

Next Week In Focus

Weekly newsletter for University staff | 12 December 2011

Diary

Monday 12 December School of the Environment wellbeing workshop

2pm HSB 731.

Presented by Cerys Ponting, The Centre for Business Relationships, Accountability, Sustainability and Society (BRASS), Cardiff University.

There is growing interest in wellbeing both nationally and internationally in the context of broader critiques of economic measures as adequate measures of societal progress. With this has come a parallel interest in both measuring and understanding wellbeing amongst younger people (UNICEF, 2007; 'Good Childhood Inquiry', 2009).

To date, there is agreement that there is a need for a more sustained effort to ask young people and children directly about what contributes to their wellbeing. This workshop will explore some tools used in exploring young people's views on wellbeing in Wales using the vehicle of 'contemporary science debates' (CSD) - a tool designed to engage young people in innovative and participative discussions on social and ethical issues.

The Centre for Business Relationships, Accountability, Sustainability and Society (BRASS) is an ESRC-funded interdisciplinary research centre based at Cardiff University. BRASS pursues high quality, interdisciplinary social science research and engagement with research users to create knowledge and tools that will promote more sustainable stakeholder relationships amongst and within businesses, society and the environment.

Cerys Ponting manages BRASS's knowledge exchange and public engagement activities and its involvement in key networks. She is also seconded to Business in the Community Wales to Programme Manage their Green Business Skills work. She was a full-time Research Associate at BRASS from January 2006 - July 2009 and still maintains an interest in research which she manages on a part-time basis.

Queries to Christina Ergler, ext 82924 or email c.ergler@auckland.ac.nz

Tuesday 13 December Bioengineering Associate Professorial research seminar

Associate Professor Edmund Crampin, Auckland Bioengineering Institute: *Systems Biology at the ABI: What we are doing, and what we should be doing?* 4-5pm Ground Floor Seminar Room G010, UniServices House, 70 Symonds Street.

Systems Biology is a term that is much bandied about. While many commentators agree that it holds 'great promise' for biomedical science research, there is no commonly accepted definition of what Systems Biology actually is. I will identify several components of what I think a true Systems Biology should include, but which I think are often overlooked by practitioners, and will illustrate these with examples from our current work at the Auckland Bioengineering Institute's Systems Biology Group, and our aspirations for future projects.

Friday 16 December Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences Postgraduate Certificate awards

4.30-6pm Room 220, Building 730, School of Population Health, Tāmaki Innovation Campus. Professor Alistair Woodward invites you to attend the annual celebration for the students who are completing the Postgraduate Certificate programme. There will be drinks and nibbles followed by the formal presentation of certificates.

RSVP to Barbara Brooking
b.brooking@auckland.ac.nz

Saturday 17 December Exhibition talk

1pm The Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland Street.

Mary Morrison and Billy Apple discuss their collections of Fiesta ware and Dorothy Thorpe tableware.

Visit www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz