

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND news

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Family maintains professorial tradition



Adrienne Stone (left) and Jonathan Stone.

An illustrious family and academic link extending across three generations was celebrated recently at the Law School.

The grand-daughter and son of Professor Julius Stone, who held a chair in Law at Auckland from 1939-41, presented a copy of his portrait while visiting from Australia.

Like Julius, both have attained professorial chairs: Adrienne Stone in Law at the University of Melbourne, and Jonathan Stone in Retinal and Cerebral Neurobiology at the University of Sydney.

After leaving Auckland, Julius Stone, a pre-eminent legal theorist specialising in human rights and social justice, became a professor at Sydney. He held the Challis Chair in Jurisprudence and International Law from 1942-72.

Jonathan's brother, Michael Stone, is Professor of Armenian and Religious Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Adrienne, on her first trip to Auckland, delivered a public lecture on "Interpreting rights in a globalised world: Some cautious words of praise

for comparativism". It was the second in the Law School's "Heritage lectures" marking 125 years of law teaching at Auckland.

Her research interests are similar to her grandfather's: constitutional law and constitutional theory with a focus on freedom of expression and bills of rights. She co-edited *Hate Speech and Freedom of Speech in Australia* published in 2007.

She was thrilled finally to visit the Law School and to speak in the Stone Lecture Theatre, named after her grandfather. Being accompanied by her father Jonathan, who was born in Auckland, made it even more special.

"I have long known of the Law School's high academic reputation and the warm welcome it gives to visitors. It was nice to experience both of these personally. And I enjoyed the extremely lively discussion that my lecture seemed to provoke."

The striking portrait of Julius Stone, a set of three images, was painted in crayon by Naomi Berns. The original hangs at the Julius Stone Institute of Jurisprudence at the University of Sydney.

Key events

Hive mind

Chris Knox, well-known connoisseur of weird movies, will present a free late-night programme of apocalyptic cinema tracking the dubious legacy of Irwin Allen's film *The Swarm*.

This will take place at the Gus Fisher Gallery at 6pm on Saturday 16 August, the last day of an exhibition curated by Andrew Clifford, entitled "The swarm: a peek into the hive mind". The movie, depicting a mutant strain of African bees that threaten to take over the United States, was the point of departure for the show, which explores the complexities of collective intelligence, networked manoeuvres and crowd control.

Research challenges

The six lectures in the Winter Lecture Series for 2008 are designed to provide thought-provoking reflections on some of the key challenges in modern research. On 19 August from 1-2pm in the Maidment Theatre, PhD students An Hertogen and Bridget Kool, in a session chaired by Professor Jenny Dixon (Planning), will discuss issues facing graduate researchers in the current tertiary education environment. They will explore barriers and enablers for completion, including funding, supervision, and possible future support mechanisms.

Tragedy in time

Was Shakespeare a lone genius or a product of his time? Are his tragedies timeless or time-bound? Can they be interpreted in a way that speaks to the social realities of our own time? Such questions will be explored in the Hood Fellow/Alice Griffin Shakespeare lecture to be delivered by Professor Jean Howard on 21 August at 6pm in the Old Government House Lecture Theatre. Jean Howard is the George Delacorte Professor in the Humanities at Columbia University, New York City.

In this free public lecture, entitled "Shakespeare and the tragedy of his time and ours" she will discuss how our modern concepts of Shakespearean tragedy were formed, and why Shakespeare has continued to be so central to contemporary conceptions of what tragedy is.

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From the Vice-Chancellor

In June, the University responded to critically low levels in electricity supply lakes by initiating an "energy savings drive".

The drive included an email asking all staff to assist in reducing the University's energy consumption, a dedicated page on our staff intranet, and weekly updates sent to deans, faculty registrars and directors of large service divisions. The updates included data from our electricity monitors and provided feedback on how the University, as well as specific groups of buildings, were doing compared to the same dates in 2007.

While the location and availability of monitors, differences in the timing of University breaks and public holidays, and year to year variation in the weather make interpreting such data difficult, the results suggest an overwhelmingly positive response from staff and students.

Just prior to the start of the savings drive, electricity consumption was 5.1 percent higher than at the same time in 2007. After the start of the drive the gap started to narrow. By the end of Semester One, consumption had dropped to only 1.8 percent higher than 2007 levels. In the first week of Semester Two, it had reduced by 9.2 percent compared with the rate of consumption prior to the savings drive.

This is an excellent result, particularly considering that the national average reported towards the end of July was 4.6 percent. I congratulate staff and students whose contributions have ranged from switching off lights and heaters to programming computers to shut down after hours.

If such savings were continued across a whole year, our electricity use would be reduced by over 5 million kWh per annum (the equivalent of about 10,000 ordinary 60W light bulbs burning continuously for a whole year). Our carbon emissions would be reduced by over 1,140 tonnes CO₂ each year. In addition to improving our environmental performance, this level of saving would reduce our annual energy costs by over half a million dollars.

