



Classics scholars off to US



From left: Tasha Dobbin, Julia Hsieh and Zoe Smith, not pictured Harriet Livesay

Four students from the Department of Classics and Ancient History have won scholarships to undertake postgraduate study at three prestigious universities in the United States.

Egyptologists Tasha Dobbin and Julia Hsieh will both attend Yale University, in New Haven, Connecticut.

Julia, whose palaeographic work for Professor Anthony Spalinger features in his new book *Five Views on Egypt*, says Yale has an association with Egyptian excavation sites around Thebes and the Western Desert. She and Tasha will participate in these excavations, as well as working with the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City to analyse their stored artefacts. Julia will also undertake work on a newly-discovered temple in Gebel Ghueita in the Kharga Oasis in the Western Desert of Egypt.

Tasha credits the interdisciplinary nature of her work on art and language for her postgraduate success. Her recent summer scholarship involved a lengthy analysis of the writing used to describe a major ancient Egyptian narrative, "The Report of Wenamun".

Zoe Smith, who earned a BA in Geography before switching to Ancient History for postgraduate work, will attend Columbia University in New York City. As a member of the Classical Studies programme, Zoe will take papers from a range of departments, including Classics, History, Art History and Archaeology. She plans to continue her focus on Roman History, building on her MA thesis on Roman mapping and spatial perception.

Harriet Livesay completed a BA in Linguistics and Latin before undertaking a Master of Arts in Latin at The University of Auckland. She attributes her success in attaining acceptance and the prestigious Gildersleeve fellowship at the University of Virginia (Charlottesville)

to the high quality of her postgraduate degree and the international renown of her lecturers at the University.

She notes that the University of Virginia, one of the top universities in the field of classical languages, has accepted her postgraduate qualification from Auckland despite the differences in degree requirements between New Zealand and the US. Moreover, as a sign of its faith in the standard of her education, the university has offered her a teaching position on arrival. Harriet's programme will include intensive study in the language, literature, culture and history of ancient Greek and Roman civilisations. Dr Marcus Wilson, Head of the Department of Classics and Ancient History, says it is truly impressive that four students from the small department have earned such sought-after scholarships.

"These awards are testimony to the high calibre work within the department – and our students are clearly able to compete on the world stage of academic research and scholarship."

PBRF IN NEXT ISSUE

The results of the latest Performance Based Research Fund evaluation were received too late for this issue of *University News*. There will be a full report in the next issue.

Key events

The benefits of competition
Paula Rebstock, Chair of the Commerce Commission, is the next presenter at the Business School's Dean's Distinguished Speaker Series.

Paula will discuss the benefits of competition in a market economy and will also touch on some of the challenges faced by the Commerce Commission.

She speaks on Monday 14 May from 6pm to 7.30pm, Lecture Theatre 1.439, School of Engineering Building, 20 Symonds Street.

This event is registration only, RSVP to alison.gray@auckland.ac.nz.

The Lord of the Rings phenomenon
Peter Jackson's *Lord of the Rings* trilogy will come under the spotlight when visiting film scholar and Egyptologist, Kristin Thompson delivers her public lecture "Click to view trailer: The Internet and The Lord of the Rings" at 6pm on Wednesday 16 May in Theatre B15 in the General Library Building.

Kristin is visiting the University as a joint Arts Hood Fellow with her husband David Bordwell, Emeritus Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Kristin is the author of the forthcoming book, *The Frodo Franchise: How The Lord of the Rings became a Hollywood blockbuster and put New Zealand on the map* (Penguin NZ, September 2007).

A thorough examination of The Lord of the Rings film phenomenon, the book draws on interviews with the filmmakers, fan webmasters and with the producers of the videogames and DVD supplements.

Better decision-making
Operations Research (OR) is the art and science of better decision-making. Visiting Hood Fellow, Professor Michael Trick, a prominent OR researcher from the Tepper School of Business in the United States, will speak about OR at his Hood Fellow lecture on 17 May, 6.30pm to 7.30pm, Lecture Theatre 1.439, School of Engineering.

Michael will speak about how mathematical models help organisations and individuals create value through better decisions. Historically, OR has provided incremental improvement through better scheduling, resource allocation, and distribution planning.

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From the Vice-Chancellor



The recent announcement of a new Faculty Research Development Fund scheme will, I hope, be of interest to all academic staff because it represents a bold new attempt to provide substantial and flexible support for the research career development.

The philosophy behind the new scheme recognises two key facts. First, enhancing the research performance and reputation of all academic staff is crucial to achieving our goal of becoming a leading international University recognised for its research quality and contribution to society. It follows that more effective use of our own funds to nurture research capability should bring considerable rewards to us all – both individually as researchers and collectively as an institution. Second, the research development needs of staff vary through their professional careers, as well as between disciplines. Thus the support made available to staff to develop their research careers must be flexible, tailored to their particular needs, and delivered in a way that both supports new research careers and rewards continued achievement.

