

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

news

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Academic monkey business



Jean Boubli, second from left, on a surveying journey in Amazonas, Brazil.

When riding in a motor dinghy on the Amazon, it can be hard to hear much above the noise of the engine, says Dr Jean Boubli (Anthropology).

So it took the exceptionally well-attuned ear of one of the local people to help him make one of the most exciting and important discoveries of his career.

"That sounds like a group of uakari monkeys on the other side of the river," he said.

The "huge group" of uakari monkeys – "too many to count" – proved to be an entirely new species, never documented by scientists before. Ironically the discovery was made on the final lap of the journey, when they'd turned on the engines and were heading for home after their latest stint of fieldwork in the Aracá River, a left bank tributary of the Negro River, Amazonas, Brazil.

Since 2002, with funding from the Brazilian Government and the World Bank, Jean, the only primatologist at The University of Auckland, has been surveying the little-known and difficult-to-access Pantepui region of Brazil.

Already he had made one exciting find in 2003 – the rediscovery of a species described by scientists in the 1800s, but with no scientifically authenticated sightings since.

However, the discovery of an entirely new primate species is extraordinarily rare, he says. Though he had heard from local people over several years that a different species existed, this was the first time he had seen it for himself.

Named *Cacajao ayresi*, this black uakari monkey belongs to a species unknown to science until recently. Black uakaris are specialised seed-eating pitheciine primates that inhabit the remote areas of the Negro and Orinoco river basins and parts of the Pantepui mountains in Brazil, Colombia and Venezuela.

Until now, only one species of black uakari was recognised, *Cacajao melanocephalus*, with two subspecies, *C. m. melanocephalus* and *C. m. ouakary*.

The newly-discovered primate is named in honour of Brazilian biologist Marcio Ayres, who pioneered field studies on uakaris.

Jean hopes the discovery of this new species will help encourage conservation activities in the Amazon region. He says the new species faces life-threatening risks: it has a limited geographic distribution, a low population density and is

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Key events

Topologically speaking

Founded during Auckland's big black-out in the late 1990s, the Devonport Topology Festival is an annual event hosted in her home by Mathematics Department member Dr Sina Greenwood. Topologists from Auckland and beyond describe mainly the research work they have completed over the summer. This year participants have come from five institutions in New Zealand but in addition there is an invited speaker from Austria and two other speakers from Canada. This year's festival on 22 February is dedicated to Professor Ivan Reilly, who has just retired from the University after almost four decades (page 6): he has been a regular participant.

Celebrating Waipapa

Nearing its end is a week of celebration of the twentieth anniversary of Waipapa Marae. On 22 February from 1pm to 4pm at the Waipapa Marae and the Faculty of Engineering will be a presentation looking at engineering design aspects of the Tāne-nui-a-rangi. On 23 February at 12noon will be a discussion of the oral history of Waipapa presented by key people who were instrumental in the creation of the marae. At 10am on 24 February at the marae will be a whakawātea and closing celebration at which a karakia and whakamutungā will be followed by a complimentary buffet breakfast. For more information about Sunday's event contact Pania Wilson, ext 48522.

All-staff first

This year The University of Auckland marks 125 years since its establishment in 1883. To celebrate the anniversary, and to launch the official start to the year, the Vice-Chancellor has invited all staff to attend a staff cocktail party in the Alumni Marquee at Old Government House. This will take place on 26 February from 4.30pm to 6pm. Staff should register their acceptance by emailing AllStaff125@auckland.ac.nz

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From the Vice-Chancellor

On 11 February, I had the pleasure of attending the official opening of Pūkawakawa, the Northland Regional-Rural Health Programme, by Associate Minister of Health the Hon. Mita Rinini. This is a joint venture between The University of Auckland, the Northland District Health Board, local health providers and government to increase the number of medical practitioners in the Northland region. The opening function and powhiri were held in the grounds of Whangarei Hospital.

Commencing this year, a group of 20 Year Five medical students from our University will be living and learning in the Northland region. The model for learning to be applied in this programme is based on the current undergraduate medical programme, with modifications to the design and delivery to take account of the unique nature of healthcare provision, and population needs, in the various Northland settings. Learning will occur in both regional and rural settings. Each student will spend about 18 weeks in Whangarei Hospital and seven weeks in Kaitiā, Dargaville or Rawene. In the rural areas, students will experience working with general practitioners in outpatient settings and hospitals led by GPs, as well as with a range of community health expert practitioners. The Northland DHB is providing refurbished accommodation for the students while they are based in Whangarei, together with computer and teaching facilities that permit both local classes and videoconference connections to other teaching and clinical centres. Over 40 students applied for the 20 places available, indicating a strong demand to study in such regional-rural environments.

Students will see many patients in the diagnosis phase of medical practice, and will have the opportunity to examine the continuity of care models, and the importance of community agencies in the role of chronic care. The specific nature of this programme draws on research elsewhere, particularly in North America and Australia, on what makes for successful rural medical education. Importantly, it provides an environment in which students will become more familiar with Māori health from a number of dimensions. I congratulate all those of our staff who have been involved in the development of this programme – particularly Iain Martin, Warwick Bagg, Phillippa Poole and Barbara O'Connor – on this important new initiative in regional health.



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vulnerable to regional epidemics, droughts, fires and global warming. The fact that Ayres' uakari occurs in public land that is still not protected adds more uncertainty to its long-term survival. Throughout Northern Amazonia, uakaris are regularly eaten by local indigenous peoples.

The next step is to conduct a detailed ecological and behavioural study of Ayres' uakari in order to design an effective management plan for this species.

