features

Categories: College of Sciences; School of Veterinary Science

Ambush marketing laws come with complications

Legislation will go some way towards solving the problem of ambush marketing but is only one part of a complicated equation that includes individual rights, says Department of Marketing researcher Professor Janet Hoek.

Rugby World Cup Minister Trevor Mallard has said the Government hopes to introduce a law to protect sponsors of major sporting events from ambush marketing where companies' promotions encroach on a rival's sponsorship.

One of the best-known examples of ambush marketing occurred during the 1996 Olympic Games when Nike ambushed Reebok, the official sponsor, by purchasing prominent billboard space overlooking Olympic Park in Atlanta.

Mr Mallard says the law would follow international examples in Australia, Britain, South Africa and the West Indies, where moves are being made to protect the commercial interests of sponsors of events such as the Olympics, and the cricket and football world cups.

New Zealand's successful bids to host the 2011 Rugby World Cup and the 2015 Cricket World Cup both included a commitment to ensure adequate provisions to protect sponsors.

The Rugby Union's failure to promise a stadium free of ambush marketing was partly blamed for the loss of co-hosting rights to the 2003 cup.

Professor Hoek says despite protection provided by the proposed legislation, event owners will still have responsibilities. They will have to exercise caution in the number and range of sponsorship packages they sell, because they can unwittingly set up conflicts by selling different packages to competitors.

It will also be important to recognise the sponsorship contracts that individual players have entered into for amateur athletes these contracts provide long term support. They may be reluctant to curtail these relationships to conform to the requirements of an event. The concerns over conflicts between official sponsors of the Commonwealth Games and sponsors of athletes such as Sarah Ulmer, Hamish Carter and Bevan Docherty illustrate the need to consider a wide range of stakeholders.

It is also very important to ensure that legitimate traders are not prevented from using images or individuals that have featured in earlier campaigns.

While 'ambush marketing' is an intriguing term, we should not lose sight of the fact that it refers to the well-established legal concept of 'passing off'.

Sponsors may be irritated by their competitors' behaviour, so long as this does not involve mis-appropriation of trademarks or misleading behaviour, but they may have little recourse if their competitors have not breached trademark or fair trading statutes.

If advertising rights to events that a rival already sponsors are available for purchase, we can hardly criticise companies for taking up these opportunities. Clarification of contracts and better definition of what rights these confer on sponsors may eliminate some loopholes and allow prospective sponsors to evaluate those that still remain.

Professor Hoek notes that the Minister has stressed that ample safeguards will be put in place to ensure legitimate commercial practices are not unreasonably curbed by the legislation.

We need more detail on these safeguards and on the proposed legislation before knowing how well it protects the rights of all parties to operate in a competitive environment, she says.

Professor Hoek, postgraduate student Zoe Wood and Department of Marketing head Professor Phil Gendall presented a paper on ambush marketing at last year's Australian and New Zealand Marketing Academy conference. The paper won best in section in the sports marketing track.

Created: 22 September, 2006

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business



Husband and wife Professor Kenneth Cloke and Dr Joan Goldsmith

Managers are dinosaurs, say world experts

Two world authorities on leadership and dispute resolution arrive in New Zealand this month for a short public lecture tour, sponsored by the University.

Husband and wife Professor Kenneth Cloke and Dr Joan Goldsmith will give public lectures in Wellington, Auckland and Palmerston North.

Between them they have published more than a dozen books on leadership, mediation and other workplace issues. They include *Thank God It's Monday! 14 Values We Need to Humanize the Way We Work*, *The End of Management and The Rise of Organisational Democracy*. Professor Cloke's latest book, *The Crossroads of Conflict: A Journey Into the Heart of Dispute Resolution*, has just been published.

Professor Cloke has been described by clients and fellow mediators as a giant, a hero, a role model and a true pioneer in the field of dispute resolution. He is Director of the California-based Centre for Dispute Resolution. He specialises in resolving complex multi-party conflicts, including workplace disputes, collective bargaining negotiations, organisational and school conflicts, sexual harassment and discrimination lawsuits, and public policy disputes.

He was an administrative law judge for the California Agricultural Labour Relations Board and the Public Employment Relations Board and a judge pro tem for the Superior Court of Los Angeles.

Professor Cloke's visit is sponsored by the Centre for Dispute Resolution.

Dr Joan Goldsmith is an organisational consultant, mediator, educator and expert on leadership. In addition to her list of Fortune 100 corporate clients, she was the founder of Cambridge College in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and is a former faculty member and administrator at Harvard University, the University of California Los Angeles and Antioch University.

Dr Goldsmith has also been a family therapist, a coach to women leaders and an advisor to the Woman's International Health Coalition, Disney Institute for Women Entrepreneurs, Women's Lens on Global Issues, and Women International League for Peace and Freedom.

Her visit is sponsored by the Centre for Women and Leadership.

A joint public lecture in Palmerston North will provide guidelines for creating democratic organisations. Managers are the dinosaurs of our modern organisational ecology, Dr Goldsmith says. They must be replaced by visionary leaders, coordinators, coaches, mentors, facilitators and conflict resolvers if we are to succeed in creating organisations that will thrive.

Professor Cloke and Dr Goldsmith arrive on 26 September and Dr Goldsmith will deliver her first public lecture at Massey's Wellington campus. Her Auckland lecture will be held at the University of Auckland, co-hosted by Massey University.

Amongst other commitments, Professor Cloke will run a two-day workshop in Wellington at the Arbitrators' and

Mediators' Institute of New Zealand.

For further detail go to: http://gsb.massey.ac.nz/massey/depart/cob/gsb/drc/special-events/special-events_home.cfm

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Tō Tātau Reo Rangatira: Inaugural Māori Language Conference

Te Mata o Te Tau, Massey University's Academy of Māori Research and Scholarship will host an Inaugural Māori Language Conference in November this year. The conference is expected to be the first of its kind where papers will be presented entirely in the Māori language.

Professor Taiarahia Black says the conference will attract speakers of high fluency, including young Māori from secondary schools as well as tribal researchers, academics, radio and television broadcasters, government workers, and Māori politicians.

Over the past 30 years we have witnessed a number of positive Māori language developments. Opportunities to speak, hear, and celebrate the Māori language have increased and have coincided with a growing number of people of all ages able to communicate in the language, he says.

However there are few national or regional conferences available to competent speakers of the Māori language where they might present their paper entirely in the Māori language. This conference is aimed at advancing Māori language as a medium for discussion and debate on education, justice, science, technology, broadcasting, language revitalisation and whānaungatanga.

Guest speakers include Māori Land Court Chief Judge Joe Williams, Professor Aroha Yates-Smith, Carwyn Jones, Haami Piripi, Kevin Prime and Hekia Parata. Professor Black has also extended the invitation to Irish language scholar and Gaelic speaker Dr Muiris O' Laoire to be an international observer at the conference. Dr O' Laoire is a visiting scholar at Te Pūtahi-a-Toi (School of Māori Studies) and Te Mata o Te Tau.

The conference offers a unique opportunity to explore the application and use of the Māori language - its potential to engage and convey ideas, to prompt discussion, and to serve as an appropriate platform for discussions on contemporary Māori development, says Professor Black.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Conference/Seminar; Maori



Bursaries for top English students

Third-year Massey english literature student Carrissa Hirst is one of two recipients of the Margaret Richards Bursary.

A keen creative writer based in Palmerston North, Ms Hirst is as equally interested in journalism and at the completion of her Bachelor of Arts, will apply for the University's graduate course in journalism in Wellington.

Ms Hirst, Ngati Ruanui, is studying both english and media studies. The bursary was established in memory of Mrs Richards who was a member of the University's English Department from 1960 to 1975. She had a specialist interest in Old English. The Richards family have been very involved with Massey over the years Mrs Richards' husband, Murray, was one of the first to introduce horticultural studies at Massey and his impact on New Zealand horticulture is immense. Son Ian Richards was a member of the Centre for Japanese Studies.



The other recipient, Heather Talbott, is studying english literature extramurally in Timaru.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences



Study finds double standard in attitude to women's drinking

New research has confirmed the so-called feminisation of binge drinking a trend that has seen increasing numbers of women drinking large quantities of alcohol in social situations in line with their modern status as independent with income-earning ability equal to or greater than their male counterparts.

And the research, by psychologist Dr Antonia Lyons, has also revealed that while men and women have a growing acceptance of such behaviour among their friends, they have completely different and contradictory attitudes towards excessive drinking by strangers, depending on whether it is a man or a woman they see getting drunk.

The double standards lead both men and women to label other drinkers with terms like disgusting , embarrassing , and slutty if they are women, while publicly drunken men who are strangers are more likely to be regarded by both sexes as amusing or a joke .

Among their own circles of friends, men and women do not display the same prejudices, regarding heavy drinking as a pleasant and enjoyable leisure activity, with the only negative consequences things like hangovers, reckless behaviour and the financial cost, with little apparent regard for any health consequences.

Going out and getting pissed: Young adults, drinking and gender identity will be presented by Dr Lyons, from the School of Psychology, at the New Zealand Psychological Society and Australian Psychological Society joint annual conference in Auckland this month.

It was a qualitative study aiming to explore young adults' understandings of drinking and the meanings they give to it, Dr Lyons says.

It involved 20 to 30 year olds from a range of occupations who were middle class and about half were university-educated. There were 32 participants, 16 men and 16 women split into groups of friends ranging in size from three to five. One group of friends was all women; the other groups were mixed.

I was interested in exploring gender relations and gender identities and in how women particularly create their identities around this relatively new public drinking behaviour.

In a way I was reassured that within their groups both women and men saw women going out and drinking with friends positively, as something that developed friendships and socialising, which is a real shift in terms of our culture.

But I was totally surprised by the negative stereotypes of other women's drinking out in public, which reinforces more traditional views on women as always being in control and caring for themselves and others.

The study findings suggest that excessive drinking among young adults contributes to the continual creation of identities, and gender identities particularly. The finding that unknown women's drinking is seen as deviant and

breaking moral codes reinforces traditional versions of femininity.

Dr Lyons, whose study was funded by the Royal Society of New Zealand Marsden Fast-Start Fund, believes the findings may have implications for public health efforts to reduce young adults' drinking behaviour.

The full report can be found at: http://masseynews.massey.ac.nz/2006/Massey_News/issue-16/stories/women-drinking.pdf

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Explore - HEALTH



Hairy buttercup, happy cow

Pasture weeds such as Californian thistle and hairy buttercup have a high mineral content of nutritional benefit to grazing animals, says Dr Kerry Harrington.

Dr Harrington, a weed expert in the University's Institute of Natural Resources, conducted a study of the mineral content of weed species chicory, narrow-leaved plantain, dandelion, broad-leaved dock, hairy buttercup and Californian thistle. Some of which are grazed alongside perennial ryegrass and white clover pasture species on the University's organic dairy farm.