Electricity use and carbon emissions remain an important part of the University's environmental footprint and of our cost structure. I therefore encourage all staff and students to strive to maintain the existing level of savings and continue to find other opportunities for reducing electricity use. For further information and advice, please see the energy savings section of our environmental web pages www.auckland.ac.nz/environment or contact Denis Agate, our Energy Manager on d.agate@auckland.ac.nz or Lesley Stone, our Environmental Coordinator on lj.stone@auckland.ac.nz



Celebrating research and researchers



Early Career Research Excellence Award winners. From left to right are Debbie Hay, Gavin Brown, Elizabeth Broadbent, Maartje Abbenhuis-Ash and Siah Hwee Ang.

Staff packed the main lounge at Old Government House on 30 July to help celebrate the University's excellent performance in research, and to pay tribute to some of the people who have contributed to this over the last 12 months.

Though the formal presentations were to the winners of the University's Early Career Research Excellence Awards and Best Doctoral Thesis Awards, Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon spoke also of the whole year of "outstanding research performance" – with results from the Performance Based Research Funding showing "that of 600 A-rated researchers in the entire country, fully one third are located at this University".

Stuart spoke of the new Faculty Research Development Funds, established during 2007 with a total value of \$10 million to support staff in enhancing their research performance; the PreSS accounts, also newly established, to provide funding support for PhD research; and the programme for Major Items of Research Equipment – "aptly named 'MIRE'".

He summarised the University's excellent performance in terms of contracts and research funding, and paid tribute to the many staff who had received national and international awards.

Winners of the Early Career Research Excellence Awards each received a certificate and a research grant of \$30,000. Professor Jane Harding, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), said in presenting these awards that many established and very successful researchers on staff had spoken about how receipt of one of these awards had provided a critical platform to launch their independent research careers.

She expressed her hope that the awards being presented would "help do likewise for this evening's winners".

Professor Gregor Coster, Dean of Graduate Studies, in presenting the Best Doctoral Thesis Awards and in congratulating the five winners, gave recognition also to their supervisors, and to all those nominated.

"Nomination is in itself an achievement," he said.

Of the five Best Doctoral Thesis winners, only

Mark Bolland and Branislav Jovic were able to be present to accept their awards. The remaining three were all overseas.

Early Career Research Excellence Award winners

Dr Maartje Abbenhuis-Ash

History: Faculty of Arts

For: A history of European neutrality, 1815-1945

Dr Siah Hwee Ang

Management and International Business: Faculty of Business and Economics

For: The impact of competitive intensity on alliance and acquisition strategies

Dr Gavin Brown

Faculty of Education

For: Teachers' thinking about education: Reflections on OECD future schooling scenarios

Dr Elizabeth Broadbent

Psychological Medicine: Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

For: Increasing public acceptance of healthcare robots

Dr Debbie Hay

School of Biological Sciences: Faculty of Science

For: Characterising the pharmacology of rodent amylin receptors

Best Doctoral Thesis winners

Mark Bolland

Medicine: Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

For: Studies of the pathogenesis and treatment of secondary osteoporosis

Main supervisor: Associate Professor Andrew Grey;

Co-supervisor: Professor Ian Reid

Tzenka Dianova

School of Music: National Institute of Creative Arts and Industries

For: John Cage's prepared piano: The nuts and bolts

Main supervisor: Associate Professor Tamas Vesmas;

Co-supervisor: Professor Heath Lees

Retrospective 1883-2008

... in brief

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Thursday, 20th December, 1894.

Proposed Expenditure for 1895			
Professor Salaries	£ 2800	-	-
Registrar	200	-	-
Caretaker	100	-	-
Professor Assistants	208	-	3308 - -
Gas, Coals, & Cleaning	48	-	-
Stationery, £24 Office £16	40	-	-
Insurance	24	9	11
Water Rate - City Council	14	-	-
Kates - Kapiti £11 : 14 : 5			
Taupiri 15 : 13 : -			
Whakatane - - - -			
Waitemata 2 : 9 : -	29	16	5
Periodicals for Library	7	12	6
Annual Examinations	8	10	7
Printing Catalogue and Library	15	-	-
Miscellaneous	4	10	7
Unavoidable Expenditure			£3500 - -
Grants already made for Books	29	-	-
Library, additional, say	13	7	6
Lecture Requisites	100	-	-
Printing	100	-	-
Prizes	22	1	-
Repairs	60	-	-
Telescope	50	-	-
Printing of Library Catalogue	15	-	-
Advertising	20	11	6
Safe	10	-	-
Proposed Total Expenditure			£4200 - -

Proposed Expenditure for 1895, Auckland University College, Council Minutes, 1894, p.196.

Branislav Jovic

Electrical and Computer Engineering: Faculty of Engineering

For: Synchronisation techniques for single and multiple-access chaotic communication systems

Main supervisor: Dr Charles Unsworth; Co-supervisors: Associate Professor Poul Nielsen, Dr Waleed Abdulla, Dr Akshya Swain

Ute Knoch

Applied Language Studies and Linguistics: Faculty of Arts

For: Diagnostic writing assessment: The development and validation of a rating scale

Main supervisor: Professor Roderick Ellis;

Co-supervisor: Dr Michael Barlow

Christian Röver

Statistics: Faculty of Science

For: Bayesian inference on astrophysical binary inspirals based on gravitational-wave

measurements

Main supervisor: Associate Professor Renate Meyer;

Co-supervisor: Dr Nelson Christensen

Eco-Minds opening

Applications are now open for students wanting to represent New Zealand at the biennial Eco-Minds Forum 2009, to be hosted jointly by Bayer New Zealand and The University of Auckland. A major environmental youth programme run in partnership between Bayer and the United Nations Environment Programme, the forum involves students from countries throughout the Asia-Pacific. It will take place in Auckland and Rotorua from 25-30 May with a theme of "Sustainable energy systems: Challenges and opportunities".

Bayer is seeking three delegates to represent New Zealand, with all expenses to be met by Bayer. Applicants must be New Zealand citizens enrolled in a New Zealand tertiary institution, aged between 18 and 24 (on 25 May 2009) and actively involved in environmental or sustainable development activities. They are required to write an essay of approximately 1000 words on a set topic, and provide information about themselves and projects they have been involved with. Inquire to ecominds@ppr.co.nz or phone 09 441 8591.

Twenty years on from Cartwright

Key figures involved in the cervical cancer inquiry will speak at a one-day conference marking the twentieth anniversary of the Cartwright Report. "Twenty years after the Cartwright Report: What have we learned?" will be hosted by the Faculty of Law and held at the Hyatt Regency on 29 August. The conference will consider regulatory and legal changes arising out of recommendations in the Report, and ask whether those changes have served their intended purpose of offering greater protection to patients, and whether further changes are needed. Speakers will also examine more broadly the lessons of the "unfortunate experiment" and the Cartwright Report in an age where medical advances regularly create new ethical and legal dilemmas.

Prestigious appointment for Peter Lee

UniServices CEO Dr Peter Lee has been appointed to the Government's Growth and Innovation Advisory Board. (GAIB). This is a prestigious appointment to a highly influential Government-appointed board, established in 2002 to provide the Government with high level, independent advice on growth and innovation issues. GIAB's secretariat, which is part of the Ministry of Economic Development, explains that the "Board exists to provide high level, independent strategic advice to the Prime Minister and senior Ministers on growth and innovation issues". It also acts as a catalyst for effecting change, and a mechanism for integrating perspectives and building consensus on growth and innovation issues.

New international role for Marston Conder

Professor Marston Conder (Mathematics) has been elected Vice-President (International) in the new Council of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

Dr Di McCarthy, CEO of the Royal Society of New Zealand – previously Pro Vice-Chancellor (Equal Opportunities) and Associate Dean of the Faculty of Science at The University of Auckland – says the society wishes to “raise its profile, influence and reputation internationally and to enhance its working relations with international academies, for the benefit of New Zealand science and technology.

“Marston is an excellent choice for the position not only because he is a highly-regarded international mathematician but also because he has given long service to the Royal Society.”

He has served on the Academy Council since 2003, for the last 18 months as president. He has also served on the Royal Society Council since 2004.

“Marston will make a wonderful ambassador for the Royal Society of New Zealand,” she says.

University on show

Courses and Careers Day, when prospective students flock to the University in huge numbers, is on Saturday 30 August (9am-3pm).

The event is for secondary school pupils, mature students, anyone else interested in university study and their families. They can check out courses and the careers into which they lead.

Some 150 lectures will be presented along with tours, performances and entertainment. Faculties and service divisions will be based in the Owen G. Glenn Building, the School of Engineering, the Kate Edger Information Commons and the Recreation Centre with many staff involved on the day.

Free buses will bring visitors from as far away as Whangarei and Tauranga as well as from across Greater Auckland.

The printed programme, which has been widely distributed to schools, is available from the Call Centre, 0800 61 62 63. It is also online at www.coursesandcareers.auckland.ac.nz

The day is being coordinated by Lisa Healy in Marketing (ext 85219, l.healy@auckland.ac.nz)

Campus development

Consultation began on 28 July with staff, student representatives and other stakeholders on some possible proposals for future campus development. Staff are reminded that the deadline for comment is 1 September. The proposals are outlined at www.auckland.ac.nz/campus-development-proposals. Comments are to be emailed to campusconsultation@auckland.ac.nz.

Lifesaving sisters



Julia (left) and Georgina Toomey.

Two sisters studying at The University of Auckland have returned from the Lifesaving World Championships in Germany with a clutch of medals.

Julia Toomey, a Bachelor of Architectural Studies graduate who is now taking a Postgraduate Diploma in Architecture, won one gold medal, four silvers and two bronzes. She snatched first place in the 100-metre rescue medley by a margin of just 0.1 second.

Georgina, two years her junior and an LLB student, gained two silvers. These were in the female tube rescue with Julia and two others, and in the 50-metre manikin carry, where Julia was third.

Together they helped lift the 12-strong New Zealand team to second place with 837 points, not far behind Australia on 889 and well ahead of next-placed Italy on 526. Around 4000 lifesavers competed in Berlin at the pool events and in Warnemunde at the sea-based events.

Their father was a Commonwealth Games swimmer in 1974 and both sisters have swum for New Zealand, Georgina at the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne. Not until “Rescue 2008”, as the world champs in late July were called, had they been in the same national side.

“The highlight for me was being able to race for New Zealand alongside my sister,” says Julia. “We push each other to the limit and are both better for it. It is great being able to celebrate something like that with someone so close to you.”

The Kiwi team was “a very close knit bunch of friends all aiming for the same goal – to win the world championships. Unfortunately we did not

quite get there but we gained a lot and came a very close second.”

The Toomeys spent nearly three weeks away from New Zealand and their full-time studies. In the months leading up to the event they each devoted around 20 hours a week to training.

Julia organises friends “to sort out notes for me while I am away, and my lecturers have been very understanding. Although I know that I will be heading back into a massive workload to try and catch up!”

The shock post-Germany was even ruder for Georgina. Less than 24 hours after landing back in Auckland she faced a one and a half hour exam in equity. Jet-lag notwithstanding it “went far better than I expected”.

The competing pressures of surf lifesaving and study are, for her, a bonus. “Being constantly busy makes me much more motivated and I have to utilise my time efficiently.”

Julia agrees. “You have to think of it as a part-time job and be very, very organised.”

“It is also fantastic having something outside sport – a challenging but rewarding degree – to work towards,” says Georgina. “I know that once I have finished with lifesaving I will have something behind me. Education for me has always been of the highest importance.”

On completing her Law degree next year she intends pursuing a legal career.

Meanwhile Julia will be working towards a Master of Architecture (Professional) in 2009 to qualify as an architect. Her ultimate ambition is to set up her own firm specialising in sustainable design.

Making a mark in Malaysia

The first cohort from The University’s initial venture into an offshore twinning programme recently received special recognition at a ceremony in Malaysia.

The 24 students who graduated with a Bachelor of Education TESOL in the May graduation ceremonies were among those further honoured by the Malaysian Secretary General for Education at

a completions ceremony in Kuala Lumpur.

The BEd (TESOL) programme was initiated by Professor Rod Ellis (Applied Language Studies and Linguistics) and is a joint venture between the Faculties of Education and Arts. Students study half their courses in Education and the rest in Arts, including papers in linguistics and language teaching. The entire programme is supervised and

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moderated by The University of Auckland, which oversees the teaching in Malaysia at the International Languages Teacher Training Institute (IPBA).

The programme is also a wider partnership between The University of Auckland, Victoria University of Wellington, Queensland University of Technology, Macquarie University, and University College, Plymouth, England. Each student received a full scholarship from the Malaysian government for the four-year degree programme, and was among 124 graduates who had the opportunity to study at one of the five international partner universities.

International scholarships are highly sought after in Malaysia, with more than 100,000 applicants this year for just 5,000 places. There are five cohorts in the University's contract, with the final cohort beginning this year.

The University of Auckland programme is taught in Malaysia for the first and final years of the course and students come to Auckland for the second and third years. Dr John Hope, education director for the programme, says this provides an invaluable opportunity for total immersion not only in the English language but also another education system.

University of Auckland graduate Cheryl Ng received one of five Excellent Student Awards for her academic and teaching achievements during the programme, and was also selected to present the valedictory address on behalf of the 125-student group. Now teaching English in an upper secondary school in Malaysia, she says her time here was an invaluable chance to see the best aspects of two education systems.

"Our lecturers always told us to observe how things are done in New Zealand," she remarked, "and then see what is best for our country. They reminded us to adapt the methods we've learnt to suit our local classes."

Examples of innovative teaching adaptations generated in their first six months of teaching were presented by two Auckland graduates at a recent international conference. Teaching English to reluctant urban teenager students, one Auckland graduate utilised construction of Facebook pages to motivate students to write in English.

Another graduate described teaching the indigenous Orang Asli people in an isolated jungle environment where the students did not want to attend school to learn the official Malaysian language Bahasa, let alone English. He found he could initiate learning by joining the students at the local fishing hole after school and introducing Bahasa and English terminology to the fishing context.



From left are Professor Raewyn Dalziel, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Cheryl Ng and Dr John Hope.