The findings are outlined in a forthcoming publication in the *International Journal of Primatology* (July 2008), as well as in a recent issue of *New Scientist* (January 2008). With collaborators Drs Maria da Silva, Manuela Amado, Francisco Pontual, Tomas Hrbec and Izeni Farias, Jean describes the new Ayres uakari and also argues that the two previously known subspecies are in fact full species, thus raising to three the number of known black uakari species.



Cacajao ayresi.

Winning hearts and medals



Nora Yao (right) and Bing Zhou with the trophy presented at the International Conference of Confucius Institutes.

When athletes and officials head for Beijing in August most will be carrying a small booklet, designed to fit comfortably in their uniform pockets and to make their stay in China more congenial.

The booklet – produced by the Confucius Institute based at The University of Auckland – is a “takeaway” version of a course the institute designed for New Zealand Olympic officials and athletes needing to know more about China and wanting to communicate well with its citizens.

It is also an indication of the institute's effective and innovative approach to the many and varied activities it develops or supports to advance understanding of Chinese language and culture.

Auckland's institute was one of the first in the world to take advantage of the opportunities provided by the Beijing Olympics to promote Chinese culture in New Zealand and to promote New Zealand culture in China.

The booklet not only contains hints about Chinese etiquette and how to be in accord with it – for example by accepting business cards respectfully with both hands and putting them away carefully rather than casually – but also facts about New Zealand which are likely to be of interest to Chinese people. It includes important addresses and phone numbers, and a list of useful phrases in Mandarin.

In the words of Nora Yao, Director of the Confucius Institute, it will give the officials and athletes some of the resources they need “to understand the country and the culture and to win the hearts of the local people”.

She has advised athletes to learn to speak a little of the language so that if they win medals, they will be able to give their thanks in Mandarin.

In December last year at the International Conference of Confucius Institutes in Beijing, Nora, with Co-director Bing Zhou, had the opportunity to compare notes and share ideas with top officials from other Confucius Institutes all over the world. They found that that while our Confucius Institute in Auckland shares many concerns and activities with other institutes it also has some attributes that make it special – for example, that it has a specific plan and a set of goals to work towards.

Both recognise that the role of the institute is not just to carry out activities designed to advance knowledge but also to connect with and help enrich the efforts of other organisations with related aims.

The institute has a two-pronged approach, says Nora: “to promote a receptive atmosphere and a general awareness, and also to focus on quality of education by supporting key people who are working effectively”.

Much to the pleasure of both Nora and Bing, their efforts earned them a strong affirmation. The Auckland Confucius Institute was presented with a trophy, given to only 20 outstanding Confucius Institutes among over 200 worldwide.

Retrospective 1883-2008

Extracts from 'University Marae Opens Officially', New Zealand Herald, 22 February 1988, p. 2

Among the hundreds of guests at the ceremony were the King and Queen of Tonga and the Governor-General, the Most Rev Sir Paul Reeves.

The idea of establishing a marae at the university was first raised in 1976 by a committee examining educational opportunities for Māori and Polynesian students. The university later applied for Government

finance but such funds were available only for the academic sections of Māori studies. However the Public Trust Office gave funds for the marae and the university provided the balance, which included money from staff parking fees. Work on the marae site began early in 1984 and all building was finished by mid-1986. Māori carvers and weavers put the finishing touches to the construction.

Extracts from 'House waiting to be warmed', University of Auckland News, 18, 2, April 1988, pp. 12-13.

The marae has been described by the Governor-General, Sir Paul Reeves, as "a claim of Māori identity" in the University. This has not been an easy project, said Sir Paul. "There have been many difficulties, but the marae and the house Tāne-nui-a-rangi are here and are waiting now to be warmed by our presence."

The Chancellor, Judge Michael Brown said the adornment essential to transform the shell and

breathe life into the timber had been brought about by the inspired choice of the master carver, Paki Harrison. The University would be enriched, said Judge Brown, if the warmth and richness of Māoritanga could be woven into it through the marae.

This waiata recounting the history of the University Marae was composed specially for the opening by Merimeri Penfold and translated by Anne Salmond. It was performed at the opening by staff and students.

[Extract from waiata recounting the history of the University Marae]

Teeraa ka noho te rau tau te whare waananga
Rere ana te awhi a te hunga rangatira o te rohe
Na Parore, takoto ana taa Ngaatihine mai i te waa
a Taane
Ka peke, pakuu ana te waha o te hunga rangatahi
I noho tahi nei i a 'Mihinga i toona tuuranga
Ko Whare teeraa i te kei o te waka o Tuia
Na raatou ra i tuitui nga rawekeetanga
Peeraa hoki te piri mai a te whaanau whaanui
E papata e noho puku nei i runga o Horotiu
Rere ana te koha tapu, tuu ana te whare hei
tuupuna
Teeraa te Tumu ka paa atu te puna Te Pane o te lka
Whakatinanatia mai ana ko Reipae e tuu
Te tutu (mai) te puna o nga whare wananga o te
motu
Tuu nei Rehutai (te) toka te mahi waananga
Tau maki ko Paaki, ko Hine me te whaanau
rangatahi
Hei tuhi, hei raranga i te pueru whakahirahira i te
tupuna
Ko Tanne-nui-a-rangi e tuu nei i runga o Waipapa e
Nau mai e Koro e
Nau mai nau mai!