The Faculty Research Development Funds have been created by combining funds formerly held centrally in the Research Office with a substantial part of the PBRF net revenue gain. On current performance, the new Faculty Research Development Funds will deliver about \$10 million per annum in research support, additional to funds held in faculty and department budgets. This \$10 million represents a substantial increase on the \$4 million that was previously available through the University Research Fund. These funds will be allocated to faculties on the basis of faculty size (full-time equivalent staff engaged in research), the nature of the research being conducted, and a formula that both rewards research success by the faculty (which drives 80 percent of the allocation) while also taking into account the needs of those who are at the early stages of their research careers and thus are working towards success (20 percent of the allocation).

The Faculty Research Development Funds represent a significant investment in our research staff and are there to support career development. I encourage all of you who wish to advance your research careers to take advantage of this opportunity.

Successes in 2006 highlighted at Breakfast Forum

Last year was significant for The University of Auckland in terms of academic success, commercialisation of research, and developing international linkages.

Speaking at the third annual Vice-Chancellor's community breakfast in the Fale Pasifika on 27 April, Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon reported on the University's successes in 2006, as "a key part of our accountability to stakeholders".

Despite a difficult year in terms of student numbers, academic restructuring and the introduction of general education had been completed successfully, he told the audience of 100 politicians, business leaders and



community representatives.

Overall revenue had increased, due in particular to an increase in research activities. The University of Auckland was leading the way in research contracting and commercialisation activities with business and government organisations.

"UniServices, which manages the University's intellectual property, has had its 18th straight year of growth, and is the largest organisation of its kind in Australasia."

Stuart pointed out that there was a

strong positive relationship between research outputs by countries and national wealth intensity as measured by GDP per person. New Zealand's investment in research – particularly basic research – needed to increase if we wanted to create new industries and employment opportunities. Recent changes in government policy, which restricted the ability of university staff to compete for research grants and contracts, were also problematic.

New style guide launched

The University has launched a new style guide for all internal and external publications.

During 2006, the Communications and Marketing team was charged with developing a new brand strategy, to strengthen the University's global position and align it more closely with the needs of the communities it serves.

A vital part of this initiative was the creation of a new style guide, with input and feedback from staff



across the University.

Working closely with advertising agency King St, the Marketing team has developed a style guide that aims to give all the University's audiences a coherent and consistent picture of the organisation, while still retaining enough flexibility to accommodate differing requirements in faculties and departments.

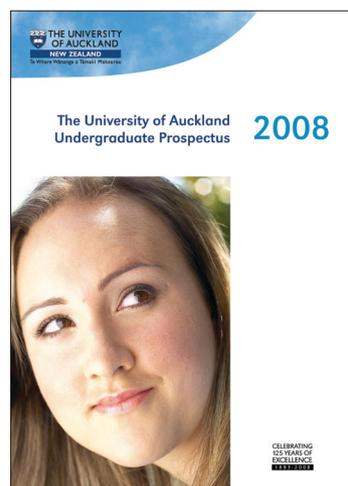
The new style guide outlines the main elements that make up the University's brand identity, including a graphic "number one" device that identifies its status as New Zealand's leading university, according to the Times Higher Education Supplement 2006 world university rankings; a new brand colour (an image of blue sky); two new fonts for internal and public-facing communications; and a fresh new photography style. It provides guidelines on the use of the University's logo and stationery, though no changes to these are proposed at this stage.

Using the same brand elements as a basis, digital media agency Brave New World is developing a web style guide to follow, again with input and feedback from across

the University.

Designers can access the advertising and publications style guide on the Staff Intranet (Administration and Services/ Communications and Marketing/ Resources/Style Guide). There is a greatly expanded range of live InDesign templates to choose from for advertising and marketing collateral, publications, newsletters, banners, invitations and much more. Non-designers can access templates in Word and PowerPoint. There will also be an updated writing guide in the same location, which covers the University's rules of usage and some general guidelines for writing in a consistent, clear and welcoming tone of voice.

As staff will appreciate, a huge number of templates are needed to cover everyone's requirements, and some are still in development. If you need a template urgently and can't find it on the Intranet, or have any other queries about the new style guide please contact Belinda Robinson, the Brand Manager, in Communications and Marketing at belinda.robinson@auckland.ac.nz



Nearly 6000 graduate

When the first procession at this year's Autumn Graduation came to a brief halt in Old Government House grounds on 3 May, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stuart McCutcheon, accepted an invitation to join the nearby Wu family for a photograph.

However, confusion reigned when afterwards the News approached the Wus for names and discovered no one could speak English. A cell phone was quickly dialed and we were soon talking to their daughter and granddaughter, Jiani Wu, a Business School graduate waiting in line at the back of the procession.

Jiani, capped a BCom (Hons), was among some 5928 students who graduated from the University at 13 ceremonies spread over four days, receiving a total of 6571 qualifications.

The Faculty of Business and Economics had the most graduates with 1517 followed by Arts (1132), Science (1131) and Education (1044).

There were 516 in Medical and Health Sciences, 504 in Engineering, 435 in Creative Arts and Industries, 267 in Law and 25 in Theology.

Chancellor Hugh Fletcher conferred 5097 degrees and diplomas. The rest (1474) were bestowed "in absentia" on those not attending.

Seven staff received distinguished teaching awards during the ceremonies. They were: Associate Professor Cameron Grant (Medical and Health

Sciences), Dr Shelia Woodgate and Dr Rachel Fewster (Science), Dr Christine-Rubie-Davies (Education) and Dr Diane Brand, Dr Deidre Brown and Dr Rosangela Tenorio (joint award) Creative Arts and Industries.