Magnesium, manganese, copper, zinc, boron, cobalt and selenium were found in significantly higher levels in the weeds. The crude protein levels of these species, as well as in Yorkshire fog, were also higher than those in ryegrass.

Advisers and farmers within the organic industry are often keen to increase the diversity of plant species within pastures, with mixtures called herbal leys that have a higher mineral content, Dr Harrington says.

Dr Harrington says cows on the farm graze hairy buttercup, broad-leaved dock, dandelion and Yorkshire fog, and that Californian thistle will also be eaten if it is mown prior to grazing. For weeds often avoided by cows, Mr Harrington recommends block grazing over winter to ensure they are eaten.

He says organic farmers introduce alternative pasture species such as chicory and narrow-leaved plantain because of their high mineral content, but typically prefer to eliminate docks and dandelion. This difference prompted his closer look at the unwanted species.

He says the high mineral content of these weed species may be useful in keeping animals healthy on organic farms where only a limited range of health remedies are available should cows get sick.

Date: 30/10/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture

Squash world's elite hosted by PN campus

The Prince World Junior Men's Squash Championships are coming to Palmerston North, bringing some of the world's elite international squash management, coaching and referees as well as players of the future.

Massey is playing host to the 19 international teams, with its Recreation Centre providing facilities for daily training as well as general fitness.

More than 34 international and national referees will stay at the Institute of Sport and Rugby on campus and during the tournament World Squash has taken the opportunity to hold a high-level refereeing clinic at the facility during the championships.

The championships will be played at Squash Gym in the city from 17-28 July but the teams will use squash courts at the University Recreation Centre daily.

The centre's courts are being modified to bring them up to international standard.

Squash Gym members unable to play at their own facility during the tournament will also be able to use the Massey courts, as all eight of the gym's courts will be unavailable to club players during the championship.

Staff and students using the Recreation Centre during the competition should not experience any disruption and are welcome to view the teams practising.

The championships are one of the largest international sporting events to be held in New Zealand this year, bringing more than 200 players, coaches, officials, support staff, international news media and squash fans an expected \$7 million boost to the local economy.

Former world champions Jahangir Khahn from Pakistan and Dame Susan Devoy from New Zealand are attending the championship as ambassadors of the international game.

For more information on matches, times and tickets: <http://www.2006worldjuniors.co.nz>

Date: 04/11/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Exhibition/Show; Palmerston North; Sport and recreation

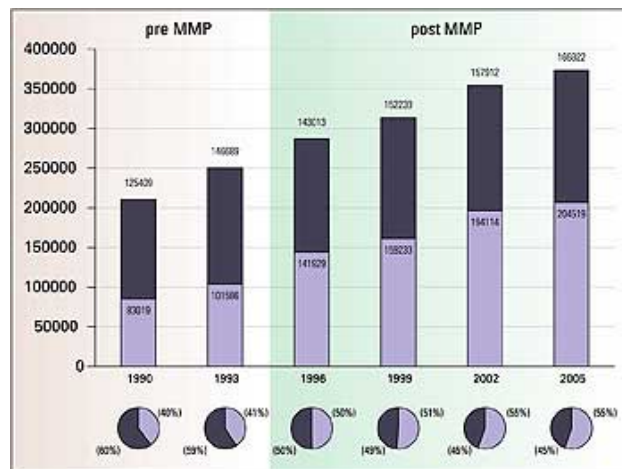




Saving some seats

Senior lecturer in Social Policy Dr Richard Shaw writes

During the election campaign earlier this year we heard a good deal about the possible future of the Maori seats, but relatively little about their history. And that is unfortunate, given the old saying that it is not possible to understand the present without first making sense of the past. So, while the election dust may have settled, and a new government has settled in, in the interests of shedding a little light on an issue which will inevitably stir up the emotions at some future point, here's a quick trip around the historical traps.



The story of the Maori seats, and of the administration of our electoral law as it has applied to Maori, is both fascinating and little known. It begins with the passage of Donald McLean's Maori Representation Act in October 1867. The legislation established four Maori seats, the occupants of which were elected by Maori men who were at least 21 years old (and who thereby achieved the universal franchise 12 years before non-Maori men).

At the time, Maori weren't the only ones with dedicated parliamentary representation. Indeed, ring-fenced seats were pretty much de rigueur in the mid-1800s. Two had already been set aside for Otago goldminers by the time McLean's legislation was enacted, and there was a Pensioners Settlement electorate in Auckland. In fact, 1867 was a good year for separate representation: not only were Maori bequeathed four seats, but Westland goldminers were also tossed a couple of electorates of their own.

The subsequent history of the Maori seats, and of electoral law more generally as far as Maori are concerned, has some dodgy episodes. For one thing, Maori were required to vote by show of hands until 1910. The secret ballot was introduced for Europeans in 1870, but wasn't made compulsory in the Maori seats until 1937. Maori were not given the right to vote in national referenda until 1949, while between 1919 and 1951 voting in Maori electorates was held the day before voting in the European seats.

And they weren't called 'European' seats for nothing: Maori were legally prevented from standing as candidates in European electorates until 1967. (The misnomer 'European', which had been commonly used for a century, but only formally recognised in the Electoral Act 1956, was replaced with the less loaded term 'General' only in 1975.) What's more, until as recently as 1975 Maori were barred from voting in a European electorate. ('Half-castes' got a better deal: they could choose which roll they wanted to

be on.)

For a long time, the most contentious aspect of the separate electoral arrangements was that the number of Maori seats remained pegged at four between 1867 and 1993, regardless of the size of the Maori population and the number of General seats. As a consequence, Maori have been forced to vote in one of four seats for the better part of our modern history, while the number of MPs representing those on the General roll rose from 72 (in 1867) to 99 (at the last FPP election in 1993).

Things have since changed. These days, under the Electoral Act 1993, the number of Maori seats can either rise or fall, depending on the size of the Maori roll. And rise they have, from five in 1996 to seven at the last election.

So much for a quick history. But what of the present? Given that the pillow of the dying race hasn't so much been smoothed as biffed out of the whare window by the resurgence in all things Maori, surely it makes sense to do away with the seats and encourage the mainstream parties to go after Maori voters?

Well, perhaps. The number of Maori MPs now stands at 22, which at 18 percent of MPs is slightly higher than the 15 percent of the total population identifying themselves as Maori in the 2001 census. If as National and ACT proposed in the lead in to the election the Maori electorates were to be abolished and their occupants sent home, Maori would constitute around 12 percent of all MPs, or slightly lower. Such a change could easily be achieved, because while the provisions governing the General electoral system can't be amended without the support of 75 percent of all MPs or via a binding referendum, those regulating the Maori seats can be changed with a simple parliamentary majority.

Which brings us back to the questions raised by those who call for their abolition. Is separate Maori representation an example of apartheid? Of course it isn't. Not even close. Apartheid was a system of institutionalised racism which oppressed a black majority and shut it out of public life. But for long periods of our history, had it not been for the Maori seats Parliament would have been a Maori-free zone. Whatever their merits or otherwise, the seats can't sensibly be described as apartheid.

If not apartheid, then isn't separate representation an example of Maori privilege which doesn't extend to other groups? Perhaps, but pause briefly and look at the nature of the 'privilege' thus bestowed. For a start, voters on the Maori roll have two votes just like everyone else. If you're on that roll, you can't pop your two votes in the ballot box then whip round and have another go in a General seat.

Also, the Maori electorates are more unwieldy than their General counterparts. When the cap on their number was removed in 1993, the average voting population of a Maori seat was twice that of a General seat. And the seats have always been large in physical terms, too. In 1983, for example, 45 General electorates fitted snugly into the area covered by the Southern Maori seat. So, no sign of privilege there, for either the MP who had to spend long periods getting about the electorate, or for the constituent whose access to that MP was hampered by the tyranny of distance.

Boil it right down, and about the only thing that can be considered a privilege is that someone who identifies as Maori gets to choose which electoral roll they're on, while those of us who identify as something else do not. That doesn't appear to be something which gives those on the Maori roll any material gain which the rest of us don't get a sniff of.

What about the argument that separate representation offends against the liberal notion that everyone should be treated equally? Well, historically, being treated differently under electoral law has not been to the advantage of Maori. Anyway, depending on how one understands the notion, equality needn't require treating all people in exactly the same way. In fact, if equality is understood as the same or similar outcomes, and if what is sought is a Maori presence in Parliament which reflects the presence of Maori in the wider population, then different treatment may well be justified.

In the end, the debate about the Maori seats is really about the form that Maori parliamentary representation should take.

In recent times, and particularly since the introduction of MMP, there has been an increase in the percentage of Maori enrolled on the Maori roll (depicted by the lightly shaded area in the figure above) rather than the General roll.

Maori MPs

	Electorate	List	Total	% all MPs
2002	10	9	19	15.8
2005	7	15	22	18.2

Determining the number of Maori electoral seats

Electorates are meant to have similar populations living in them, regardless of how large or small this ends up making the area an electorate covers. There are 16 South Island general electorate seats, a number fixed by law. To find out the population quota for South Island general electorates, the general electoral population of the South Island is divided by 16. In 2001 (the date of the last census) with the population of the South Island being 868,923 this came to 54,308. The next census is to be held on 7 March 2006.

With the General electorate population quota known, it now becomes possible to calculate the number of Maori seats that should be allocated: simply divide the Maori electoral population by the General electorate population quota. But there is a complication. Maori can choose to belong to either the General or Maori roll, so this entails a further calculation.

To work out the Maori electoral population, the proportion of Maori who are on the Maori electoral roll (around 55 percent in 2001) is applied to the total population identifying as Maori (671,696 at the 2001 census).

In 2001 the Maori electoral population worked out to be 371,690, which when divided by the South Island general electorate population quota meant seven Maori electorates (6.84 rounded up to 7). Source: Electoral Commission

Date: 05/11/2006

Type: Features

Categories: Alumni; College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Government Policy commentators; Massey Magazine

Making the most of renewable energy sources

New Zealand could produce all the electricity and bio-fuel it needs from its own renewable resources within 30 years, says Professor Ralph Sims.

Professor Sims, director of the University's Centre for Energy Research, says that suggestions made in the Government's draft energy strategy issued today should be acted upon immediately.

"New Zealand is lucky enough to have all the renewable resources its needs right now, but we need to concentrate the research and expertise currently available to use these resources economically," he says.

Rooftop solar water heaters, identified in the strategy as an area to enhance, are very practical inventions that every new house should be obliged to install.

"They are an example of technology that is already at a good level of efficiency, and which anyone can work with to make an immediate impact on a national and global level."

When it comes to comparatively recent areas of renewable energy technology however, such as wave or tidal-based generators, New Zealand is best to collaborate with international research organisations.

"We have an amazing amount of potential tidal power and there are a lot of plans out there to harness this energy, but the technology is not yet proven. The best thing would be for New Zealand to join the International Energy Agency's ocean agreement, which shares research."

Of wind power, he says that although wind is not predictable, there are ways of working smarter with wind, through better forecasting and weather stations, and by combining wind and hydro-power.

Of the strategy's plan to introduce renewable fuel for private transport, he says New Zealand drivers can expect Gull service stations to sell biodiesel blends in the next six months, as they currently do in Western Australia.

"At least 7 per cent of the total diesel currently used could be substituted with a blend made from tallow, a waste product of our primary industries, and there is much potential in crops such as willow from which to make ethanol."

He says it is important that resources used to make biofuels come from renewable sources, unlike palm oil used in Australia, which is largely imported from Malaysia where rainforest is felled to grow palms.

He says the strategy's consideration of Resource Management Act's consent applications is pertinent, as it has become increasingly difficult for groups to get wind and geothermal electricity generation projects approved.

"Applications need to be considered on a national scale, where the benefits of a project to the nation, and to the rest of the world, outweigh the negative effects put forward by a small group of people who object to a proposal."

Date: 12/11/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Pacific academic's research comes to life in Vaka Moana

Years of research and writing by historian Professor Kerry Howe were revealed to the public in a stunning display of film, models, clothing, jewellery, sculpture, tools and maps at the opening of the Vaka Moana in the Auckland Museum on Saturday.

Professor Howe, from the School of Social and Cultural Studies, describes the experience as "very emotional". As a leading Pacific historian and key contributor to the substance of the exhibition, he was delighted to be part of the celebrations.

These included a dawn arrival of the famed voyaging waka, Te Aurere at the waterfront Maritime Museum, followed by a traditional kava ceremony for Pacific Island dignitaries in the Auckland Museum's new entrance atrium, all-day performances by various Pacific cultural groups, watched by hundreds of spectators.

Professor Howe was repeatedly asked to sign the book *Vaka Moana - voyages of the ancestors*, which he edited and contributed to.

Vaka Moana is being acclaimed as a world-class exhibition that for the first time reveals the remarkable story of the ancient exploration of the Pacific that began 4000 years ago in Asia.

Special features include a dome demonstrating how the sailors navigated by the stars, weather patterns and bird migration, as well as original maps, charts and early navigational tools.

Drawing on scientific research from a range of disciplines including linguistics, genetics and computer modeling, Vaka Moana tells how the Pacific was explored and peopled thousands of years before the first Europeans arrived.

The exhibition will run until the end of March before moving to Japan, Taiwan, Australia and the Netherlands. Talks are underway for it to travel to the United States, Canada and France.

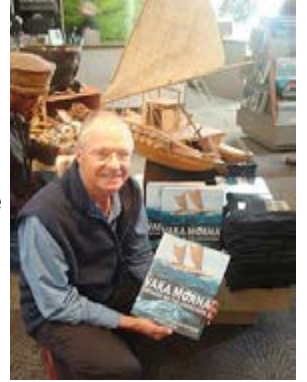
The 368-page book, published by David Bateman, with chapters by international experts on Pacific history and migration, features more than 400 photographs, drawings and maps. It will be translated into several languages to accompany the exhibition around the world.

As well as editing the book and contributing two chapters, Professor Howe was one of the key curators for the exhibition and wrote for the educational website and accompanying texts included as part of it.

Date: 12/11/2006

Type: Research

Categories: Book; College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Pasifika



Journalism students to work in Asia

Three Massey University Journalism students have won scholarships to travel to Asia and write for English-language papers in the region.

Lachy Forsyth and Bex Shannon will write for Cambodia's Phnom Penh Post, and Kate Chapman will work at China's Shanghai Daily for several months early next year.

I am incredibly excited about it; I see it as an amazing opportunity to kick-start my career in journalism, Mr Forsyth says. I really hope I can get stuck into some good, hard news. To be able to do it in another country will be a fantastic learning experience, particularly in a country like Cambodia, which has such a rich culture and history.

The opportunity for travel while over there is, of course, an added bonus. I believe the experience I can gain there will prove incredibly beneficial in understanding and reporting on Asian culture within New Zealand.

The work placements are arranged by the Asia New Zealand Foundation, which also funds the students' travel costs to the region. Asia New Zealand media adviser Charles Mabbett says the scholarships helped address the increasing need for more New Zealand journalists with Asian experience.

Levels of general knowledge about Asia within newsrooms are low. This is one way to address that, by developing a pool of up-and-coming journalists who have spent time working in Asian countries.

The scholarships are available to Massey's Graduate Diploma in Journalism students. Beginning with scholarships to the Phnom Penh Post in 1999, the scholarships were extended to the Shanghai Daily three years ago.

Date: 17/11/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business



Student swimmer wins supreme award

The University's first year as sponsor of the North Harbour Sporting Excellence Awards hit a high note at an awards gala event attended by over than 400 people at North Harbour Stadium recently.

Massey design student and international swimming champion Moss Burmester took the supreme award in the face of stiff opposition from top sports people across the country. He was also named Sportsman of the Year. Fellow international swimmer Hannah McLean was Sportswoman of the Year.

Mr Burmester is the Auckland and national champion in the 200m butterfly, and the 200m and 400m freestyle. He holds the Auckland and national record in the 200m butterfly, and currently has the fastest 200m butterfly time in Australia and New Zealand. He won a silver medal in the 200 butterfly at the world championships. At the Commonwealth games in Melbourne he won gold in the 200m butterfly and bronze in the 100m butterfly.

The University is head sponsor of these awards for three years and the Auckland campus has strong sporting links with many sporting codes across the North Harbour region.

Date: 17/11/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Sport and recreation

Cycle stopwatch wins business award

A novel idea for a stopwatch system for motocross riders has fast tracked the business career of third-year Marketing student Brody Henricksen.

His concept won first prize in the inaugural Launch Business Plan Competition, held in Palmerston North on 20 October.

The new competition, sponsored by Massey University, the Palmerston North City Council and the BioCommerce Centre, offers a prize of \$5000 to the best business plan submitted by a Massey student. The prize money is to be used as seed money for a start up business that must be based in the Manawatu.

On the awards night, Mr Henricksen received his prize from Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Palmerston North) Professor Ian Warrington. Also there to shake his hand was Education Minister and Palmerston North MP Steve Maharey, who suggested the competition as a means to help develop new businesses that will be based in the region.

Mr Henricksen, who is an enthusiastic motocross racer, has already set up a company called Division X, which imports and distributes motocross gear. His own product, which he has called Moto Time, is a handle-bar mounted stopwatch system. He says it will assist off road motorcycle competitors to train and race in a more efficient and effective manner by providing real time feedback to improve individual performance.

He had the idea for the product during training sessions with a friend who had to buy new stopwatches because the duct tape he used to attach them to his bike kept breaking.

Mr Henricksen's marketing strategy is to first produce an affordable stopwatch for the mainstream market, and then develop a more advanced product.

The runner-up was Environmental Planning student William Bamford and his plan for a lemonade concentrate drink called Bamford's Brew.

He hopes to expand the product line to include other concentrates, such as cranberry and developing quality controls. He wins free advice from McKenzie, McPhail Accountants.

The judges were Dean Tilyard from the BioCommerce Centre, Rossana Couto from Vision Manawatu and PhD candidate Eugene Lai, who was student advisor for the Launch initiative

Mr Lai says the judges were looking for a solid business plan based on an innovative idea that met a real need and had a high likelihood of being successful while based in the Manawatu. They also looked for a motivated person to implement the plan.

All of the finalists were very driven people and we felt they all had good potential to do well in the future. The winner had the best balance of all of the attributes we were looking for.

This year the competition was open only to Massey students but the organisers intend to extend eligibility in the future, working with Vision Manawatu.

Date: 17/11/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business

Big demand for mobile business expertise

Electronic-commerce and mobile computing specialist Associate Professor Dennis Viehland is in hot demand as a consultant to the business community.

His courses on mobile business are filling a professional development gap in a business community grappling with fast changing technology and its implications in the workplace.

Later this month, Dr Viehland presents a course to the Institute of Chartered Accountants on how mobile business can work for them whether they are away from their regular desk, traveling or working from home.



He is one of a group on the campus with a research interest in mobile business and a growing network of external relationships. He is the author of a text on e-business.

He says fewer people today are tied to their desks and many workers have an urgent need to understand new technology and its potential for far greater mobility in doing business.

For many business professionals, the desktop is no longer a place to work, it is the base of operations for work that occurs at different times and in different places.

There are some attributes of mobile commerce that are unique and it is these attributes ubiquity, convenience, personalisation and localisation that offer businesses the best opportunities to provide value added services and products to customers. The ability to access office based information while traveling or visiting with clients, keeps business moving and impresses customers. Technology developments are now starting to meet that need.

Until now most information technology has delivered productivity to the desk top but not to the technology typically carried in the field.

While workers away from the desk could take phone calls and emails, they could not access data as easily as at their desks.

Now the goal in mobile business is for companies to be able to use to technology to deliver everything to workers in the field that is available from the office desk top. That's where the world is going and it's only a few years off.

Meanwhile, Dr Viehland and his associates are fast working towards a breakthrough of their own the establishment of a Centre for Mobile Computing.

Date: 21/11/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Business graduates advised to spin dreams into reality

Business graduates from Massey University have been urged to aim at a visionary style of leadership and become makers of meaning.

In a speech at today's College of Business graduation ceremony, the Chief Executive Officer of Vision Manawatu, Andrew Powrie, said there is a move away from a dictatorial style of management in favour of the inspirational leader. A more educated, more intrinsically motivated workplace demands that executives and managers need to step up to the task, he said. They must learn to sell themselves and their mission and that depends on highly effective language skills.

He said it is important that business leaders see themselves as makers of meaning .

They must construct pictures of great possibilities and offer images of the future that are irresistibly meaningful. In the choice of words, values and beliefs, a leader must 'craft' reality to ensure commitment and confidence in the business mission.

Mr Powrie advised graduates: If you, as a future leader, can make an appealing dream seem like tomorrow's reality, people will freely choose to follow you.

He held back on urging graduates to stay in the Manawatu. He said although he would like them to stay, we are living in a global economy and there are awesome opportunities around the world for graduates with excellent management skills.

Mr Powrie joined Vision Manawatu in October this year, he was previously National Marketing Manager for Anchor/Beverages at Fonterra Brands in Auckland and held various brand management and marketing roles for Lion Nathan, GlaxosmithKline and Arnotts.

Date: 24/11/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: College of Business; Graduation; Graduation (Palmerston North)

New tactic to reduce child abuse

Common training for front-line health, education and welfare workers could help reduce the incidence of child abuse, say researchers from the University's School of Health Sciences.