Now the University's centenary came
the chiefs of the region offered their help
through Parore, Ngati Hine's gift came from the
forest of Tane,
the young people leapt up and cracked their
mouths
while 'Mihinga sat with them
and Whare stood at the stern of the canoe Tuia
that group which bound meddlesome strands
together
bringing the wider family closer
that teeming, self-contained multitude on Horotiu
gave their sacred gift, and the shell of the ancestral
house was built
the chief went to the source at the fish's head
Reipae (the dining-hall) came to life
the well-spring for the universities of the island
made its gift
Rehutai (the academic wing) stood as a foundation
for teaching and
Paaki and Hine arrived with the family of young
people
to carve and weave a magnificent garment for the
ancestor
Tane-nui-a-rangi (the meeting-house), standing here
on Waipapa
Welcome, old man!!
Come, welcome!!

Teaching expertise applauded

The University of Auckland has awarded four Teaching Excellence Awards for 2007, one of these shared between two colleagues.

Dr Dawn Garbett, School of Science, Mathematics and Technology, Faculty of Education has received the Sustained Excellence in Teaching Award.

Recipient of the Excellence in Research Supervision is Professor John Hosking, Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Science.

Dr Siew-Young Quek, Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, has been recognised with an

award for her Early Career Excellence in Teaching.

Sharing the award for Innovation in Teaching are Associate Professor Michelle Leggot, Department of English, Faculty of Arts, and Dr Helen Sword, Centre for Academic Development.

The awards will be presented at Graduation this year.

The University's nominations for the National Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards in 2008 will be John Hosking and Dawn Garbett.

For profiles of the recipients see the News section of the staff intranet.

Key events

Last chance

The final of three lectures in the inaugural lecture series for the James Henare Māori Research Centre is to take place on 27 February at the Ngāti Hine Health Trust, Main Road, Kawakawa, Bay of Islands. The lecture is by Antonieta Marypaz Rivera from Mexico who is of First Nations descent. A PhD candidate at the University of British Columbia, she provides specialised support to indigenous researchers internationally. Her research is in indigenous architecture in the Americas, digital interpretations of archaeological sites and use of emerging technologies in designing interactive digital learning environments. Contact Te Tuhi Robust ext 88711.

Psychoanalysis and our discontents

The inaugural conference of the Centre for Lacanian Analysis (Inc) aims to explore how psychoanalysis can contribute to examining the discontents of our time. The meeting, entitled "The 21st century and its discontents: A psychoanalytic perspective", will bring together those engaged in clinical and critical approaches to psychoanalysis, particularly those engaged with the works of Jacques Lacan. The conference will take place at the University from 28 February to 2 March. The student registration fee is \$25 per day. For full details see www.lacan.org.nz and for general inquiries contact Lucille Holmes, la.holmes@auckland.ac.nz

Distinguished Alumni Dinner

Six prominent graduates and a young alumnus will be recognised at the Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner on 7 March 2008. This formal dinner will take place from 6.15pm to 11pm at the Alumni Marquee on the lawn of Old Government House. Guest speaker will be Chris Liddell, Chief Financial Officer of Microsoft Corporation, himself a Distinguished Alumnus. The six graduates receiving awards are Sir Ron Carter, Emeritus Professor Carrick Chambers, the Hon Justice Lowell Goddard, Emeritus Professor C. K. Stead and Lynnette Stewart. The Young Alumnus of the Year is pianist John Chen.

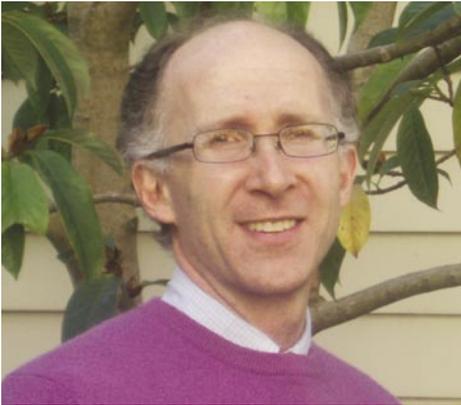
New associate professors

The 25 newly promoted associate professors are being profiled in these issues of *University News*.

Note that Associate Professor Frank Lichtenberk, featured in the last issue, is from the Department of Applied Language Studies and Linguistics.

New associate professors

Stephen Buetow (General Practice and Primary Health Care)



Associate Professor Stephen Buetow.

I came to academic primary health care via a social science route. After completing a PhD in demography at the Australian National University, I held academic positions in primary care in Australia and England. I joined my present department a decade ago.

I conduct mainly health services research across diverse disciplines bridging the social and medical sciences. My approximately 100 major publications, including two books and over 80 peer-reviewed papers, disseminate empirical, mixed-methods research and analytical work defining me as a general practice theorist. In particular, I work in the area of quality in health care, identifying opportunities for a more equal

role for patients in the co-production of their own health care. I am an editorial board member of the *Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice*.

I direct the Research Unit in my department and have served on boards of research at the faculty, school and department levels. I was recently an elected senior research fellow representative on my faculty's staffing committee, and serve on the public health committee of New Zealand's Health Research Council.

I am also a passionate teacher, annually coordinating in each semester a face-to-face and distance-taught postgraduate course on research methods in health. I supervise two doctoral students.

Bronwen Connor (Pharmacology)



Associate Professor Bronwen Connor.

I am a graduate of The University of Auckland, graduating with a BSc in Pharmacology and Physiology in 1994 and a PhD in Neuropharmacology in 1997.

While doing my PhD I was the recipient of a Health Research Council of New Zealand Post-Graduation Scholarship.

I then spent three years as a post-doctoral fellow at Northwestern University in Chicago, USA, studying the potential use of gene therapy for the treatment of Parkinson's disease. This position was funded by a Neurological Foundation of New Zealand Post-doctoral Wrightson Fellowship.