Speakers at the ceremonies included Dr Allan Bollard, Governor of the Reserve Bank, Dr Rodney Wilson, Director of the Auckland War Memorial Museum and theologian Professor Lloyd Geering.

The ten-day celebration culminates in a free Graduation Gala Concert and Concerto Competition in the Town Hall on 11 May at 7.30pm. This will showcase three prize-winning School of Music students, accompanied by The University of Auckland Chamber Orchestra and the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra conducted by Uwe Grodd.

The News will feature full coverage of Graduation in the next issue.



The Wu family with the Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon

TEN THOUSAND ENROLMENTS

On 23 April this year the University's English Language Academy (ELA) enrolled its 10,000th student. She is from South America and will arrive in New Zealand in July.

The diversity of students at ELA continues to increase in 2007 with students from new markets being recruited. For example, this month the ELA will welcome its first group from Kazakhstan, students whose English language preparation will lead them to master's degree study at The University of Auckland.

ANIMAL INSTINCT

The School of Biological Sciences hosted renowned British animal behavioural scientist, Professor Sir Patrick Bateson FRS, on Monday 30 April.

Sir Patrick is Emeritus Professor of Ethology (Behavioural Biology) at Cambridge University and is current President of the Zoological Society of London.

His lecture addressed the topic of "Instinct and animal welfare". In considering welfare approaches to animals, Sir Patrick argued that human-centred approaches were inevitable. Interestingly, non-subjective evidence about the behavioural and physiological signs associated with human mental states can be applied to animals when making judgements about animal welfare. This point was illustrated using evidence from Sir Patrick's own work on the behavioural and physiological effects of hunting deer with hounds. These findings played an important part in the Council of the UK's National Trust banning hunting on its land.

ENGINEERING TOP ACHIEVERS

The Faculty of Engineering was a big winner in the latest round of Top Achiever Doctoral Scholarships, claiming 11 of the 22 awarded to the University.

One proud recipient was Emily Voyde, who is Engineering's first female Maori PhD candidate. She is researching the optimum combination of substrate and plants to use on "Green Roofs" in Auckland city.

Another recipient, Aaron Wilson of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, will test how well Auckland's older brick buildings will cope with an earthquake. Aaron will use a mobile field laboratory to conduct world-first studies of unreinforced masonry built prior to 1925.

Facelift for Auckland icon

The University's most venerable and precious building, Old Government House, has come through an extensive facelift.

The scaffolding which festooned the structure during repainting of the exterior was the most visible sign of an elaborate undertaking which started in mid-December and finished in late April. Up to 15 contractors were employed at any one time.

The previously shabby facade is now resplendent in a handsome putty-coloured paint while the doors, windows and masonry features have been picked out in "adam gold".

Less obvious to the casual observer was major work done on the foundations and to the roofing.

The main sub-floor support beam running along the frontage was replaced along with numerous piles. A slot drain was installed on the front terrace to draw water away from the 151-year-old building.

The roof has been recoated, and replaced over the portico and elsewhere, and repairs made to the guttering and spouting.

Long-jammed sash windows are operating again, allowing the inside to be properly aired and keeping the formerly prevalent dampness at bay.

The project, involving urgent



and essential maintenance to the building's fabric, cost the University under \$1 million. It amounts to "weather-proofing" rather than refurbishment, says Tim Biggs, manager of the Staff Common Room Club which has long been based there.

The club has contributed towards interior painting and a complete refurbishment of the billiard room upstairs.

By happy coincidence the Accommodation and Conference Centre funded new furniture and

fittings as well as minor repairs for the five visitors' flats including the Lodge by the gate at the corner of Princes Street and Waterloo Quadrant.

Tim hopes that before too long the necessary money will be found to restore Old Government House properly and "make it a dynamic working icon of which the University can be proud".

Meanwhile visitors and University staff alike, he says, are delighted at the improvement. "They are pleased that this grand building is being looked after."

New to Council

Two staff members, Jane Buckman and Associate Professor Jan Crosthwaite, have joined the University Council.

Jane was elected as general staff representative and Jan as lecturers' representative. Both will serve a four-year term.

Jane Buckman has worked at the University for 21 years, the last four in the Faculty of Science as department manager for Psychology. There she is responsible for organising and managing administrative and technical support for its academic teaching and research functions, and for helping the head of department implement policy.



Jane Buckman

Previously Jane was employed in technical and administrative positions in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences. She holds two qualifications: the NZCS Chem. and

a Diploma in Business.

On Council Jane hopes to act as a conduit for general staff perspectives, to learn more about how our complex institution functions and to become more aware of opportunities for general staff to be



Jan Crosthwaite

involved and more visible in the University.

Dr Jan Crosthwaite joined the Department of Philosophy in 1989. She teaches and researches in applied ethics, particularly medical ethics and the ethics of biotechnology.

She headed the School of European Languages and Literatures from 2001-03 and has served on a range of committees including Academic Programmes and Teaching and Learning, and the Curriculum Commission. Jan is in her second term on Senate and is currently Associate Dean of Arts (Academic, Budget and Planning).

Jan's aim is to ensure that the perspective and interests of academic staff inform Council's deliberations, and to assist Council in providing governance which will sustain and enhance the academic life of the University.

Dean arrives

Professor Michael Davies joined the University as the new Dean of Engineering on Tuesday May 1.

Michael was previously a Deputy Principal and the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences at the University of Dundee in Scotland.

One of his first duties at the University was taking part in the Faculty of Engineering graduation ceremonies on 3 May at the Auckland Town Hall.

Faculty staff and students officially welcomed Professor Davies at an event in the Engineering School Atrium on 4 May.

Professor Davies says he is delighted and honoured to have been appointed as Dean of the Faculty of Engineering. "I am looking forward

very much to leading the faculty in enhancing its international reputation, as well as strengthening existing links with industry and developing new partnerships both in New Zealand and overseas."

Professor Davies holds a BSc(Eng.) in Civil Engineering from King's College London and a MPhil and PhD in soil mechanics from Cambridge University. Previously he was a Research Fellow at the University of California, Los Angeles, Lecturer at Cardiff University, and Professor of Civil Engineering and Head of the School of Engineering at Dundee.

His research interests and consulting activities range from land reclamation techniques to soil reinforcement, dynamic soil structure interaction, centrifuge modelling techniques and mathematical modelling of soils. He has attracted substantial external research funding and made major contributions to his discipline,



Michael Davies at Autumn Graduation

most recently as chairman of the British Geotechnical Association.

Professor Davies succeeds Professor Peter Brothers, who has completed a nine-year term as Dean of Engineering.

Prominent geologist retires

Professor of Geology, Philippa Black retired from formal teaching and administrative duties at the end of February.

Philippa has had an association with the University since she enrolled in 1959. She graduated with a BSc in geology in 1962 and completed her PhD on the petrology of the Cuvier and Paritu plutons of Coromandel, graduating in 1967.

During her graduate work Philippa worked as a member of the technical staff of the Geology Department and as the petrology curator. She was a Taranaki and University representative swimmer and became a keen member of The University of Auckland Tramping Club. She also played the oboe in the Auckland Junior Symphony Orchestra for eight years. Walking and music remain her great interests outside science.

In 1967 Philippa went to the USA via a Fulbright Scholarship and a National Research Council Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship, first to Harvard University, and then to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC where she worked on the metamorphic rocks

of New Caledonia. In 1970 she returned to The University of Auckland this time as a lecturer.

In 1974 she was awarded an Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship and spent a year at the University of Göttingen working on high pressure metamorphic rocks of New Caledonia. She became interested in the effect of coalification and graphitisation processes on fluid composition in low grade metamorphic rocks and turned her attention to coal.

She returned to Germany in 1979 to train as a coal petrologist at the Coal Mining Research Institute, the Federal Institute for Earth Sciences and Resources and Rhein-Westfalia Technical University in Aachen, three institutions which were then at the forefront of coal utilisation technologies. On her return to New Zealand she became actively involved in coal exploration and assessment programmes.

Philippa became a full University professor in



Philippa Black in the field

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

1986 and was head of the Geology Department for two stints (1984-1991; 1998-2003). If HOD responsibility was not enough, she became heavily involved with University administration at a senior level. She has been a Council member and has served on most of the University's committees, including stepping into many acting positions. (For example, acting DVC Academic and Acting Dean of Graduate Studies; when she retired, it was from the position of Associate DVC Research.)

Philippa has received both national and international recognition, notably in 1981 when she was elected Fellow of the Mineralogical Society of America and in 1983 Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand. She was the first woman to be President of the Royal Society of NZ, serving a four-year term from 1993. In 1996 Philippa became a Companion of the NZ Order of Merit for her services to science.

Philippa's research has been directed at a wide range of geological and mineralogical topics, some not glamorous but all very important. These included slags, clay and zeolite minerals, aggregates and the greywacke rocks that form the backbone of the North Island.

Despite their obvious importance these rocks were

previously regarded as being uniformly difficult to work with and unlikely to offer important insights into the geological history of the country. Philippa, with her students, demonstrated that this is not the case and in so doing opened up a fruitful lode for others to pursue.

Philippa has long been interested in New Caledonia. She and others in the department spent many years working on the geology of New Caledonia, advancing not only our understanding of the geology of that island but also documenting its close similarity to the geology of Northland. In 2005 the University of New Caledonia awarded her an honorary doctorate as part acknowledgement of her contributions to the geology of the island and its mining history.

Philippa's love of science is obvious. She has long encouraged students from intermediate school age to graduate status to experience its joys. In her "retirement" she retains a part-time position to allow her to continue research on aggregate and other earth resources

Associate Professor of Geology, Pat Browne

OBITUARY

Dame Professor Emerita Marie Clay

DBE, MA (Hons), Dip Ed, PhD, FRSNZ, FNZPsS, FNZEI, 1926 - 2007

Dame Marie Clay was first and foremost a scientist studying children's development, deeply interested in the nature and conditions of children's development, both typical and atypical. Her working definition of developmental science was that it described and explained development, but was also able to contribute to optimising development. Her particular fields of inquiry were wide-ranging and included oral language and socio-emotional development; as well as the development of reading and writing. A true scientist, she discovered and explained new or puzzling phenomena, and invented new procedures and tools.