The recent visit to New Zealand by the US Secretary of State led to calls for her arrest for war crimes, with the suggestion that a citizen's arrest be made, and a practical response from police that anyone who sought to get through the security screen to arrest Ms Rice was likely to find substantial obstacles in their way.

The underlying question is what can be done in New Zealand if a war criminal happens to land here.

The starting point is the concept of national sovereignty: basically, the nation where a crime is committed has the authority to deal with it, and other nations have no responsibility to try crimes that occur outside their territory. There may be extradition provisions allowing the arrest and return of suspected criminals to the jurisdiction where their offence allegedly occurred, but that is where the trial should take place.

However, there are several exceptions to this principle of territoriality. So, for example, engagement in the slave trade outside New Zealand has for long been an offence in New Zealand, and the Crimes Amendment Act 1995 introduced provisions making serious sexual offences committed against children outside New Zealand punishable in New Zealand.

In the context of war crimes, there are various other instances of extra-territorial jurisdiction. The Geneva Conventions Act 1958 makes it an offence punishable in New Zealand to commit a grave breach of the Geneva Conventions governing conduct during war. Those involved in torture outside New Zealand (including inciting torture by others, which might apply to government officials who make it policy to torture) commit an offence against the Crimes of Torture Act 1989, which was enacted in order to comply with the UN Convention Against Torture. And the International Crimes and International Criminal Court Act 2000 allows New Zealand to cooperate with the International Criminal Court and also makes provisions relating to the trial and punishment in New Zealand of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes committed outside New Zealand. Common to these provisions, however, is that the Attorney-General must agree to prosecutions going ahead.

Arresting someone suspected of these crimes over which New Zealand has extra-territorial jurisdiction is a separate matter. The 2000 Act allows the arrest of suspects being sought by the International Criminal Court, the mechanism being an arrest warrant issued by the District Court, following which there is a process to determine whether the person should be surrendered to the ICC. But what if the offence is to be tried in the courts in New Zealand, as is possible under the 2000 Act or under the Geneva Conventions Act or the Crimes of Torture Act? Judges have powers to issue warrants of arrest (authorising a police officer to carry out the arrest). Arrest without warrant is possible under the Crimes Act 1961, but there

are important differences between what police officers can do and what those who are not police officers can do under what is commonly called a "citizen's arrest".

In short, the police can arrest anyone they have good cause to suspect has committed an "offence" punishable by imprisonment. An offence is anything punishable under the Crimes Act or any other statute, and so includes transgressions of the statutes creating extra-territorial offences: the key phrase becomes "good cause to suspect".

The arrest power of the "citizen" (which covers anyone in the country, not just citizens) is much more limited, and somewhat lacking in clarity. Anyone may arrest a person in the process of committing any offence against the Crimes Act carrying three years' imprisonment or any sentence if they are committing it at night. Although "offence" is defined as being one contrary to the Crimes Act or any other statute, the citizen's arrest power is limited to offences against the Crimes Act, leaving unclear whether this covers offences under other statutes or not. More importantly, protection is only afforded to those who carry out a citizen's arrest when the offence is being committed. I won't even mention the problems that arise because of diplomatic immunity.

The net effect of all this is that police advice not to try a citizen's arrest for war crimes is sound: the proper course would be to try to persuade a judge to issue an arrest warrant. This did happen in the context of an Israeli general alleged to have taken part in conduct that breached the Geneva Conventions Act, though the warrant was never enforced because the Attorney-General refused to consent to the prosecution: see *Wakim v Ya'alon*, *NZ Herald*, 1 Dec 2006.

Kris Gledhill (Law)

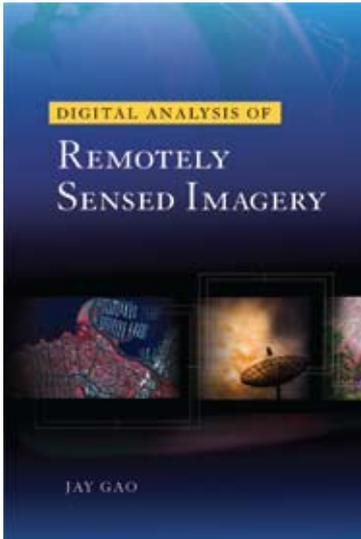
High honour

The last issue of *University News* reported that Distinguished Professor Dame Anne Salmond had been elected a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy.

At the time *University News* had not yet learned that Professor Peter Phillips (Economics) has also been elected a Corresponding Fellow.

For scholars in the humanities and social sciences this is a similar distinction to that of their peers in scientific disciplines who are elected to the Royal Society of London.

Peter is currently Sterling Professor of Economics and Professor of Statistics at Yale University, where he has been from 1979. Since 1992, he has held a part-time position in the Department of Economics at The University of Auckland, and visits the department two or three times a year.



Remote sensing image analysis

Published by McGraw-Hill Professional, *Digital Analysis of Remotely Sensed Imagery* by Dr Jay Gao (School of Geography, Geology and Environmental Science) is a milestone in advancing the knowledge of remote sensing image analysis.

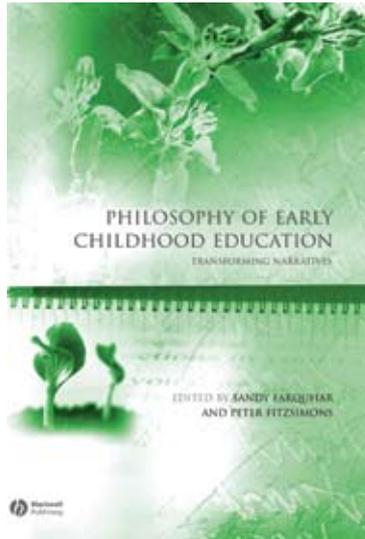
When Jay took up the position of lecturer in this area, he faced the difficulty of finding a suitable textbook for his teaching. This forced him to start his curriculum development from scratch. Nearly two decades of ceaseless efforts, in conjunction with findings of his own research project, have culminated in the publication of this 736-page book that provides comprehensive and authoritative coverage of the various topics in image analysis.

It fundamentally overcomes the defects of the few existing books in this area.

This milestone publication has dramatically expanded our knowledge of how to extract information from satellite imagery accurately in the digital environment, in the light of emerging satellite imagery, better computer algorithms, and powerful software packages.

It also incorporates the most recent advances in sensing technology and innovative analytical methods. More importantly, it identifies the most recent trends in image analysis, and points out the direction of future development in this constantly evolving field, given the emergence of non-imaging LiDAR data, global positioning systems, and the ever increasing applications of geographic information systems.

Marketed internationally, this book will be suitable as a textbook for upper level undergraduate and postgraduate students, as well as a useful reference for geoinformatic scientists and practitioners alike.



Children to the forefront

Since before the Enlightenment, people have been philosophising about how best to educate children.

Now a new book co-edited by Sandy Farquhar (Education) – with independent researcher Peter Fitzsimons, a PhD graduate from the University – offers critical insight into current issues affecting early childhood education.

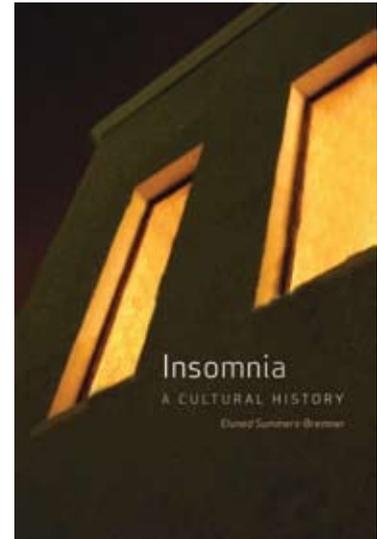
In developed countries around the world, governments are encouraging women to return to work, creating an increased demand for quality early childhood services. But what is best for women, children and families?

Philosophy of Early Childhood Education – Transforming Narratives, published by Blackwell Publishing, offers an original analysis of some competing and conflicting theories of early childhood education. This is important in a society where intensive government involvement suggests that early childhood education has taken on a greater social, political, and economic importance.

This international publication contains peer-reviewed articles from a diverse range of leading educators in New Zealand, Australia, the USA, Britain, Finland, Sweden and France. What they have in common is the desire to question what counts as received wisdom in childhood education theory and practice, and a preference to acknowledge the complex and unique creations that are our children.

As of 2012 all early childhood educators in New Zealand will need to hold a formal qualification and be registered. Sandy agrees that while this is an important benchmark to reach, we need to think about the best way to structure early childhood policy and funding to provide the best possible early childhood experience.

“We have brought together some deep thinking at a philosophical and policy level about what children and families need,” says Sandy, “because presently the real push is coming from market-driven forces instead of what is best for the people concerned.”



Insomnia

America’s National Sleep Foundation claims that problems as various as anger, stress and obesity may be caused by lack of sleep.

Attempting to put such claims in historical perspective, *Insomnia: A Cultural History* by Dr Eluned Summers-Bremner (English), considers how sleeplessness appears in the art, literature and social arrangements of earlier cultures.

Beginning with insomniacs appearing in Homer’s *Iliad* and *Odyssey* and the Mesopotamian epic *Gilgamesh*, the study goes on to consider how the literatures and art of China, India, Japan and Europe up until today have portrayed the sleepless state.

Insomnia can be difficult to understand because it is the absence of oblivion, in which one state that is dark to us, not knowing why we cannot sleep, forbids us access to another: unconsciousness.

Insomnia traces a decline in the western world’s ability to understand and express the activity of dark and unconscious states to the eighteenth century. Sermons aligning sleep with slothfulness, widespread consumption of coffee and sugar, the fostering of gossip, political debate and newspaper reading in London’s coffee houses late at night, all helped create an environment unfavourable to sleep.

But insomnia was also exacerbated by new and complex meanings associated with darkness in the period. The first venture capitalists, obsessed with the future value of their investments, did their dealing in the coffee houses while their trade was underwritten by the dark barbaric practice of profiting from the labour of unseen African and Caribbean slaves.

As the west became less literate in the active, material processes occurring within or by means of darkness, its ability to understand sleep’s absence was passed to medicine. Yet the medical profession’s endorsement of the products of pharmaceutical companies may divert attention from the ways our culture itself generates the conditions for insomnia.

Contrary to many of the quick solutions of our world, managing insomnia requires us not only to learn about the body’s complex placement in time – biochemical and social – but also to learn how to yield to it.

From the collection

Often mistaken for part of the architecture, Don Driver's *Untitled Construction* (1982) is both simple and spectacular.

It is one of seven art works by different contemporary artists commissioned by Pat Hanly in 1982 to complement the design of the new School of Architecture building.

Known for his ability to exploit the suggestive power of combinations of ordinary things, Driver was given a dark corner of the foyer to animate. Fixed to the wall at the top by a system of five towel rails, vinyl sheets in the three primary colours of red, yellow and blue and the secondary colour of orange, create a bright four-metre fall of colour down the wall. Floating freely in front like a set of mirrors for a caged bird are three suspended steel panels which turn slowly in space with wind currents, reflecting alternately the work and its surrounds.

Taranaki-based Driver trained as a dental technician and then worked for a paint and wallpaper merchant in New Plymouth, and is self-taught as an artist. His six-month bus trip across the United States provided first-hand experience of the colour field paintings of American abstraction, and the assemblages of Pop artists which motivated him to "not to copy, but to make an equivalent from materials around me".

Often described as a regional artist, Driver transforms everyday materials to leap beyond their mundane origins into the realm of art. As a child he

always wanted to be a magician – "the inexplicable and magical have always appealed to me", he explains – and his works often use unexpected juxtapositions. As the manager of a fertiliser works who provided materials to Driver remarked: "It is a great achievement for a fertiliser bag to become a work of art – and a surprising one."

One of the lessons that Driver learned through his close observation of American expressionism was that colour need not be placed in the service of form but could assert its own identity. In this work, the proximity of the complementary colours orange and blue helps them enhance each other's strength. Recycling discarded tarpaulin material ("Used is a criteria" as Elizabeth Smither notes in her poem, *Pouch for Don*) Driver finds his colour ready-made. He affects an informality which seems casual, but the bands of colour are carefully measured out against each other, their distance from the wall and each other balanced to create shadows and depth. By hanging shiny panels in front of the colour, Driver invites a reflective response.

Driver instructs people to stop looking for meanings in his work, saying "I am simply exploiting colour and form in relationship one to the other. What you see is what the painting really is. There is no story behind it. No inner significance." This work keeps the play between warm and cool colours constant but its free-floating steel parts offer change, and a different effect to every viewer.

Lynda Tyler

Art



Don Driver (born 1930)
Untitled Construction, 1982, mixed media, five vinyl sheets and three suspended steel panels, 3087 x 2090 x 640mm

Conference showcases the University



Left to right are three of the people who had most to do with the success of the conference: Professor Elaine Wainwright (Theology), Pervin Medhora (Theology Registrar) and Trista Krock from SBL in the US.

Enthusiastic feedback has confirmed that overseas visitors here for the International Congress of the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) returned to their home countries with strongly favourable impressions both of the conference and of the University.

The Congress, hosted by the School of Theology

and held in the Atrium and lecture theatres of the Faculty of Engineering, brought together more than 475 participants from New Zealand, Australia, Oceania, Iceland, Hong Kong, the United States, Britain and elsewhere.

When asked about its highlights, most participants focused not only on the chances to

extend their understanding of their own and related disciplines, but also on the comfort and convenience of the venue, which facilitated interaction, both formal and informal – and on the technology in the lecture theatres which allowed for effective delivery of information.

"It was very well-organised – and what facilities!" wrote Monica Melanchthon from India, who leads the newly-created Society of Asian Biblical Scholars, which held its first meeting at the congress.

For University of Auckland PhD student in Theology, Anthony Rimell, the proximity of the lecture theatres to each other was a bonus. "There have been enjoyably serendipitous sessions that I have popped into and found something unexpected. I picked a couple of sessions just by choosing a door and going in. That was a way of seeing things I might otherwise not have seen."

The report now published on the SBL website makes special mention of the "great ceremony" of the powhiri at Waipapa Marae, "the cross-disciplinary dialogue and interaction between scholars from different organisations", and the "legendary" Kiwi hospitality, with thanks from SBL to "the School of Theology and The University of Auckland for all of their efforts and support in helping create one of our most successful meetings".