I was appointed to the Department of Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology in 2000,

and head the Neural Repair and Neurogenesis Laboratory. My research group is currently investigating the potential use of stem cell therapy and gene transfer techniques for the treatment of brain injury and disease.

I am also an invited member of the Ministry of Research, Science and Technology Oxygen Emerging Researchers Group and in 2006 was appointed to the Board of the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology.

Outside work, I am a mother to two gorgeous boys and when I am not running around after them, my interests include rowing (I am a former New Zealand international representative), camping, going to the beach, gardening and reading.

Ian le Grice (Physiology)



Associate Professor Ian le Grice.

I am a member of the Department of Physiology and also a Principal Investigator in the Auckland Bioengineering Institute.

My university career spans a number of faculties and has resulted in qualifications in engineering, town planning, medicine, and physiology, all gained at The University of Auckland.

My PhD in computer modelling of the heart was completed in 1992 and, after undertaking post-doctoral work at the University of California, San Diego, I returned to The University of Auckland in 1994 to take up a position in the Department of Physiology.

With my colleagues in the Cardiac Structure and Function Group I use a range of sophisticated techniques including electrophysiological mapping, computer modelling, MRI and extended-volume confocal microscopy to investigate the relationship between myocardial structure and function in normal and diseased hearts. I also have an interest in medical education, which has led to significant involvement in the medical teaching programme.

When not at work, I spend my time with my wife, Robin, and two daughters on a small farm, or pursuing my interests in tennis, running and fishing from my kayak.

Associate Professor Mavis Haigh (Teaching, Learning and Development)



Associate Professor Mavis Haigh.

A country upbringing and a fascination with small animals led me to The University of Auckland for a first degree in zoology. At that time my research focus was marine ecology.

After graduation I became a biology teacher, both in secondary schools and as a junior lecturer in the early days of The University of Auckland Medical School.

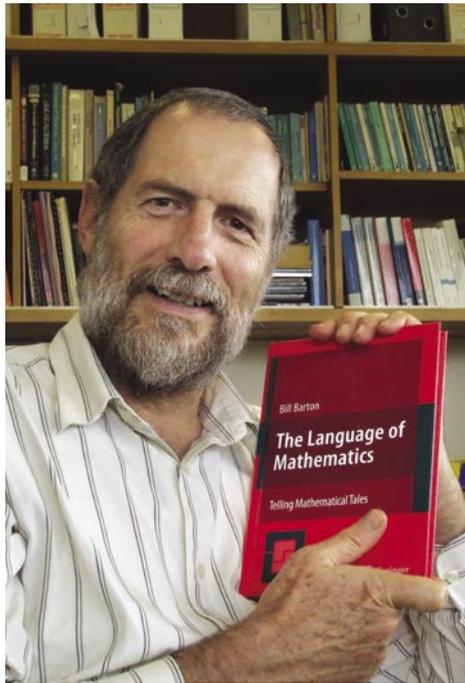
In 1988 I joined the Auckland College of Education as a lecturer in science education and began a research programme in science, and science teacher education, a combination of which was the basis for my doctoral research. Concurrently I was engaged in national science curriculum

development, being the co-ordinating writer for the 1993 Science in the New Zealand Curriculum document.

In 1999 I was awarded a Royal Society of New Zealand Science and Technology silver medal for "significant contribution to science education at a national level in the areas of curriculum development, examinations, science fairs and science teacher education". In recent years I have shifted my research focus to the general education of teachers, particularly in relation to the practicum.

My interest in educational developmental studies has recently become very grounded with the birth of our first grandchild.

Eminent academic line-up of Fellows



Outgoing Hood Fellow, Associate Professor Bill Barton, with his recent book.

The University community will be enriched by a series of visits from an eminent line-up of overseas academics who have been awarded Hood and Seelye Fellowships.

In addition one of the University's own academics – Associate Professor Bill Barton (Mathematics) – is leaving this month on a Hood Fellowship which will take him to Britain and Europe.

The five incoming Hood Fellows (who will come with generous sponsorship from the Lion Foundation), and the two recipients of the Seelye Charitable Trust Fellowship are from such diverse disciplines as economics, chemistry, neurobiology, cognitive neuroscience, history and philosophy.

Andrew Matus, research group leader at the Friedrich Miescher Institute and professor of neurobiology at the University of Basel in Switzerland, is being hosted by Biological Sciences and Medical and Health Sciences.

Professor Matus is a graduate of The University of Auckland and has since built a high international reputation for his work in neuroscience.

While in Auckland he is giving three public seminars, two seminars to the Auckland Neurosciences Network and a plenary talk at its annual symposium. He will work with graduate students one-to-one and in seminars.

The visit of **Margaret Boden**, research professor of cognitive neuroscience at the University of Sussex in the UK, is co-sponsored by the Departments of Psychology and Philosophy with support also from the National Institute of Creative Arts and Industries.

Professor Boden, who is spending a fortnight at the University, is a distinguished academic with independent qualifications in philosophy, medical science and psychology. Her specialist fields are

artificial intelligence, creativity, aesthetics, philosophy of mind and biology of mind. Professor Boden is delivering a series of three public lectures.

Historian **John Mraz** and philosopher **Eli Bartra** will visit for six weeks from mid-March. John Mraz is a research professor at the Autonomous University of Puebla, Mexico, specialising in research, communication and teaching of history through photography, cinema, video and digitalisation. Professor Eli Bartra from the Autonomous Metropolitan University, Xochimilco, Mexico, specialises in women's studies and the study of folk art in terms of gender relations.