A list of just some of her achievements includes: the identification of developmental patterns before school which she first labelled "emergent literacy"; the discovery of the presence and role of self corrections in early reading which led to the theory that these are regulatory strategies maintaining the complex components needed to read accurately and fluently with meaning; the design of new tools for assessing early development in both literacy and oral language; the reconceptualising of reading errors as miscues which can be used for diagnostic purposes; the early identification of developmental trajectories in which children are trapped in a cycle of low progress and therefore have limited access to stimulation; the operationalising of "personalised learning" brilliantly

demonstrated in Reading Recovery lessons which are individually designed using generic frameworks of assessments and instruction.

A unique feature of Marie's research was the understanding that optimising development requires understanding educational systems and developing policy that will help resource those systems. She worked with policy-makers in government agencies to get Reading Recovery implemented successfully, nationally and internationally.

Marie's interest in Māori educational issues started in the 1970s with a language tool that assessed children's comprehension in Te Reo Māori.

Marie was a clever writer and she enjoyed thinking about her writing. The carefully considered title of her book on emergent writing is "What did I write?" A direct quote from a child, it reflects the point that children develop hypotheses about the nature of writing in advance of controlling all the elements. She was a pioneering researcher in this developmental area too: children's writing and the relationships with reading.

A great teacher, Marie was a rigorous and nurturing mentor, fiercely protective of, and an advocate for, her students. Among her graduate and doctoral students there have been heads of departments and deans from four New Zealand universities; directors of two research centres and chief executives of governmental agencies including of the Ministry of Education



– to name just a few.

Marie was a devoted family person, a loved and loving member of an extended family of which she was fiercely proud.

During her farewell speech to the University, she used an analogy that typified her humility. She described her times during Christmas holidays playing on a family farm. She and the other children would make trails through the bush. When she returned the next holidays, the trails were overgrown. She said that her work had made trails. But they would disappear as others would find new trails. I think she got the analogy wrong. True, others will make new discoveries; they will add ways of researching with and optimising children's literacy development. But these accomplishments will be done standing on this work, and in reference to this extraordinary body of work.

Professor of Education, Stuart McNaughton

THE NEW ANZAC

It seems that every year, about Anzac Day, an idea for another form of Australia-New Zealand alliance resurfaces: adoption of a single currency to replace our current independent dollars. This year, the idea seems to be sticking around. It is part of a general malaise about the weak performance of our economy in general and our monetary policy in particular. People are fed up. They want, at the least, some open-minded discussion of the alternatives.

The Minister of Finance is resisting. Dr Cullen is scornful of the common currency proposal. It would mean, he says, losing control over our monetary policy. Well, exporters, investors, first-time home buyers suffering from the double-whammy of high interest rates and a high exchange rate, might respond: "Good riddance! What has control over our monetary policy done for me lately?"

Isympathisebutwouldsuggest looking at it a bit differently. The real point now is that our monetary policy has lost control of the economy. In particular, floating exchange rates aren't doing the job – if they ever did – of bringing the fundamentals – exports and imports, saving and investment – into line. Instead, our kiwi dollar has become a currency "in play" – and thus prey to the whims and prejudices of off-shore financial operators. The fundamentals are out of sight.

We are basically supplying gambling chips to the world's currency speculators. Is that a good business for a little country like us to be in? No it is not. And there are other reasons for combining currencies: Australia is our largest trade and business partner and it is much easier to do business under the umbrella of a common unit of account. Critics point out that their commodity price cycles are different from ours. True, but we are in a world where instability is the problem, and being able to reduce risk by averaging across unrelated commodity cycles is a plus.

Perhaps the Australians won't want to come on board. Maybe, but I don't want to die wondering. It is time to talk about the new Anzac.

Professor Tim Hazledine
Department of Economics

Generous gift to Computer Science

Open Software Systems research in the Department of Computer Science has received a major boost as the result of a generous gift to the University.

John Bedogni, a former co-owner of Metropolitan Glass, and his wife Kenda have gifted \$1,700,000 to the Computer Science Department in commemoration of their eldest son, Clinton Bedogni, who died in a car accident in June 2005. The gift comprises two endowment funds: the larger, \$1,600,000, supports in perpetuity an annual Clinton Bedogni Fellowship in Open Systems Research in the Department of Computer Science, and the remaining \$100,000 supports a biennial \$10,000 Clinton Bedogni Prize.

"This is one of the most substantial gifts we have received in recent years," Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stuart McCutcheon told a small gathering at a University signing ceremony in early April. "It will serve

as an important model within the University as we develop our own campaign and look for philanthropic support from a variety of philanthropic activities."

While some research into Open Software Systems is already underway in Computer Science, Professor John Hosking says to have someone working on a fellowship as a focused resource will make a huge difference.

"This gift recognises that Open Systems are an important area for the country and that it is important to increase our capability in this area."

It is envisaged the Clinton Bedogni Fellowship will support a succession of early-career researchers deemed likely to become leaders in the field of Open Software research, while the Clinton Bedogni



From left front: Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon, John and Kenda Bedogni. From left back: John Taylor, Associate Professor of Computer Science, Robert Amor, John Ball and Professor John Hosking

Prize, administered by Computer Science, will go to the New Zealand individual (whether an academic or in industry) who has made the greatest contribution to the field of Open Software Systems in the past two years.

Research focus

Research is a strong focus of the University's recently published 2006 Annual Report.

The 76-page document highlights notable research activities in each faculty as well as by section: on the commercialisation of research, the Liggins Institute, Auckland UniServices Ltd and on Centres of Research Excellence based at The University of Auckland.

In his review the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Tom Barnes, says a strong research and innovation culture is a key requirement for any modern international university. "The research-teaching nexus ensures that undergraduate education evolves in response to new knowledge, and also ensures a ready supply of students going on

to research training to become the discoverers and creators of new knowledge for the future."

He notes that the University has more than 1500 research-active staff and that PhD completions grew from 107 in 2002 to 184 in 2006. "Importantly there has been growth in annual doctoral enrolments from 275 in 2005 to 303 in 2006."

The revenue of UniServices, the University's commercialisation arm and wholly-owned subsidiary company, grew to more than \$75 million in 2006, mostly from contract research through more than 2000 contracts. "UniServices also manages more than 180 patent families and the market capitalisation of its spin-out companies currently stands at some \$650 million."

Revenue earned by the University from externally-sponsored research projects including UniServices was \$152 million last year, up from \$144 million in 2005. The value of new

research contracts and grants won in 2006 was \$63 million from the Research Office and \$94 million from UniServices.

University of Auckland researchers gained 18 of 56 grants awarded by the Health Research Council in 2006, securing \$25.7 million from a total of \$64.1 million. Fifteen Marsden research grants were received, totalling more than \$6.2 million in funding for the next three years.

The Annual Report contains a detailed statement of service performance under seven headings: international standing, research and creative work, teaching and learning, Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi, community engagement, excellent people, resourcing and organising for quality. The financial statements occupy 26 pages.

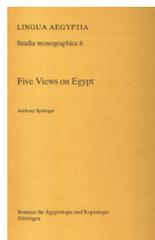
There is a useful "Key facts and figures" section giving student numbers overall as well as by

qualification, programme and other categories.

The Annual Report, produced by Financial Services and attractively illustrated throughout in colour, is available from Communications and Marketing, Level 10, Fisher Building, 18 Waterloo Quadrant (ext 87467, tw.thompson@auckland.ac.nz). It is online at www.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/about/uoa/publications/publications.cfm



STAFF BOOKS



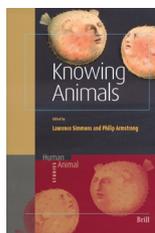
Five Views on Egypt

Spanning five separate sub-fields, this volume, published by Göttingen, covers a wide gamut of Egyptological matters. Pride of place must go to the first chapter, "The Paradise of Scribes and the Tartarus of Soldiers", which deals with the officialdom in ancient Egypt and its corporate self-identity. The aim of the study is to analyse two satirical tractates, the second

of which deals with the scribal attack upon the military, using the methodological basis of German historical sociology (Norbert Elias and Niklaus Luhmann).

The second chapter covers the astronomical setting of the exact beginning of the Egyptian day. It is argued that morning twilight and not actual sunrise determined the Egyptian's day epoch with major implications for absolute chronology. The third section

deals with the royal eulogies (or encomia) of Pharaonic Egypt and their historical and social setting. The latter is the crucial problem as the inscriptions often neither reveal the original physical location nor the participants. In fourth place is a preliminary study concentrated on the Egyptian folktale while the last chapter gives an analysis of the spellings of Ramesses II's names attempting to date his war monuments in a tight fashion.



Knowing Animals

In recent decades the humanities and social sciences have undergone an "animal turn", an efflorescence of interdisciplinary scholarship which is fresh and challenging because its practitioners consider humans as animals amongst other animals, while

refusing to do so from an exclusively or necessarily biological point of view. Knowing Animals showcases original explorations of the "animal turn" by new and eminent scholars in philosophy, literary criticism, art history and cultural studies.

Co-edited by Associate Professor of Film, Television and Media Studies Lawrence

Simmons, the essays in this collection describe a lively bestiary of cultural organisms, whose flesh is (at least partly) conceptual and textual: paper tigers, beast fables, anthropomorphs and humanimals. Contributors include Laurence, Elam Senior Lecturer Allan Smith and Distinguished Professor of English, Brian Boyd.