Associate Professor Annette Huntington and Helen Wilson have received funding of \$15,000 from the Families Commission to study a British way of working with families called the Family Partnership Model.

New Zealand has one of the highest rates of death from child abuse in the world, says Ms Wilson. The Family Partnership Model addresses several contributing problems: Poor communication and collaboration between agencies, the need to upskill front-line workers, and the need for skilled clinical supervision for practitioners.

Most early intervention programmes have disappointingly high drop-out rates or at best show modest effectiveness, she says.

Unlike most initiatives, the key feature of the Family Partnership Model is that it builds on existing services, giving front-line workers the expertise to identify psycho-social problems early and ensure appropriate intervention or referral of troubled children and their families. It includes training for all staff, regardless of background discipline, which provides skills to work effectively with families.

The Family Partnership Model has been successful in Britain, Europe and Australia, and we aim to see if it could work here. Studies have shown that this model can improve mothers' confidence, children's behaviour, maternal sensitivity to infants and satisfaction with services.

Dr Huntington and Ms Wilson will approach agencies to assess their interest in offering this training to their staff.

Date: 27/11/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; College of Sciences

Shorland medal for Massey scientist

Professor David Parry has been awarded the Shorland medal by the New Zealand Association of Scientists for his outstanding contribution to biophysics.

Association president Dr Hamish Campbell says the medal recognises the contribution of Professor Parry's research, in particular his analysis of the fine, ultrastructure of fibrous proteins, to society.

The fibrous proteins he has studied include those in hair, collagen, muscle, tendon, skin and the cornea, and his understanding of the assembly of these protein complexes contributes to fundamental science but equally has practical applications.

He discovered the mechanisms by which muscles contract and relax and this led to commercial applications to meat carcasses to maintain tenderness. He has also contributed to techniques used in plastic surgery to reduce scarring.

As the head of the Palmerston North-based Institute of Fundamental Sciences from 1998 until recently, Professor Parry has led a resurgence in student enrolments in the fundamental sciences (chemistry, mathematics, and physics). On an international level he has contributed substantially as president of the International Union of Pure and Applied Biophysics and as vice-president of the International Council of Science the first New Zealander to be elected to that position.

Date: 29/11/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences



Congolese-graduation-nov-06: from left: Chancel Mimbi Bissombolo, Huguette Moussaoudji, Nathalie Moussaoudji, Florine Kibondo and Auguste Mimbi Mouele. Mr Bissombolo and Mr Mouele graduated with certificates in English for speakers of other languages and are nephew and uncle respectively.

Record graduation caps a year of celebration and success

It was a record ending to a record year for graduations. With 17 doctorates awarded on the morning of November 24 in Palmerston North the most ever in a single graduation ceremony and three more in the afternoon, it capped off a year in which the University had its most graduates ever.

There were 6688 across all three campuses including 90 doctorates a 25 per cent increase total graduate numbers five years ago. Details of the doctorates are contained inside, along with speeches and photographs from the ceremonies.

Congolese student Chancel Mimbi Bissombolo was looking forward to well-deserved break after graduating but he won't be relaxing for long.

Mr Bissombolo will study chemistry in the summer school semester with greater confidence after graduating with a certificate in intermediate English for speakers of other languages, and he aims to enrol in a Bachelor of Engineering.

He celebrated his success with friends and family and 11 other Congolese students, who graduated with introductory level certificates in the morning ceremony. Andrea Flavel, director of the Centre for University Preparation and English Language Studies, says the students had minimal English when they first arrived in Palmerston North as refugees in May this year.

It's been wonderful to see this group go from strength to strength, and rise in confidence. They were in classes with students of 17 nationalities and have made the most of everything offered to them, in class and in the community, Ms Flavel says.

She says the centre prepares students for tertiary study at New Zealand institutions, a benefit the students recognises and which guided their decision to enrol at Massey. The 12 Congolese graduates are: Tatiana Ida Ibouanga-Ledoyi, Houssene Kikhouna-Ngot, Parfait Kouba, Serge Aime Michel Mambila, Jean Christophe Massimba, Auguste Mimbi Moule, Yolande Moukoumba Ngody, Exupery MOUNGUENGUI-IBOUANGA, Jean Gauthier Nganga Mouketo, Redelond Tsounga and Chancel Mimbi Bissombolo.

Date: 30/11/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: Graduation; Graduation (Palmerston North)

The keys to success and happiness

Success is very rarely a matter of luck, guest speaker Dr Jacqueline Rowarth told graduates at this morning's Massey graduation ceremony.

It takes hard work, she said. It takes always doing what you say you will do. It takes preparing for opportunities in advance, so that when they come, you have the right match of attributes.

Dr Rowarth, the Director of the Office for Environmental Programs at the University of Melbourne, has a PhD in Soil Science from Massey and will return to the University next year as a foundation Professor in Pastoral Agriculture.

She encouraged graduates to imagine their perfect job and lifestyle then consider what was missing from their curriculum vitae that could turn that into a reality.

How are you going to fill the gap so that the next time a similar job is advertised or opportunity appears you are the perfect person for it?

Luck has nothing to do with it. Preparation takes hard work. And you know that from the time and effort you have spent over the past few years preparing to complete your latest qualification.

She said happiness, like career success, was an option that required conscious effort to achieve.

You can choose to have a life that pleases you. It is your choice to be happy.

Happiness is not a natural human condition. It takes effort; it takes practice; but it is your choice how you view every single thing that happens.

Note that I don't say 'happens to you'. Successful people make things happen. They make the decision that empowers them to do better in the future to learn from experiences. They are activators, not victims of circumstance.

Date: 30/11/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: Any

Todd Foundation Scholarship for energy PhD student

Massey science technician Sheinach Dunn (Ngāti Maniapoto and Ngāti Raukawa) has been awarded the inaugural Todd Foundation Scholarship in Energy Research, worth up to \$78,000.

Ms Dunn has a BSc (Hons), majoring in zoology, and is currently a technician in the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health in the College of Sciences at the Wellington campus. She now intends to complete a PhD in the field of sustainable renewable energy. Her doctoral research will focus on hydrogen as a clean-burning fuel that does not produce either carbon dioxide or toxic emissions.

She will investigate electro-catalysts for the efficient conversion of electricity and hydrogen to electricity. Her research will contribute to current research currently underway by Massey and Norwegian researchers on the development of more cost-effective and efficient hydrogen energy technologies, such as portable fuel cells for cars.

Dr Richard Haverkamp in the Institute of Technology and Engineering (Palmerston North) will supervise her PhD.

Ms Dunn began university study after a career in the Royal New Zealand Air Force as an avionics technician. The Todd Foundation scholarship is worth \$25,000 a year for up to three years, with a one-off payment of up to \$3000 to assist with conference attendance. The selection panel, chaired by John Todd, said they were impressed with Ms Dunn's work ethic and clear determination to succeed.

Date: 30/11/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences; Scholarships; Wellington

Top engineering award for Massey innovator

Mechatronics expert Dr Olaf Diegel has received an award for innovation at the prestigious New Zealand Engineering Excellence Awards.

Based at the University's Auckland campus, Dr Diegel is widely respected for his innovation in product development and mechatronics and in the last decade he had developed over 40 products that have been successfully commercialised.

His latest product, a blood pressure monitor for home use, was launched in Europe this month by medical equipment supplier Spengler.Fr - the same company that made the first blood pressure monitor 100 years ago.

He is a former 'Innovator of the Year' in New Zealand and has received many international accolades. Last year he received international recognition for his development of a pocket- sized, refrigerated unit for transporting insulin at a constant temperature.

This award recognizes Dr Diegel's strength as both a leader and teacher in product development and mechatronics. It celebrates the inventor that he is, says the head of the Institute of Technology and Engineering, Professor Don Cleland. His success highlights the skill and knowledge he also passes on to students.

The New Zealand Engineering Excellence Awards are the premier awards for engineering professionals and recognise leadership, innovation and entrepreneurship. The founding partners are: Centre for Advanced Engineering, Association of Local Government Engineering New Zealand Incorporated, Electricity Engineers Association of New Zealand and the Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand.

Date: 30/11/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences

Auckland stadium polls may be misleading

Public opinion polls on the Auckland stadium issue are unscientific and don't necessarily represent the views of all Aucklanders, says survey expert Professor Phil Gendall.

The Marketing professor says it's also likely the polls are being used as a lobbying tool by vested interest on all sides of the debate.

The scientific principles of polling are well established. To measure public opinion, it is not necessary to question everyone; by selecting a representative sample you can, within certain limits, be confident that their views reflect those of the population in general. But the critical point is that the sample must be representative of the population from which it was selected. If it isn't, then we don't know how generalisable its opinions are.

Professor Gendall says that is the problem with most of the polls conducted on the Auckland stadium issue: They are generally based on self-selected samples of people with the time, the motivation, and sometimes also the money (and access to a computer or a copy of the New Zealand Herald), to participate. It is impossible to say how representative of Aucklanders in general the opinions of these self-selected samples are, even if the numbers involved are quite large.

Phone-in or email polls are also susceptible to manipulation or 'ballot stuffing' unless they are very carefully conducted. That is another reason why they are likely to reflect the views of people with strong opinions one way or the other. It doesn't mean the polls are wrong, just that there is no way of telling if they are right.

This doesn't mean the polls are of no use to the City Councillors who must make the decision on the waterfront site by Friday. If they understand the limitations and make due allowance, they may gain some insight into the prevailing public mood from their results.

Date: 30/11/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business

Seventeen new doctors in the house

It could be a case of standing room only on stage at the Regent on Broadway on Friday (24 November), with Massey holding its largest capping ceremony in many years.

Of the 291 recipients of degrees, diplomas and certificates at the morning ceremony, a record 17 will receive doctorates 15 of Philosophy and two of Education.

Hundreds of family and friends will be present to support a total of 513 students to graduate at three ceremonies this week, 20 of them with doctorates. The main Palmerston North campus graduation, in May, involved more than 1500 graduates during a week of ceremonies.

Students from all five Massey Colleges (Creative Arts, Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, Sciences and Business) will be involved in the morning ceremony, starting at 10am. The afternoon ceremony, at 2pm, will involve 219 from the College of Business, including three PhDs.

A doctorate is the highest degree awarded at Massey, says the University's Regional Registrar for Palmerston North, Dr Sandi Shillington. In keeping with tradition the recipients of doctorates join the academics and officers at the front of the procession down Broadway Ave immediately after the ceremony.

It's wonderful to see people from the different colleges at the same ceremony. Dr Shillington, says. There is a real spread, a diversity of academic endeavour.

A graduation ceremony for three students who have been part of a Bachelor's Degree in Education (Teaching) Māori immersion will be held at the Te Kupenga o Te Matauranga marae on the University's Hokowhitu site on Saturday at noon.