Activities during their visit will include a one-day symposium on Brazil at which they will both be keynote speakers, a shared lecture, a talk by Professor Mraz, and a workshop on Latin-American film studies and production.

Richard Schrock, professor of chemistry at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will be hosted by the Department of Chemistry for a month from 20 March.

Professor Schrock, a co-winner of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 2005, specialises in inorganic and organometallic chemistry and catalysis. While in Auckland he will interact with departmental staff, conduct a research seminar for a specialist audience and deliver a public lecture.

Sir Partha Dasgupta, professor of economics at the University of Cambridge, UK, is widely regarded as the world's leading life-course-focused economist.

While on his Seelye Fellowship for ten days in April, Professor Dasgupta will be keynote speaker at an international workshop at the Liggins Institute. He will also deliver a public lecture on "The value of life", and will give academic lectures and seminars on life-course modelling.

Nobel Laureate **Robert Lucas**, professor of economics from the University of Chicago, will be hosted by the Department of Economics and the School of Business on a Seelye Fellowship.

Professor Lucas, who received the 1995 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences, is a key figure in the development of the theory of rational expectations.

He will consult informally with staff, and will deliver a public lecture and two seminars in the Department of Economics, and a keynote speech at the Summer Workshop in Macroeconomics.

Associate Professor Bill Barton (Mathematics), an outgoing Hood Fellow, specialises in mathematical education and is the author of a recent book entitled *The Language of Mathematics*.

Bill will spend six weeks as an honorary researcher at Oxford University, and co-ordinate a major writing project involving an international group of mathematicians and mathematics educators. He will also attend the conference of the International Commission on Mathematical Instruction, of which he is Vice-President, and will make an extended visit to the University of Paris VII.

Viewpoint

Could it happen here?

The "subprime loan" is a fancy phrase for high-risk loans. Potential risk of default often arises here from unexpected income loss and health-related expenses. It is a financial innovation in a deregulated environment.

When the borrowers default, signs of foreclosures appear, house prices fall, banks fail and the consequent tightening of credits chokes off innovating spirits, sending jitters in the stock market, as business productivity decelerates. That is, in a nutshell, a subprime loan crisis.

Such a crisis is spreading across America. To combat it the authorities have introduced a series of unexpected cuts in the interest rates combined with a hurriedly canvassed "fiscal stimulus package". The suddenness of these developments has shocked the financial world – should we be worried in New Zealand?

Probably not – here is why.

First economic situations are quite different here. In the US, large government borrowings continually push up the interest rate and crowd out productive investments; large foreign debt persistently pushes the dollar down, making the debt servicing even harder for the US taxpayers. The government here, on the other hand, generates a budget surplus every year and its taxpayers are free of foreign debt for more than a decade now. Consequently, it would have a wider range of options available.

Second, contrary to concerns in the popular media, financing investments in New Zealand with foreign loans does not by itself contribute to a "subprime loan" crisis, even if that means buying houses with foreign money. Instead, such a crisis originates from a type of lending practice that is typically disallowed here.

Third, our health and welfare system here, unlike that of the US, provides a cushion to hapless victim of the market. Consequently, the "loser must pay" solution to any potential subprime loan problem may have a better success here.

Finally, the world is much bigger these days. It includes China and India where subprime loans are virtually non-existent, thanks to the heavy-handed regulators there. Diversification of our portfolios around this bigger world should lower our risk.

There is a word of caution, though. A very different financial crisis may be seeping into our economy through the back door, thanks to the RBNZ's preference for a high OCR (official cash rate) regime, the highest among the OECD countries! The regime may never succeed in lowering inflation to its desired average rate of two percent. It may succeed, however, in reducing innovation and growth sufficiently to induce a stagflation.

Dr Debasis Bandyopadhyay
(Economics)

Double retirement



Ivan Reilly and Barbara Miller-Reilly.

Professor Ivan Reilly and Dr Barbara Miller-Reilly have both retired from the University on 31 January.

Active educator takes new step

Professor Ivan Reilly retired from the University on 31 January.

Appointed as a lecturer in 1970, he has therefore worked in the Department of Mathematics for 37 years. He was appointed to a personal chair in Mathematics and Mathematics Education in 1994.

Ivan has a distinguished career in Mathematical Topology (145 refereed topological papers since 1970). He is particularly known for his early work in non-symmetric spaces, and a notable feature of his record is the extent of his collaborations with both emerging and distinguished scholars.

But this is far from all. Ivan has taken an active interest in the promotion of high quality teaching in mathematics at all levels. Not only was he a prime instigator of the establishment of the Mathematics Education Unit within the Department of Mathematics, but he long campaigned for increased mathematical preparation for primary school teachers, and initiated programmes that have significantly enhanced the qualifications and recruitment of secondary mathematics teachers.

Another aspect of Ivan's interest in education

is his work for the Mathematics Olympiad. He has chaired the New Zealand Committee for over 20 years, work that involves not just the participation of our small team at the International Olympiad, but annually involves over 500 students nationwide in extension experiences not available elsewhere.

Ivan has been an active member of the New Zealand mathematical community. In 1975 he was a founding member of the New Zealand Mathematical Society, and was its president in 1985-87. His work for the society has ensured its financial footing ever since.

Ivan was Director of the School of Mathematical and Information Sciences for six years, and acted as Esquire Bedell for the last two decades. He has coordinated the University of California Education Abroad programme in New Zealand, and will continue this work in his retirement.

In 2007, Ivan was made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the New Year Honours list for services to mathematics and mathematics education. He has proved himself to be not only a scholarly ambassador overseas for this university, but a recognised New Zealander in his field.