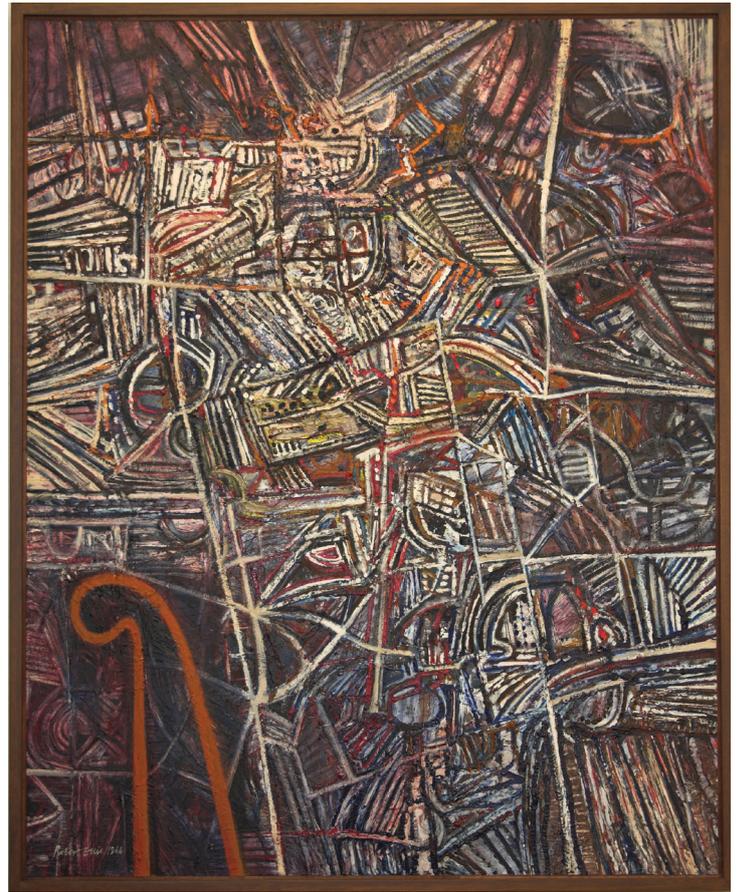
From the collection

Aerial mapping work carried out as part of National Service in Britain after World War Two later proved influential for Robert Ellis's art.

Abstracted cities began to emerge as images in his painting a few years after his migration to Auckland to work at the Elam School of Fine Arts in 1957. A visit to Spain in 1961-62 triggered depictions of buildings seen through windows, then roads and rivers were introduced as linear connectors in a series of gouaches and ink drawings. Finally in 1964, under the influence of the landscape colours and Aboriginal art seen on a visit to Australia, the motorway series was inaugurated. Spaghetti cities overlaying orange plains and rivers dominated his work for the next decade. Writing the foreword to the catalogue that accompanied Robert's 1965 Barry Lett exhibition, Hamish Keith read portents of doom into these motorway images: "The city in which we live, as young and small as it is, already demonstrates the seeds of its eventual corruption. A hardening, as it were, of the urban arteries." Yet Ellis's paintings seem much more celebratory than this. Buying his first vehicle with the proceeds of the sale of some paintings in 1958, Ellis learned to drive on Auckland's now famously clogged motorways, which were then new and exciting. The first one between Ellerslie and Mt Wellington had only been opened in 1953; the next, from Great North Road to the Lincoln Bridge came into being as the nascent Northwestern in 1955 and the third motorway, the mighty Southern, shortened the journey from Mt Wellington to Wiri in 1956. In 1959 came the ultimate symbol of modernity to crown the achievement of Auckland's efficient road system, the Harbour Bridge to the North Shore, where Ellis chose to live after 1970.

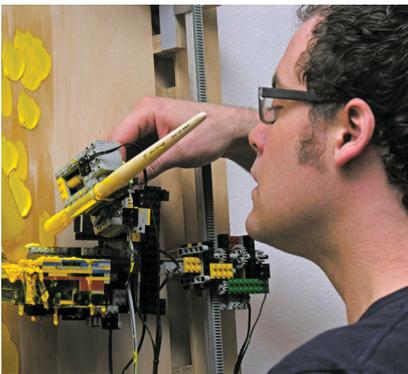
Marrying artist Elizabeth Mountain (Ngapuhi, Ngati Porou), an Elam graduate from Kawakawa in the Bay of Islands, Ellis began to learn about Maori culture. Traffic systems were superseded by depictions of beautiful Te Rawhiti Marae and Rakaumangamanga (Cape Brett Peninsula northeast of Russell) from 1974 onwards in his work.

Though he retired as Professor and Head of the Painting Section at Elam School of Fine Arts in 1994 (after a teaching career at The University of Auckland that had spanned 37 years) Robert continues to paint and hold solo exhibitions in Auckland. *City with Orange River* is currently on loan to the Whangarei Art Museum as part of an exhibition of works by Buck Nin and Robert Ellis.



ROBERT ELLIS (b.1929), *City with the Orange River*, 1966, oil and acrylic on board, 1552 x 1216mm.

Painting machine



Simon Ingram with his "Painting Assemblage No. 2" in the exhibition "Just Painting" works from the Chartwell collection curated by Natasha Conland, curator of Contemporary Art, Auckland Art Gallery. Photo by John McIver.

An inquiry into the conversation between art and contemporary technology has earned Elam student Simon Ingram one of the University's 2007 Best Doctoral Thesis awards.

Simon's thesis titled "Painting as machine", develops the modernist notion of the autonomous, self-made artwork in relation to painting as a constructional and computationally based self-organising system. It includes machines made from Lego robotics and generic constructional materials to paint autonomously in oil paint with a brush, and paintings that use cellular automata as a method to

govern their decision-making process. Drawing on divergent strands of thought (artificial life research, history, art history and theory), the project re-stages and reinvents painting as a critical, contemporary project.

"Working with a model of painting as a machine allowed me to construct an alternative painting history and made it possible to open painting up to new conversations and new sets of knowledge," says Simon. He entered the doctoral programme in 2002 with eight years experience as an exhibiting artist, museum worker, art writer and web-designer behind him. His project was supervised by Elam School of Fine Arts senior lecturer Allan Smith (primary) and Department of English Professor Wystan Curnow (secondary) and entailed a series of investigations on post-industrial paintings' interaction with mechanical and computational systems of organisation and operation.