Date: 30/11/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: Graduation; Graduation (Palmerston North); Palmerston North



Stopping dairy cow lameness in its tracks

Engineering student Matt Stephenson says his automatic lameness detector will offer dairy farmers a more thorough means of monitoring the welfare of their herd and allow for earlier detection and treatment of foot injuries.

For his final-year project, Mr Stephenson designed and trialled a walk-on plate that measures the force and evenness of dairy cows' individual steps as they leave the milking shed in single file.

He says dairy cattle lameness costs the New Zealand industry about \$100 million a year and there is no product on the market able to automatically detect and monitor lameness.

He estimates the cost of lameness for each cow at between \$300 and \$1200, and multiplied this by a national head-count of 3.8 million dairy cows with an annual lameness incidence rate of four per cent, giving a nationwide annual cost of between \$45 million and \$182 million.

Costs are incurred through a loss in milk production due to the inability of lame animals to graze thoroughly, loss of animal fertility (a cow that can not get in calf will not produce milk and may be sold at a loss), culling of cows that a farmer is unwilling to treat during a lengthy recovery and veterinary treatment.

To install the complete system of walk-on plate with load-bearing bars, a TruTest (or similar) system to convert load measurement to electric signals, and the software that analyses the signals and provides the final information, would cost about \$2500, he says.

A farmer can set the threshold for difference in footfall measurements and an indicator light will draw attention to an animal that exceeds the threshold. For example, a threshold of ten per cent means that a cow that favours one foot from another to a degree of ten per cent or greater can be identified, and then monitored on a daily basis.

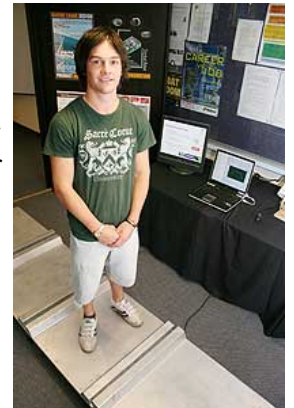
The system is also designed to work with electronic tagging so that data can be accumulated automatically an option Mr Stephenson says is ideal for large herds where farmhands have less time to monitor individual animals.

The plates are divided into four sections via corrugated ridges to ensure cows step accurately and naturally onto the plates and each foot can be differentiated. The idea for the ridges came from his observations of dairy cows on his parents' farm in Dannevirke, where he trialled the system. The dirt pathway to and from the milking shed was naturally corrugated by the cows' twice-daily journey and the cows stepped easily over each one.

Mr Stephenson has recently completed his final exams for a Bachelor of Engineering (Product Development and Mechatronics). His self-funded project was a compulsory component of the final year of the four-year degree. He is currently in consultation with businesses interested in commercialising and marketing the system.

Date: 30/11/2006

Type: Research



Animal ethics award for veterinary scientist

Massey veterinary neurophysiologist Dr Craig Johnson was awarded the Three Rs Award by the National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee at the Royal Society of New Zealand's Science Honours dinner last night.

The Government-based animal ethics group commended the Palmerston North scientist for his work in developing a painless method of measuring pain in animals.

The model developed by Dr Johnson to measure pain has been used for the past five years at the University and is now used in North America and Europe. It measures the brain's electrical response to a painful stimulus in an animal under anaesthesia. The animal does not experience the stimulus as pain because it is not conscious.

Pain is a conscious response to a noxious stimulus. This method allows the measurement of pain that would be felt if the animal were conscious. An animal can then be brought around to consciousness under pain relief, Dr Johnson says.

The Three Rs award acknowledges efforts to reduce, refine and replace the use of animals in research. Dr Johnson is the second Massey researcher to receive the award; Associate Professor Alex Davies received the inaugural award in 2003 for his work to develop virtual tools to teach animal anatomy.

Other Massey researchers who received awards at the Science Honours Dinner are:

Dr Catherine McCartin: Palmerston North-based scientist Dr McCartin won the Hatherton Award for the best scientific paper by a PhD student in the physical sciences, earth sciences, and mathematical and information sciences.

Professor Jeff Hunter: Auckland-based mathematician Professor Hunter won the Campbell Award for his contributions to statistical research and Education.

Professor Ian Warrington: The Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the Palmerston North campus won the Jubilee Medal for his outstanding contribution to horticultural science.

Date: 30/11/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture; School of Veterinary Science



Qualmark gives top ratings to student accommodation

Massey's newest halls of residence have received glowing ratings from the internationally recognised accommodation-rating organisation Qualmark.

Qualmark is New Zealand Tourism's official mark of quality, offering ratings on accommodation ranging from luxury hotels, family motel units, backpackers and bed and breakfasts.

Of New Zealand's eight universities, only Massey and Auckland have had their student accommodation rated, and Massey's new halls of residence, Matai, Miro, Tawa and Totara, have been awarded 4-plus ratings out of five the highest achieved by any university-based student accommodation.

All the halls of residence on the Palmerston North campus have received ratings of three or higher.

Regional Registrar Dr Sandi Shillington, who is responsible for student services, says the ratings are based on factors such as room size, proximity to campus amenities, quality of common areas and the facilities available to residents.

The four new halls, all opened in the past 18 months, are located centrally on campus and offer amenities such king-single beds and wide-screen plasma televisions with Sky.

Dr Shillington says the ratings are particularly important for international students and their families who want to ensure, before they arrive, that they will have quality accommodation.

It's one less stress for students who might be moving to a new city or a new country.

She says the ratings also provide the University with the ability to benchmark its student accommodation internally and against other institutions and identify priorities for upgrades.

There's been a growing trend for students to want the best accommodation we have to offer, even though it might not be the cheapest option available, Dr Shillington says.

Students and their parents firstly want a safe environment, then they want amenities all the bells and whistles but they still want value for money.

[All the ratings and accommodation can be viewed here](#)

Date: 30/11/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Palmerston North; Services



Watch the [digital media exposure](#) videos.

Visit <http://exposure.massey.ac.nz/> for profiles and video interviews.

Exposing the next generation of designers and artists

The College of Creative Arts launches its annual celebration of New Zealand's next generation of designers and artists. Graduating students' finest work is on show at Exposure 2006.

Exposure is open to the public until 19 November at the Wellington campus, and from 14-16 November at Auckland's Britomart Pavilion. Admission is free.

Design Exposure 2006 was a showcase for final projects from the design school's transport, industrial and visual communications programmes. It was the second time the Albany based group had exhibited their work off campus in the heart of the city.

The Auckland-based school offers a marine transport option within the programme and a wide range of scale model marine vessels took their place in the show alongside land based vehicles, furniture and truly innovative concepts. These included a home spray-tanning unit consisting of a spray canister that can be fixed to a shower wall and easily activated for a full body tan. A satirical take on the notion that housework is associated with women, was the basis for a range of cleaning products and accessories, called Women's Work, but specifically designed for men.

Fuse, an electric vehicle designed by Ryan Graham is powered by 384 advanced lithium polymer batteries and four 100kw in-wheel electric drives. It will have a range of over 500km and recharge in 20 minutes.

Dima Ivanov has designed a ferry with the capacity to carry 150 passengers that he hopes will set future standards in marine transport of environmental friendliness. It's a hybrid, partly solar powered with the large solar panel surface doubling as a roof.

Ben Thomsen has developed an all terrain inline board with features well beyond those of existing board products. It's ridden like a skateboard and powered by a simple drive function.

Student designer Chris Wall says his project Ignition is the first step in a design programme that will culminate in the building of the world's first supersonic boat. Ignition is a 13-metre, 4-point hydroplane combining a unique diamond stability triangle, twin 8,400lb Rolls Royce Adour engines and a low aerodynamic drag coefficient. The designer expects a proposed top speed in excess of 600 miles per hour.

Exposure is open on weekdays 9am-7pm, and weekends 10am-4pm.

Fashion students have their big night at the popular end-of-year fashion show, Blood Sweat and Shears, in Wellington's Museum Building on 18 November.



Date: 30/11/2006

Type: Audio Visual

Categories: College of Creative Arts; Exhibition/Show

Top medal for Massey horticulture specialist

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Palmerston North) Professor Ian Warrington has received the Institute of Agriculture and Horticultural Science's top award, the Jubilee Medal.

The medal, for significant achievement and outstanding contributions to horticultural science, will be presented at the Royal Society's Science Dinner at Auckland's Hilton Hotel next Wednesday (15 November).

Professor Warrington is a Massey graduate, receiving a first-class masters degree in horticultural science in 1972 and a Doctor of Science degree in 1989. His research career began at the former Department for Scientific and Industrial Research, focusing on plant response to environmental factors such as temperature, light intensity, day length and carbon dioxide concentration.

In the next 30 years he became known internationally for his work in environmental physiology and on improving the training and management methods for apples and kiwifruit. He has published more than 120 refereed papers and co-edited books on kiwifruit and apples, detailing research and production information on them from throughout the world.

In 1994 Professor Warrington became the first New Zealander to be made a Fellow of the American Society for Horticultural Science; in 2001 he was awarded an honorary degree in literature from Massey. He is current Vice-President of the International Society for Horticultural Science.

He joined the University in 2002 as a Professor of Horticulture and has been in his current role, which gives him overall responsibility for the Palmerston North Campus, since 2004.

Date: 30/11/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture



Graduates urged to look forward

The responsibility of graduates to share their knowledge with others, continue to learn and champion business were themes of the two ceremonies at the end of year graduation ceremonies held on 30 November.

Chancellor Nigel Gould encouraged the 484 graduating students to accept the responsibility to share their skills with others and to continuously look for opportunities to learn while striving to achieve their goals.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear suggested to the business, science, education and humanities and social sciences graduands that their days of learning should not be over and while they should take time to celebrate now with their families and friends, they should be thinking about new challenges and opportunities.

Tertiary Education Commission head Janice Shiner spoke to graduands at the morning ceremony, where a 20 doctorates were awarded - a record for a single ceremony.

Ms Shiner told graduates that probably the most important thing that they had done to date was enrolling in Massey, completing their degree and starting on road of developing their knowledge and capability. "But don't stop here," she said. "Learning whether formal or informal is what is needed if you are to reach your full potential and make that contribution to the community in which you live and work."

She said adaptability and ingenuity are important when it comes to seeking out better ways of doing things, and finding solutions to some of the big challenges a small country like New Zealand faces. "In a country where human capital is finite, the key is to get more out of the skills we have by utilising the skills we have better - both before work and in work."

Phil O'Reilly, chief executive of Business New Zealand and head of the College of Business advisory board told business graduands that they had a responsibility to champion business.

Business is a key part of our communities and New Zealand's success depends on the success of its businesses, he told graduands at the afternoon ceremony. Some people, said Mr O'Reilly, are ignorant of business or hostile towards it. "Some still see the economy as a zero-sum game where profit must be made at someone else's expense. That view ignores our ability to grow wealth year on year. Others see business as exploitative of workers. And while that can be true, it is very rare."

Business can be let down by the language and imagery used to describe it, he said. "It is almost exclusively focused on themes of warfare, machinery or survival - guerrilla warfare, business re-engineering, it's a jungle out there, for example.

"That's all fundamentally nonsense. Those slogans don't describe the reality of business today. Business is really based on mutual satisfaction of needs and desires, based on honesty, loyalty, shared trust and truth.

"Business is a part of our lives, not separate and not in opposition."

A record number of 26 doctorates were awarded over the two ceremonies, including a doctor of business administration, two doctors of education and 23 doctors of philosophy. An honorary doctorate in literature was awarded to Ngati Tuwharetoa paramount chief Tumu te Heuheu at a special ceremony at Waihi marae on 25 November.

"While every graduation is an achievement in itself, it was really exciting to see the diverse areas explored by these doctoral graduates in their study," said Mr Gould. "Massey has always been a university close to the agricultural industry so it was pleasing to doctoral graduates address opportunities to add value in the food chain. We also saw PhD graduates with areas of expertise including Maori health workforce development and determinants of infection in cystic fibrosis sufferers. This is an indication of what can be achieved by creating new knowledge from core areas and applying it to the issues New Zealand is facing.

He congratulated the 484 new graduates and the 5954 who earlier in the year.

Date: 30/11/2006

Type: Graduation

Categories: Graduation; Graduation (Palmerston North)

Conference focuses on our planet, our future

More than 175 geoscientists today gathered at Massey to discuss and share research relating to geology, volcanology, geohazards and disaster management.

The Institute of Natural Resources is hosting the 36th annual conference of the Geological Society of New Zealand and the New Zealand Geophysical Society until December 8.

The theme is Our Planet, Our Future and this year 21 presentations are authored or co-authored by Massey staff and postgraduate students. These include: A presentation by volcanologist Dr Shane Cronin on the lahar predicted to flow from Mt Ruapehu, and the lessons learnt from previous Mt Ruapehu eruptions; Dr Simon Nathan (a former staff member) on the role of earth science on Te Ara (the online Encyclopaedia of New Zealand) and a session chaired by Dr Clel Wallace on the place of earth science in the science curriculum.

The conference delegates are also invited to explore the geology of the Manawatu region with field trips led by Massey earth scientists, including a trip to the Tararua Wind Farm.

The full conference programme can be read at: <http://www.gsnz.org.nz/gskonference06.htm>

Date: 05/12/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Conference/Seminar

Maximising education for a stronger primary sector

Massey has been awarded \$100,000 by the Tertiary Education Commission to investigate, develop and promote best-case models of tertiary education in the horticultural and agricultural sciences.

Ewen Cameron, Director of the University's Applied Science Programmes, says the project aims to meet the demand for greater numbers of skilled and qualified people in the primary industries.

He says raising the quality of teaching and learning in the applied sciences at a tertiary level in New Zealand will result in a greater number of qualified and highly-skilled professionals working in the primary industries.

The results from this study, expected late 2007, will be used to inform and shape educational practice, and case studies in course design, preparation, presentation and maintenance will be available for teachers and course coordinators. The research team, comprising Ewen Cameron, Dr Tony Morrison, Warren Anderson and Gordon Suddaby, will also present their findings at conferences hosted by tertiary institutions and through the soon-to-be-established National Centre for Teaching Excellence.

The project fits within the Tertiary Education Strategy of strengthening system capability and quality, under the specific objective of a stronger system focus on teaching capability and learning environments to meet diverse learner needs.

Date: 12/12/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: Any



Top maths awards for Massey duo

Academics from the University's Auckland campus have won two coveted mathematics awards.

Professor Mick Roberts from the Institute of Information and Mathematical Sciences receives the New Zealand Mathematical Society's Research Award for 2006, while Kevin Byard, a PhD student, won the Society's Aitken Prize for the best student talk at the New Zealand Mathematical Colloquium.

Professor Roberts has earned international recognition for his application of mathematical modeling to the epidemiology of modern disease including SARS, HIV and avian influenza.

The research award is considered to be the top mathematics award and is recognition by the mathematics community of Professor Robert's standing and the excellence of his research.

Date: 12/12/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences



Brendan Bourke, Delwyn Sanson, Stu Baker and Aaron Palmer

Into the hot and deep end Massey grads at the Asian Games



Five New Zealand Sport Management graduates are coping with the logistics of hundreds of thousands of spectators and athletes in 40 deg plus heat, at the Asian Games in Doha.

Stu Baker, Aaron Palmer, Brendan Bourke, Delwyn Sanson and Aaron Hamilton, all graduates from Massey University at Palmerston North, have key organising roles at the 15th Asian Games which run from 1 to 15 December. The games are held every four years: This year 10,000 athletes from 45 countries and regions are taking part in 39 sports and 423 events, making it the second largest sporting event in the world, in terms of numbers taking part, behind the Summer Olympics.

As Venue Manager for Spectator Services at the Al-Arabi Sports Club, one of five venues at the games, Aaron Palmer is responsible for managing a staff of 125 volunteers and paid staff. The stadium holds 13,000 spectators and it's our responsibility to get them in and out of the stadium efficiently and safely over the 14 days of competition, he says. At our stadium we have football, table tennis, rugby sevens and fencing events. As with any major international sporting event, the policies and procedures we need to follow are very comprehensive, to say the least. Our staff are kept on their toes dealing with anything from ambush marketing attempts to helping lost visitors.



Mr Palmer has been in Doha, the capital of Qatar, for six months preparing for the games and says a bonus has been the opportunity to work with people from with more than 70 nations represented on the games organising committee.

Brendan Bourke was the first of the Massey crew to arrive, back in April. He is Venue Logistics Manager at the Al-Arabi compound and says it has been a vastly different experience to working on the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne earlier this year, with a much wider diversity of cultures.

The team have agreed that the rule of thumb is work hard, play hard while they are at the games.

Over the past 6 months I've had some pretty amazing experiences, from camping in the desert overnight and quad biking in the sand dunes, to having a dhow boat cruise off the Corniche, says Mr Bourke. He has also been impressed with the scale and cost of the games. The word 'budget' is almost non-existent here in Qatar. It's the richest country, per capita in the world and the government has invested more than US\$2.8 billion on the games, including new sporting venues, infrastructure and accommodation.

Delwyn Sanson is helping with venue logistics. Our role is to source and place furniture, fittings and equipment into the bases of all the functional areas at our assigned venues. This includes the individual sports involved, the information and technology unit, venue operations, site management, catering, accreditation, media, cleaning and waste, and transport and signage. That's a lot of people and a lot of space!

The heat has been a challenge, especially when unloading trucks and containers, but you learn to just carry on to get the job done, she says.

The five Massey graduates are due back in Palmerston North later this month, after the tidying up exercise in Doha.

Date: 13/12/2006

Type: University News

Categories: College of Business; Palmerston North; Sport and recreation

New therapy can reduce stage fright

A new psychological therapy that helps musicians manage performance anxiety can also benefit other performers and sportspeople.

Performance anxiety, commonly known as stage fright, is a significant problem for many musicians. More than half the university music students surveyed by psychologist Dr Ruth Tarrant reported high levels of anxiety before performing, with anxiety often continuing into the performance itself.

"Performing can trigger the 'fight or flight' response," says Dr Tarrant, a lecturer at the School of Psychology. "This means while some individuals perform poorly or experience loss of enjoyment, others perform at their best because their anxiety has prepared their body with the heightened sensitivity and energy required for peak performance."

Her study focused on performance anxiety among musicians - although the concepts and management of stage fright apply to sport, public speaking, performing arts, or sitting exams.

Following an initial study of anxiety in the music students, Dr Tarrant developed, trialled and evaluated a new psychological therapy aimed at reducing or managing music performance anxiety. Her approach is based on cognitive-behavioural therapy where people examine their thinking and behaviour and, where appropriate, change any patterns that are having negative effects.

An important aspect of Dr Tarrant's therapy is to assist performers to focus their thoughts on what they needed to do moment by moment as they are performing, rather than thinking about the outcome of the performance.

Results suggest that physical, mental, emotional, and behavioural components of performance anxiety, plus aspects of personality, performance history, and situational factors are present in different combinations and intensities for individual performers.

Dr Tarrant found significant reductions in music performance anxiety following therapy, suggesting her study has implications for understanding and treatment of performance anxiety.

The aim of cognitive-behavioural therapy is to assist the individual to examine and modify thoughts and behaviours that are having negative consequences on their own lives.

"Unhappy or doubtful thoughts will be linked to negative or unpleasant emotions. If we can change the way we are thinking, we can change the way we are feeling.

"During a performance, we need our whole mental capacity available for the process of performing: keeping our minds focused on the process of performing, rather than thinking about the outcome, is likely to result in higher performance standards and enjoyment. This principle applies to any kind of task, performance or social encounter."

Cognitive-behavioural therapy is offered by registered psychologists. Many of its principles are outlined in books by authors such as Judith Beck and Aaron Beck.

Date: 18/12/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Radical new approach to learning failure

Two Massey University education researchers are pioneering a radical approach to learning failure - a problem impairing the lives of one in 10 schoolchildren.

In some, usually poorer low-decile, schools up to 25 per cent of children are in a so-called "cognitive cul-de-sac" and the problem is getting worse, say Associate Professor John Kirkland and Dr David Bimler from the College of Education.

"Many classrooms have stalled students," says Dr Kirkland. "Our view is that in their current mind-sets they're unable to proceed. In addressing this, what we are doing is beginning from a different place,"

"Many of these students have been misguided, they come from extremely demanding living conditions where the main focus is upon personal survival, they are fearful and constantly on the look-out.

"In such circumstances, they become emotionally exhausted and as a result there is no room left for thinking, exploring without fear, or asking questions without put-downs."

The researchers say it's not surprising that these students unwittingly elect to withdraw any goodwill from formal education and the students have long given up making any attempts to grapple with impossible intellectual demands.

"When you have poor achievement at the level of at least 10 per cent then society suffers. You have a serious problem to address, and one that isn't getting any smaller. It's like global warming. Except instead of environmental catastrophe it's much more personal."

Drs. Kirkland and Bimler aired their radical approach at the recent New Zealand Association for Research in Education National Conference held in Rotorua.

Their paper, "Learning Recovery", outlined some key themes such as direct perception, visual analogies and bridging the feeling-thinking divide.

"We're born to be inquisitive," Dr Kirkland says. "Exploration and curiosity are fundamental to development. When this is stifled, we cease to use our initiative, and this is critical for learning because without it, we cease to grow and we lose our capacity for learning. Every pre-school educator takes this for granted. What we've done is to place these activities into a broader theoretical frame."