Ivan will maintain a presence in the university—a presence that is warmly welcomed by the Department of Mathematics for his valuable inputs in topology, mathematics education, and institutional leadership.

Educational explorer

Dr Barbara Miller-Reilly has played many roles.

After a short time as a secondary teacher in New Zealand, she went overseas and became a computer programmer/analyst at the University of Illinois Coordinated Science Laboratory working in aeronautical engineering, completing a masters degree in computer science.

She was appointed in 1971 as an assistant lecturer in the Department of Mathematics at Auckland. After a maternity break in the late seventies, she returned to the School of Engineering as a tutor and programmer. The mid-eighties saw her move to computer science as a senior tutor, and then as a foundation member of the new Student Learning Centre, where she designed and set up the mathematics and science programme. About this time she became a member of the Mathematics Education Unit, and moved there full-time from 2000.

An early research interest was gender and mathematics, and Barbara was a member of the EQUALS network in Auckland – a grouping of mathematics educators who researched and published resources aimed at enhancing the participation and achievement of girls in mathematical subjects. She worked with Dr Margaret Morton (a colleague in the Department of Mathematics who passed away in 2000) investigating tertiary entrance for girls.

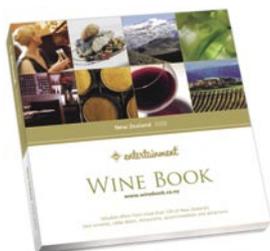
Barbara's teaching specialty was with adult or returning students, particularly those who felt anxious about mathematics. Her work in this area was the main basis of winning, in 1998, a Faculty of Science Teaching Award. She had experimented with several techniques to gain students' confidence and explore the nature of their resistance to mathematics.

MATHS 101 is a very special paper, developed for those with little or no mathematical background. Barbara had a long involvement with this course, particularly in the early stages when, with Dr Kay Irwin in the then School of Education, it was used in the pre-service education of primary teachers.

In addition to research within the University, Barbara was active internationally, with the Australasian Bridging Mathematics Network, and with the European-based association Adults Learning Mathematics (ALM).

Barbara's PhD was awarded in 2005, contributing significantly to adult mathematics education, with a particular focus on understanding good teaching of mathematics to adults.

Entertainment™ Wine Book



A portion of the proceeds from a new publication will help fund Alumni Relations.

The book celebrates the New Zealand wine industry, containing valuable reductions of 25 to 50 percent and two-for-one offers for purchases at leading winery cellars, winery restaurants, boutique accommodation and local attractions such as wine tours. The wineries include Nobile Wines, Montana Wines, Kim Crawford, Wither Hills,

Palliser Estate, Mud House and Gibbston Valley.

Selling for \$40, this book is a valuable companion for those passionate about food and wine, and a must-have when visiting New Zealand's wine regions. Its offers are valid until December 2008.

To purchase your copy call Beth Dowsett at Alumni Relations, ext 85622, or download the order form from www.alumni.auckland.ac.nz

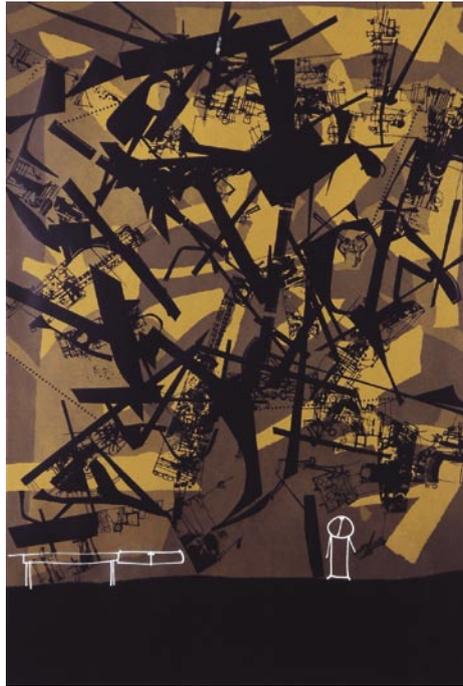
From the collection

Cutting his teeth as a graphic artist when working as an effects animator for British Animated Cartoons in London, Ted Dutch developed his signature figure-drawing style.

His was a pictorial shorthand which would come to set him apart from the landscape painters in New Zealand when he arrived in Auckland as a 23-year-old in 1951. Over the next five decades, he honed his quirky stick figures to create geometric hybrids of men and machines. These served not only as the basis for a large series of prints and paintings but also for a range of porcelain stoneware. Ted Dutch often showed his work alongside that of his wife and fellow ceramist Doris Dutch, in an exhibiting career which has just ended with his death in January at 80 years of age.

When he was a teenager during the Blitz, Dutch's drawings and paintings were dominated by bombed buildings and crashed aircraft. Introduced to the colourful work of European artists such as Joan Miró, Pablo Picasso and Karel Appel at South West Essex Technical College and School of Art in Walthamstow, he evolved his own take on modernism. Soon he was combining wiry figures with clashing shapes and abstract forms, typically resolved into compositions where neatly denoted humans and animals capered in front of technological landscapes.

Continuing his study at St Martin's School of Art,



Ted Dutch (1928-2008), *Technician 1/20, 1970*, screenprint, 735 x 505mm.

Dutch was introduced to the new technique of silk screen printing for creating multiple renditions of an image. Using a rubber squeegee, colours

Art

pushed through a tightly stretched organdie screen past stencils stuck to the underside were used to create patterns on paper. Called serigraphy by the post-war generation of American artists who produced limited edition fine art prints by the method, the technology used in silk screening had been pioneered in office duplicating.