"The human brain is a beautiful work of art," Professor of Anatomy Richard Faull told a crowded Remuera Gallery on 4 May as he opened the exhibition 10 Renowned New Zealand Artists. Organised by artist Agnes Wood (pictured here in front of her painting "Three Thin Men Wearing Hats" with Richard Faull), the exhibition features specially commissioned work by artists such as Helen Pollock, Jan Nigro, Jeff Thomson and Nigel Brown. All proceeds from the exhibition will go to research into Neurological Diseases at The University of Auckland and by the end of opening night more than 80 percent of the works had sold. The exhibition runs until 18 May. See www.remuera-gallery.co.nz

GENERAL STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

Application for these awards are now open. Visit http://www.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/for-staff/admin_services/training/staff-development-opportunities/awards-scholarships-and-fellowships/awards-scholarships-and-fellowships_home.cfm for further information and to access the official application form. The application period will close 31 May 2007.

WHAT'S ON

FRIDAY 11 MAY

Pacific Health Research Symposium
8.30am-4pm Function Hall, Rm 220, Bldg 730, Population Health, Tamaki Campus.
Queries to o.dewes@auckland.ac.nz
Graduation procession and ceremonies
The graduation procession for Arts and Law leaves from the Alumni Marquee, OGH grounds at 9.45am and crosses Princes St to enter Bowen Ave at 10am. Graduation ceremonies are at the Auckland Town Hall at 10.45am, 1.15pm, 3.45pm today.
Economics seminar
Steven Stillman, Motu Economic and Public Policy Research: The impact of immigration on the labour market outcomes of NZ. 3-4pm Comm A G01.
Graduation Gala: Concerto competition
7.30pm Great Hall, Auckland Town Hall. Free. No bookings or tickets required. Conducted by Uwe Grodd.

SATURDAY 12 MAY

Maori Graduation
8.30am Waipapa Marae, Wynyard St.
Queries to mc.clout@auckland.ac.nz
Pacific Graduation Dinner
6.30pm Marquee, OGH lawn. Queries to m.gabriel@auckland.ac.nz

MONDAY 14 MAY

CAD supervision workshop
Supervisors as editors: What are the limits?
3.30-5pm CAD seminar Rm, 5th Floor, 76 Symonds St. Queries to ext 88140 or cadreception@auckland.ac.nz

TUESDAY 15 MAY

School of Music; music as cultural practice seminar
Dr Nancy November, UoA: Cultures of melancholy in late classical music. 1-2pm Music Theatre, School of Music. Queries to d.lines@auckland.ac.nz
Classics and Ancient History staff-student research seminar
Vicky Holloway: The underworld. 4pm Rm 4, 1 Wynyard St.
Bioengineering research seminar
Dr Falk Uhlemann, Dresden, University of Technology: Biomedical imaging, image processing and visualisation projects: From research to reality. 4-5pm Fifth Floor Seminar Rm, Bioengineering Institute.
Political Studies/European Institute lecture
Prof Jan Zielonka, University of Oxford, Ralf Dahrendorf Fellow, St Antony's College: Europe as empire: Reflections on the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome. 6pm Rm 029, The Clock Tower.

WEDNESDAY 16 MAY

General Careers Fair
10am-4pm Recreation Centre, 17 Symonds St. Queries to lesley.jones@auckland.ac.nz
Hood Fellow lecture
Kristin Thompson, Honorary Fellow, University of Wisconsin-Madison: Click to view trailer: The Internet and LOTR. 6pm Lecture Theatre B15, General Library.

THURSDAY 17 MAY

Department of Anthropology seminar
Harry Allen, UoA: Gerard Krefft and the Antipodean Enlightenment. 4-5.30pm HSB 704. Queries to v.strang@auckland.ac.nz
Hood Fellow lecture
Prof Michael Trick. The science of better: Practical operations research. 6.30-7.30pm Rm 1.439, School of Engineering.

TUESDAY 22 MAY

Health Psychology seminar
Dr Simon Hatcher, Psychological Medicine: What happens to people when there's nothing wrong? A follow up of people that present to a Liaison Psychiatry department with medically unexplained symptoms. 12-1pm 599 12.058, Grafton Campus.
Queries to mh.johnson@auckland.ac.nz
Auckland Branch of Society for Legal and Social Philosophy meeting
Meeting, 5.30pm FGW's Suite, OGH.
6pm, Prof Rosalind Hursthouse, Philosophy Department, UoA: Two ways of doing the right thing: Virtue ethics on legal ethics. Queries to pj.evans@auckland.ac.nz

THURSDAY 24 MAY

Department of Anthropology seminar
Anneke Anderson, UoA: Migration and settlement in Indian, Korean and Chinese immigrant communities in Auckland: A perspective from the political ecology of health. 4-5.30pm HSB 704. Queries to v.strang@auckland.ac.nz

For a full list of The University of Auckland events see Next Week Online: www.auckland.ac.nz/nextweekonline

Please email classified ads to m.playfair@auckland.ac.nz nine days before publication. Cost \$20 (incl GST).