Activities involving memory and identification games, expand pupils' basic judgements and discriminations - all of which, according to the researchers, are trainable skills.

In one example, students are shown a series of line drawings that have exact matches. Students are asked to identify and group those that are the same. Then the matches are removed and they are asked to group the remainders with those that are similar.

"We use visual analogies to explore the skills we use every day," Dr Kirkland says. "We have mapped out in our minds how to differentiate basic things, but we need to build on these skills in order to build our own maps.

"It's about taking an ecological approach to education which encourages discovery-based learning. It doesn't assume that basic skills needed to learn curriculum-based material are there from the start, because when it isn't, there's no hope of making progress."

Drs Kirkland and Bimler say from the hundreds of projects, short-term pilot-studies and extended trials, school failure remains. This is definitely nothing to do with the efforts of dedicated teachers trying hard in difficult situations.

"Our approach is not going to solve this matter. But the evidence is quite clear it's time for both investment and commitment to a new approach to these issues, rather than pushing reading, writing, and arithmetic on students based on assumptions of their cognitive skill levels."

The researchers say there is a need to unlock the capacity for learning in non-achievers, and that resources and techniques need to be developed which enable it to happen. At this stage they are focussing on failure among students in the 9 - 12 age range.

"It's important that this takes place in the pre-pubertal phase, before growth-spurt hormones kick in and begin to flow, prior to critical chemical changes within their development. Because once that's occurred then whatever

was going on before tends to become hardened and more resistant to change."

The next step in this undertaking is to work with schools, finding out how to apply this theory and research to the design of grass-roots programmes for "key-starting" these students. The idea is to spark the necessary curiosity that is natural to students, and kindle this as a means for introducing them to the wonder of learning.

"Of course this is not to deny the importance and need for acquiring other necessary skills such as numeracy and literacy in educational contexts like homes, pre-schools and schools. Our point here is that there is another, less travelled route, and that can make all the difference."

Date: 18/12/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Education

Massey sets new fees in line with other universities

The Massey University Council today voted to increase its tuition fees to ensure it retains its position amongst the top three universities in New Zealand. It will also seek approval from the Tertiary Education Commission for an exemption to the 5 per cent maxima to allow fees to be increased by up to 10 per cent. Victoria and Canterbury universities have already voted to increase their fees by 5 per cent for next year.

Following a suggestion from the student representatives, it was also resolved that Council, university management and students would work collectively to address government funding, cost reductions across the University and opportunities to increase revenue.

Massey currently earns less per student on average than other New Zealand universities because its fees are amongst the lowest in the sector. 2006 tuition fees for a Massey undergraduate business programme are 12 per cent or \$460 less compared to the average of the other universities in the sector. An undergraduate science programme, at \$3909, is 10 per cent less than the average. Research postgraduate fees are at least 49 per cent, or more than \$2000, lower than the average of the other universities.

Even with the exemption to the maxima, some 93 per cent of Massey domestic undergraduate students will still pay between 2 and 11 per cent less than the average of the other universities, based on 2006 funding classification of EFTS and assuming that other universities increase fees by 5 per cent for 2007.

Chancellor Nigel Gould says the decision wasn't an easy one for Council to reach since it involved consideration of a range of issues, both short term and long term, which were debated in the meeting.

Whether to increase fees for 2007 and by how much was considered in context of future financial strategies for the University. The decision to increase fees and request an exemption to the maxima reflects current and projected student numbers, the rising costs of providing quality education to our students and the need for the University to maintain that quality.

Mr Gould says the University expects to incur an operating deficit this year because the cost of providing a quality teaching and learning experience exceeded total income from the programmes offered.

Massey's fees are significantly below the sector average because the fee stabilisation legislation introduced in 2003 (for 2004 fees) froze Massey fees at lower levels than other universities. This was compounded by the decision in 2004 to hold fees for 2005. But we don't use this as an excuse to compromise quality. We do, however, need to achieve comparable fee income with other universities to maintain and grow the quality of Massey's research and teaching delivery and deliver on its Charter goals and Profile objectives.

Mr Gould says the university is anticipating it will need to generate about \$17 million to achieve the government required return on investment of 3 per cent. Some 80 per cent of this will need to be generated by the University through a range of strategies including increasing in student numbers, asset realisation and reducing costs, while ensuring quality is maintained, he says.

Making up this shortfall is a collective responsibility of management, Council and the students. The projected \$2.8million that will be generated by the 10 per cent, if approved, is a small contribution and a reasonable expectation of the student body.

Mr Gould says the views of the students were considered. The Vice-Chancellor and I consulted with student representatives before the meeting. This was very productive as it helped clarify their concerns. While it is regrettable that we have to ask our students to share the burden of providing quality education, our revenue sources are restricted under the current funding structure. And as the Government input is not increasing sufficiently to cover inflation and our rising costs, we must look to all sources for income.

Government funding of equivalent fulltime students (EFTS) increased this year by only 2.6 per cent, well below inflation at 3.8 per cent. The Council members reinforced the need to continue to work with other universities to encourage the Government to increase university funding, but agreed this was a medium to long-term strategy.

Mr Gould says that the University accepts that the TEC has not yet approved any similar applications for exemption to the fee maxima and that it may be a difficult process to establish sufficient need. But we believe we have met the principles required by the TEC and that Massey is an exception. We have been the only university to hold fees so students have benefited from two years of reduced fees but this has had a negative financial impact on the University that must be redressed.

Created: 6 October, 2006

Date: 20/12/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any

Psychologists decode conversations

Psychologists will gather in Wellington in February to uncover what's really going on in conversations.

Massey University is holding a four-day workshop called Questioning Interviewing.

Professor Andy Lock from the School of Psychology says, Understanding communication used to be straightforward. Individuals possessed information about the nature of the real world, and communication was a channel through which information was exchanged.

But following study into how conversations work, understanding communication is no longer well served by this simple notion, he says.

Communication is not just a simple transaction of the truth. It is now seen more as an interactive process that creates joint understandings of the world.

For psychologists, in this new perspective, interviews are no longer just techniques to establish the facts of the case. Rather, they are therapeutic methods. Therapeutic conversations aim to establish an outcome that client and therapist construct between them to establish a joint understanding of the situation.

The Summer Institute is aimed at psychology professionals mainly clinical psychologists working for district health boards, mental health services and in private practice. It will also be of interest to advanced postgraduate students.

Each year this programme brings to Wellington leading international presenters and local scholars, to offer an advanced training programme, says Dr Lock.

The Psychology in the Capital Summer Institute runs from 17-20 February 2007. For more information see <http://psychology.massey.ac.nz/summer>

Date: 20/12/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Humanities & Social Sciences; Conference/Seminar



New reptile population for Hauraki Gulf islands

A team of Massey University biologists is relocating more than 60 of the relatively rare Duvaucel's geckos to Motuora and Tiritiri Matangi islands in the Hauraki Gulf.

The transfer, along with that of a group of skinks, is aimed at helping protect the gecko population and enhance the reptile fauna of the islands, both of which are predator-free.

For Motuora it is part of ongoing restoration project. Although there are now only two native reptile species there, evidence suggests it was home to as many as 13 reptile species, including tuatara, before forest was cleared. Both islands are predator free.

Auckland Campus conservation biologists Dr Dianne Brunton and Dr Weihong Ji are conducting a reptile study and will be monitoring the geckos and skinks after they are released into their new island habitats.

Dr Brunton describes the transfer as exciting and very important to both the species and the islands. It will help to build a more complete ecology on both islands, she says. It's also expected to help in rebuilding the populations of these species which have low reproduction rates.

The Massey scientists have been holding the geckos and skinks in quarantine to ensure they are disease-free, while preparing the islands for the transfer, checking existing species for diseases and carrying out night searches to collect other data on the habitat.

Duvaucel's geckos are New Zealand's largest, growing up to 16cm long and weighing up to 120g. They are sparsely distributed on the northeastern islands off the North Island and in Cook Strait.

Project partners include the University, the Department of Conservation, Auckland Regional Council and the Motuora Restoration Society. Caption: Massey University researcher Dylan Van Winkel will be monitoring the geckos in their new island environment with the help of tiny transmitters mounted on the geckos.

Date: 20/12/2006

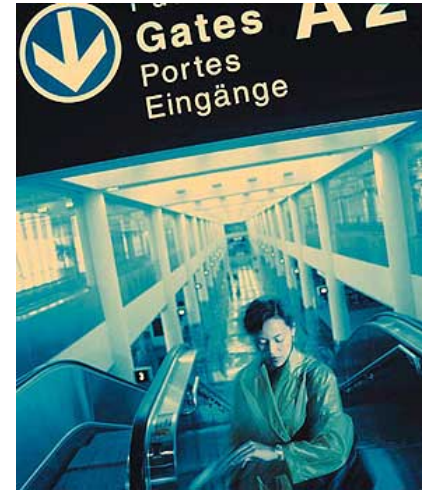
Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; School of Veterinary Science

International interest in Asian airport research

The publication of a book on Asia's burgeoning airport development in Asia has brought international recognition for transportation researcher Professor Alan Williams.

His book, *Developing Strategies for the Modern International Airport: East Asia and Beyond*, was published this year. It analyses the primary issues facing modern international airports, and their role in a global economy, with special reference to China and East Asia. He says the topic is of great interest at the moment, with airport developers in Asia jostling for strategic placement to dominate air traffic as trade from China comes fully on stream.



Professor Williams, who is with Massey University's School of Aviation, says the book has a strong personal endorsement from Professor Richard de Neufville, from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, one of the world's leading consultants on airport development. The two researchers are now corresponding on matters of mutual interest.

Professor Williams has also been invited to deliver a seminar on an airport strategy for the Pearl River delta, at Hong Kong International Airport in February.

Next year he starts work on a second book commissioned by the same publisher, with the working title of *Contemporary Issues Shaping China's Civil Aviation Policy: Balancing International with Domestic Priorities*. He will have an opportunity to do fieldwork for the book when he returns to China early next year, to teach in the International Masters of Business Administration at Sun Yat Sen University Business School. The second book is scheduled for publication in early 2008.

Professor Williams has also been asked to write a paper on the economics of low cost airlines for *The Journal of Aviation Management*, which is published annually by the Singapore Aviation Academy and has a global circulation.

Date: 20/12/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business



More awards for tobacco research

Marketing researcher Professor Janet Hoek has ended the year on a high note, elected Vice-President of the Australian and New Zealand Marketing Academy at its annual conference in Brisbane last week.

At the same conference she and Marketing colleagues also received further recognition for their research into tobacco regulation.