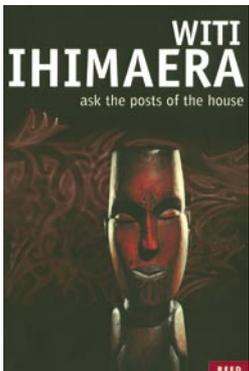
Once he had immigrated here, Dutch found employment as a commercial screen-printer but continued to promote the potential of fine art serigraphy, becoming one of the founders of the New Zealand Print Council in 1967. He began exhibiting with New Vision Gallery that same year, his solo show of 30 different prints in editions of 20 depicting astronauts, lone horsemen, flying machines and jazz musicians, all combining humour and pathos in equal measure. *Technician*, from the Staff Common Room collection, is typical: at the bottom stand an elongated dog and tiny human figure, drawn with just a few lines, yet contrasting poignantly with the impending chaos of technological innovation which looms behind.

This print will go on display at the Gus Fisher Gallery in July in an exhibition about the role of New Vision Gallery in the development of the visual arts in New Zealand, curated by Art History postgraduate Joanna Trezise.

Linda Tyler

Ask the posts of the house

Professor Witi Ihimaera (English), renowned New Zealand writer, has woven together five novellas in this new collection, *ask the posts of the house*, published by Reed Publishing (NZ) Ltd especially for its centennial celebrations.



The stories show an intriguing range of narratives – the self-invented myth of “Ihip”; historical fiction in “Medicine Woman”; contemporary comedy in “In the year of Prince Harry”; the drama of the title story “Ask the post of the house”; and science fiction in “Dead of night”, the story that Witi presented at the International Science Festival in Britain in 2006.

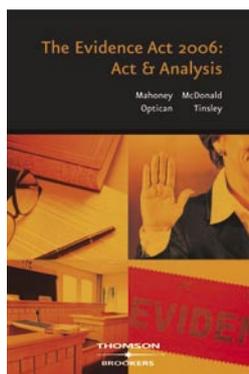
Once again Witi has packed his pages with rich characters and passionate and provocative writing. Each story is accompanied by notes on its origin,

and there is even an alternative ending for “Dead of night”.

Witi began his writing career with *Pounamu Pounamu* (a volume of short stories) in 1972, and became the first Māori novelist with *Tangi* in 1973. His works include nine novels, four short story collections, numerous anthologies and non-fiction works, plays and opera libretti. He was recently honoured as a Distinguished Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to literature.

Evidence's intricacies unveiled

A Law Faculty academic has helped make the revised law of evidence understandable to the legal profession.



Books

Associate Professor Scott Optican is one of four authors of *The Evidence Act 2006: Act & Analysis*, published by Thomson Brookers and launched this month at functions in Wellington and Auckland.

It is the first authoritative text on the far-reaching overhaul of the law of evidence, which took the New Zealand Law Commission and Parliament 20 years to complete.

The book comments on the Act section-by-section and includes recent case law arising from key provisions. It also analyses the Evidence Act 2006 and its underlying principles.

Included are discussions of the Evidence Regulations 2007 and the changes brought about by the Evidence Amendment Act 2007.

“[A] comprehensive and timely book” is how Sir Geoffrey Palmer, President of the Law Commission, describes it in the foreword. He notes that the Evidence Act 2006 “comes as close to a codification of evidence law in New Zealand as is ever likely to be achieved”.

The extensive and sophisticated cross-referencing is “one of the strengths of the book”, says Scott Optican. “It makes the text highly user-friendly for practitioners, judges, policymakers, law students and academics alike.”

His co-authors were Professor Richard Mahoney from the University of Otago and Associate Professor Elisabeth McDonald and Dr Yvette Tinsley from Victoria University of Wellington.

People, process and technology



At the prototype demo were (left to right) Christine Thompson, Mike Wright, Jarrod Shearer, Steve Kinch, Maxine Hall, Steven Bavin and Mary Jackson.

The HR Connect+ project team – which is implementing a new PeopleSoft human resources and payroll system – has been building a demonstration version of the system during January and February.

Kath Clark, HR Director, says that building a demonstration system “has enabled the team to understand at a more detailed level what the system will and won’t do. It also meant that we could demonstrate to those closely involved the look and feel of the new system to get their feedback early in the building phase of the project”.

When the system goes live in September 2008,

managers and employees will use PeopleSoft directly to access a range of HR transactions online including managing leave. Managers will also have much greater access to a range of information to help them plan and manage staff-related activities.

Full details of the exact nature and timing of the changes and how the project team will train and support managers and staff will be provided by the project’s change management team in the months leading up to September.

In the meantime please direct questions to Liz Meyers, l.meyers@auckland.ac.nz.

What’s on

FRIDAY 22 FEBRUARY

Centre for Mental Health Research/ School of Nursing seminar

Anne Garland, 2008 Distinguished Visitor: *Using CBT theory and interventions to formulate and work with grief and loss in common mental health problems*. 9am-12noon Tamaki Campus. Queries to Helen Hamer, email h.hamer@auckland.ac.nz View www.health.auckland.ac.nz/nursing/

SATURDAY 23 FEBRUARY

Exhibition talk

Scott Pothan, Director, Wanganui Art Museum and curator of the exhibition *A Curious Line: Adele Younghusband*. 1pm Gus Fisher Gallery.

MONDAY 25 FEBRUARY

Introduction to tutoring

This full-day workshop is designed for recently appointed part-time tutors who will be teaching discussion-based classes. 10am-4.30pm Seminar Rm, CAD, 5th floor, 76 Symonds St. Bookings via CAD reception ext 88140 or cadreception@auckland.ac.nz

TUESDAY 26 FEBRUARY

Bioengineering research seminar

Prof Shankar Subramaniam, Depts of Bioengineering, Chemistry and Biochemistry and the Graduate Program in Bioinformatics and Systems Biology, University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, California: *The fat story: A systems approach to pathways and networks involved in lipid metabolism in macrophage activation*. 4-5pm Rm 421 W-301, ALR5, Architecture.

University of Auckland Chamber Choir auditions

7.30-9.30pm, Rm 206, Music Theatre, Bldg 250. Director Dr Karen Grylls. The UoA Chamber Choir invites new members for 2008. A short

unaccompanied song with English text. Auditions will include aural tests and sight singing. Sign-up sheet available now at the door. Queries to aucklandchamberchoir@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY 27 FEBRUARY

Commencement service

11am Maclaurin Chapel, 18 Princes St. Rev Dr Winston Halapua, Dean of the College of the Diocese of Polynesia. Refreshments provided. All welcome. **University of Auckland Chamber Choir auditions** 7.30-9.30pm, Rm 206, Music Theatre, Bldg 250. Queries to aucklandchamberchoir@gmail.com

THURSDAY 28 FEBRUARY

Centre for Lacanian Analysis inaugural conference

The 21st Century and its discontents: A psychoanalytic perspective. Until 2 March. UoA. Keynote speakers: Leonardo Rodríguez (Australia) and Dany Nobus (UK). See www.lacan.org.nz for details and registration. General enquiries to Lucille Holmes, la.holmes@auckland.ac.nz **University of Auckland Chamber Choir auditions** 7.30-9.30pm, Rm 206, Music Theatre, Bldg 250. Queries to aucklandchamberchoir@gmail.com

SATURDAY 1 MARCH

Exhibition talk

Linda Tyler, curator of the exhibition *Gabrielle Hope: Lyric Watercolours*, will discuss the artist’s subjects and style in the exhibition. 1pm Gus Fisher Gallery.

TUESDAY 4 MARCH

Bioengineering research seminar

Prof Mike Dragunow, Dept of Pharmacology, UoA: *Exploring the adult human brain*. 4-5pm Rm 421 W-301, ALR5, Architecture.

WEDNESDAY 5 MARCH

Vice-Chancellor’s welcome powhiri for new staff

9-11am Waipapa Marae. There will be a formal welcome onto the Marae followed by an address to staff by the Vice-Chancellor. After morning tea, staff are invited to stay for a short talk about the Whare Hui (meeting house) and its carvings.

THURSDAY 6 MARCH

SELL research seminar

Prof Michel Viel, Université Paris IV, Sorbonne; Vice-Chancellor’s Distinguished Visitor for 2008: *From Night to Mourning: A “voyage” into Katherine’s Mansfield’s short story, “The Voyage” set against two French translations*. 4-6pm Rm 616, Arts 1.

Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

City Centre: One-bdrm fully-furnished apartment, \$350 pw. Enjoy magnificent harbour views with sunny north/east facing balcony. Trendy furnishings, open plan kitchen/living area with dish drawer, fridge/freezer, microwave, 4-hob stove top, oven, Sky TV. Tiled bthrm/laundry with large shower, washing machine and dryer. Access to outdoor lounge area, lap pool, fully equipped gym. On-site building managers and CCTV. Close to Britomart, the Viaduct, Queen St. A few minutes’ walk from UoA campus. Suitable for up to two people. No pets or smokers. Phone (09) 309-1319 (wk), (09) 416-1402 (ah), (021) 932-391 or email prasadm@pool.co.nz **Omapere, historic Hokianga.** Peaceful location, ideal for writing. One-bdrm flat, suitable for one person only. Two-minute walk to beach. Fully-furnished, linen and bedding. Own deck. Off-road parking. \$95 pw + electricity. Available April for six-months fixed term rental. N/s. No pets. For further information, contact maxhouse@extra.co.nz

Westmere. We have a cheerful and very roomy two-bdrm, basement flat to let. Dishwasher, new stove. Cafes, dairy, green-grocer, chemist, doctors, butcher, bus-stops and bar at the end of the street. Five minutes walk to park or beach. \$300 pw (includes gas heating and water). Phone owners on 378-7616 with your details.

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

Quiet mature woman and mature, well-behaved cat seek quiet one-two bdrm unfurnished flat. Please phone 373-7599 ext 89054 or (021) 590-788 or email v.parslow@auckland.ac.nz Flat does not need to be available immediately.

Visiting professor with family requires two-bdrm furnished accommodation for six weeks from 23 June-1 August. Prefer locations near Auckland CBD. Please contact Helen Lacey on h.lacey@auckland.ac.nz or (09) 373-7599 ext 84518.

SITUATIONS VACANT

Office Assistant (casual basis) The Centre for Academic Development (Level 5, 76 Symonds Street) is looking for a reliable, responsible and friendly individual to take on a casual position as an office assistant. This position is ideal for an individual looking for work to suit family or study commitments. Applicants must have excellent communication skills (emphasis on strong written skills), data entry experience, attention to detail, and be computer literate with a sound knowledge of MS Office. Administrative experience at The University of Auckland would be an advantage. Duties include: general clerical and secretarial work (photocopying, mailouts, data entry, and office minding). The main purpose of the job is to assist the Centre’s Office Managers. The hours of work and rate of pay are to be negotiated according to availability and experience, respectively. Queries to Lynette Herrero-Torres, email L.herrero@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).