A paper titled *Tobacco Descriptors: An Analysis of Adolescents' Beliefs and Behaviour*, by Professor Hoek, Ninya Maubach and Professor Phil Gendall, won the Academy's 2006 Best Paper Award for the Social, Not-for profit, and Political Marketing Track.

In June this year, the same research team won the Best Paper Award at the Asia-Pacific Association of Consumer Research conference for their work on the effectiveness of cigarette warning labels.

Last year's ANZMAC conference also saw a paper by Professor Hoek and two Australian researchers, Associate Professor Rachel Kennedy and Jeremy Tustin, win the Best Paper Award for the Corporate Responsibility Track.

Date: 20/12/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Business

Adventure sports causing many injuries

Outdoor adventures are ending in injury for thousands of thrill seekers in New Zealand every year, says a report based on accident compensation claims.

A team of Massey researchers analysed over 18,500 ACC claims by New Zealanders in the year to June 2005 to determine the role of adventure tourism and adventure sports in injury claims.

The trio of researchers from the University's College of Business in Auckland found that the total cost of these injuries was over \$12 million. They say the figures in their report underestimate the true extent of the adventure sports injury problem in New Zealand. The data they analysed did not include injuries to overseas visitors.

Approximately 60% of claims involved just four activities: horse riding, mountain biking, tramping and surfing. Relatively few injuries resulted from activities with arguably higher perceived risk bungee jumping and sky diving, for example.

There were 27 fatalities resulting from adventure type pursuits. Three involved horse riding, two tramping, six resulted from mountaineering and two from white water rafting. Another six people were killed while fishing.

Slips, trips and falls were the most common injury triggers and most injuries were to the knees, the spine, and the shoulders.

The lead researcher, Dr Tim Bentley is a senior lecturer in the Department of Management and International Business (College of Business) at the University's Auckland campus. He says the research clearly shows that there is risk and that people are getting injured.

The findings suggest the need to investigate whether regulatory intervention in the form of codes of practice for high injury count activities such as horse riding and mountain biking may be necessary.

The other researchers were Dr Keith Macky and Ms Jo Edwards. Their findings were first made public this month in the latest issue of the New Zealand Medical Journal. For the full report see <http://www.nzma.org.nz/journal/119-1247/2359/>

Date: 20/12/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Business





What's killing NZ's rarest dolphins?

The carcasses of two Maui's dolphins New Zealand's most endangered species are on their way to Massey where veterinary pathologists will conduct post-mortem examinations.

Found near the south head of the Manukau Harbour in Auckland yesterday, the mother and calf (in a state of decomposition) were brought to the marine mammal research centre at Massey's Auckland campus.

Marine mammal scientist Dr Mark Orams says the adult female is one of the largest he has seen and he is keen to see what his colleagues in Palmerston North find out during the post-mortem examinations.

Dr Orams says the species are on the verge of extinction and that they continue to be trapped and drown in recreational set nets although the use of set nets is banned on the stretches of the west coast of the North Island that is their habitat.

We may well be the first nation in the world to see the extinction of a marine dolphin species as the result of human activity. They are a very rare native dolphin and are genetically quite distinct once they are gone, they are gone forever.

Dr Wendi Roe, a marine mammal pathologist in the Institute of Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Sciences, will examine the dolphins when they arrive later this week.

She recently conducted the post-mortem of a baby Maui's dolphin (photographed) that was found near the Waikato River mouth, and found that it hadn't taken a breath or had its first feed after being born. She says the calf either died very soon after birth, or was stillborn, and is waiting for the results of a test to determine whether the bacterium brucella was present.

Dr Roe says brucella has been found in New Zealand populations of Hector's dolphins, and has been found in aborted bottlenose dolphins in the United States.

Hector's and Maui's dolphins have a comparatively low reproductive rate, and there is scientific speculation that an infectious agent, such as the brucella bacterium, may be partly responsible.

About Maui's dolphin

The species used to be known as the North Island Hector's dolphin, but it has recently been shown that the North and South Island dolphins are physically and genetically distinct.

It is the world's smallest dolphin and found only on the west coast of the North Island of New Zealand.

They are listed internationally as 'critically endangered', with less than 150 left in the wild, and are the world's rarest marine dolphin.

They are a distinctive shade of grey with black and white markings and a short snout.

They can live up to 20 years and females are not sexually mature until at least seven years old. They produce one calf every two to four years, which is a comparatively slow rate of reproduction.

Date: 20/12/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; School of Veterinary Science

Beef and lamb good for your bones

Slap a steak on the barbie could become the rejoinder to slip, slop, slap this summer. New research shows beef and lamb are rich sources of a type of vitamin D, something we usually get from sunlight.

Dietary sources of vitamin D are becoming more and more important as we heed essential health messages to protect ourselves from the sun's harmful rays. A study led by Associate Professor Roger Purchas at the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health estimates that one serving of lamb can provide half the daily vitamin D requirement, and beef about a quarter when both forms of the vitamin are taken into account. This form of vitamin D, 25-hydroxyvitamin D, is three times more potent than other types.

Recognising the contribution beef and lamb can make to our vitamin D intake is both timely and important. Food sources have been limited primarily to oily fish, eggs, and some dairy products; New Zealand beef and lamb can now be added to the list, Dr Purchas says.

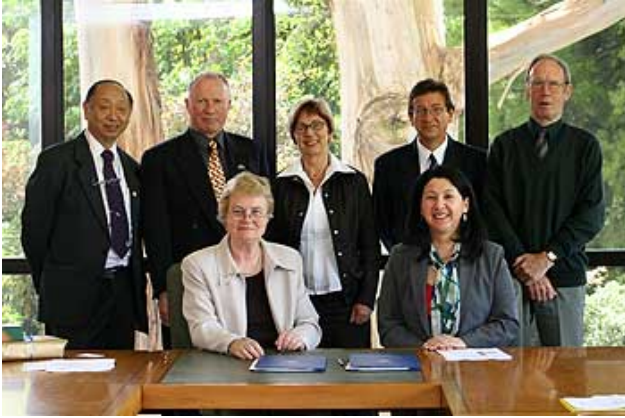
A survey of children's nutrition by the Ministry of Health in 2003 identified young New Zealanders, particularly girls, at risk of vitamin D deficiency. Up to a third may have insufficient in their blood. A lack of vitamin D can lead to rickets or long-term health problems, such as osteoporosis.

This research was funded by Meat and Wool New Zealand.

Date: 20/12/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences; Explore - Agriculture/Horticulture



Present at the signing of the memorandum of understanding are, Professor Kinnear and Madam Arce (seated) and, standing from left: Associate Professor Alex Chu, Ross Davis, Professor Sylvia Rumball, Nicolas Lopez-Villalobos and Associate Professor Steve Morris.

Agreement with Mexican University to provide academic exchange in meat technology

Massey University staff will offer workshops in meat technology and beef supply chain management at Mexico's Universidad Juarez Autonoma de Tabasco de Los Estados Unidos Mexicanos (UJAT) early next year.



The workshops were agreed to along with reciprocal visits involving academics from both universities in a memorandum of understanding signed yesterday in Palmerston North by the Mexican Ambassador, Her Excellency Madam Angelica Arce, and the University Vice-Chancellor, Professor Judith Kinnear.

Madame Arce says developing academic links between the universities is in the best interests of both parties. Tabasco is one of the main centres for Mexican meat production, much of which is exported to the United States and Canada under free trade agreements.

Fostering relationships with Asia-Pacific countries is a priority for the Mexican Government, she says. Mexico and New Zealand have had an excellent bilateral relationship, particularly in the field of education.

Professor Kinnear told the Ambassador that Massey distinguished itself not only through its academic outputs but also with its links into industry.

The initial workshop will be conducted from 13-16 February involving 35 participants from all sectors of the Mexican beef industry.

One of the Massey participants, Associate Professor Alex Chu from the College of Sciences, says the main purpose will be to identify future training needs of UJAT that can be provided by Massey.

These could involve higher degree training as well as study tours by farmers and technical people from the beef industry in Tabasco.

The University College of Sciences representative for Latin American links Nicolas Lopez-Villalobos will also participate and act as translator.

The memorandum will be signed at UJAT by the University Rector, Professor M.A. Candita Victoria Gil Jimenez and witnessed by the New Zealand Ambassador to Mexico, George Troup

Date: 24/12/2006

Type: University News

Categories: Any

Equal access for fruit juice

Fruit juice, low kilojoule milk and water need to be as accessible as soft drinks, says Suzi Penny, a nutritional biochemist at the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health.

She welcomes the move by drink manufacturers to voluntarily withdraw soft drinks and drinks with added sugar from secondary schools.

However she is not in favour of a ban on sugary drinks but says it's important that healthy alternatives are readily available.

While it's great to get sugar-laden fizzy and energy drinks out of schools, children need equal access to healthier choices like fruit juice, milk and water.

Soft drinks are empty food, with no nutrients, she says.

Life is a performance, and you cannot perform well on empty foods. Filling up with artificially flavoured and coloured drinks may satisfy the senses, but it is like cheating your body.

Though fruit juices can be high in kilojoules, they also provide other nutrients. In fact, you are better off having an orange.

She is not in favour of banning unhealthy choices, but of setting limits on their marketing and promotion.

It's not about being a nanny state, that can be counter-productive. It's about education and promoting healthy choices.

Flavoured drinks should be seen as 'treat' beverages rather than as dietary staple drinks. A problem with artificial sweeteners is that they encourage children to crave sweeter and sweeter foods, she says.

Although babies are born with a taste for sweetness, breast milk contains lactose, which is less sweet than the fructose or glucose in soft drinks.

So we need more fresh, quality, attractive fruit, at reasonable prices, she says.

Date: 24/12/2006

Type: Research

Categories: College of Sciences

Biologist awarded New Zealand's top science fellowship

The University's acclaimed biologist, Distinguished Professor David Lambert, is one of four recipients of a James Cook Research Fellowship. These fellowships are widely regarded as the country's most prestigious science and technology awards.

Professor Lambert has an international reputation for his research programme in molecular ecology and evolution which he has been developing over 20 years. Using ancient DNA technologies, Professor Lambert and his research group have built a high profile in the scientific community for their sometimes novel studies.

The James Cook Fellowship will allow Professor Lambert to continue his work with ancient DNA on a project entitled Does a simple sequence DNA evolve simply?

The James Cook Research Fellowships are awarded in a number of categories across the sciences and social sciences to 'forward thinking' researchers who will make a significant contribution to New Zealand's knowledge base. The fellowships enable them to focus on their chosen research for two years.

Professor Lambert is based at Massey's Auckland campus, as are two other recent recipients of these very significant fellowships, Professors Gaven Martin and Peter Schwerdtfeger.

The fellowships are funded by the Government and administered by the Royal Society of New Zealand.

Date: 26/12/2006

Type: Awards and Appointments

Categories: College of Sciences