SBL is the world's largest international scholarly organisation in Biblical studies. Auckland is only the second Australasian venue chosen for its international congress in more than ten years.

What's on

FRIDAY 15 AUGUST

Department of Philosophy seminar
Michael Morreau: *Comparative overall similarity*. 3-5pm Rm 207.501, Arts 2.

SATURDAY 16 AUGUST

Exhibition talk
1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Ceramics commentator and curator Moyra Elliot describes developments in NZ ceramics during the 1960s and 70s - the era of New Vision. Queries to gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz

Film evening
6pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Chris Knox, a connoisseur of weird films, presents a free late-night programme of apocalyptic cinema that tracks the dubious legacy of Irwin Allen's *The Swarm*. Queries to gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz

MONDAY 18 AUGUST

Master of Creative Writing (MCW) information session
1-2pm Rm 509 Arts 1. For those planning to apply for the 2009 MCW (deadline 1 October), a chance to discuss your application questions and learn more about the programme. All are welcome. For MCW information, see www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/creativewriting

TUESDAY 19 AUGUST

Winter Lecture series 2008: Challenges for research in modern academia
An Hertogen, PhD student; postgraduate student representative on the Board of Graduate Studies, UoA and Bridget Kool, PhD student, School of Population Health, UoA: *Challenges facing graduate researchers*. 1-2pm Maidment Theatre. Chair: Prof Jenny Dixon, Planning, UoA.

School of Music seminar
Dr Nelson Wu: *Messiaen's dynamic Mozart*. 1-2pm Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds St. Queries to d.lines@auckland.ac.nz

Bioengineering research seminar
Dr Jennifer Siggers, Bioengineering Department, Imperial College, London. *Oscillating flow in a deformed sphere: Application to motion of the vitreous humour*. 4-5pm Rm 421 W-301, ALR5.

Inaugural lecture
Prof Annamarie Jagose, Film, Television and Media Studies: *Orgasmology*. 7pm Conference Centre, 22 Symonds St.

WEDNESDAY 20 AUGUST

Becoming more assertive
9am-4.30pm Rm 336, Level 3, Bldg 810, 1-11 Short St. Knowledge and skills for staff to communicate assertively with different people in a variety of situations. Bookings and queries to ext 89630 or b.hoskin@auckland.ac.nz

Department of Philosophy graduate seminar
Shahin Soltanian: *Categorisation of theistic arguments in post-Islamic Arab and Persian tradition*. 4-6pm Rm 501, Bldg 207, Arts 2.

THURSDAY 21 AUGUST

Dept of Electrical and Computer Engineering research seminar

Assoc-Prof Montse Najar: *Communication systems based on impulse radio ultrawideband (IR-UWB)*. 11am-2noon Rm 3.401, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds St. Queries to a.hu@auckland.ac.nz

Holy Communion
12.30-12.50pm Maclaurin Chapel, 18 Princes St. A weekly Holy Communion service will be held today led by the Maclaurin Chaplain.

Inaugural Lecture
Prof Alistair Gunn, Physiology: *Saving babies' brains*. 5.30-6.30pm (refreshments from 5pm) Robb Lecture Theatre, Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, 85 Park Rd, Grafton.

Inaugural Lecture
Prof Michael Davies, Dean of Engineering: *Engineering the Earth*. 6.30pm Lecture Theatre 1.439, Level 4, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds St.

Alice Griffin Shakespeare Fellow and Hood Fellow Lecture
Prof Jean Howard, William E. Ransford Professor of English, Columbia University: *Shakespeare and the tragedy of his time and ours*. 6.30pm Lecture Theatre, OGH. Followed by refreshments.

FRIDAY 22 AUGUST

An introduction to Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi
9am-1pm Rm 336, Level 3, Bldg 810, 1-11 Short St. Workshop for staff to gain an understanding of the history and implications of the Treaty of Waitangi in the University context. Bookings/queries to ext 89630 or b.hoskin@auckland.ac.nz

Department of Philosophy seminar
Sondra Bacharach: *Wanted dead or alive: The puzzle of posthumous art*. 3-5pm Rm 207.501, Arts 2.

MONDAY 25 AUGUST

Teaching and Learning workshop for academic staff

Dr Gavin Brown, Education: *Engaging students in the classroom: Beliefs that make a difference: Secondary students thinking about assessment*. 12-1pm CAD Seminar Rm, 5th Floor, 76 Symonds St. Hosted by Ian Brailsford. The implications for university assessment practices will be discussed. Register to cadreception@auckland.ac.nz

TUESDAY 26 AUGUST

Winter Lecture series 2008: Challenges for research in modern academia
Dr Tracey McIntosh, Senior Lecturer, Dept of Sociology and Co-director, Nga Pae o te Maramatanga, UoA: *Cross cultural research dynamics*. 1-2pm Maidment Theatre. Chair: Prof Dame Anne Salmond, Maori Studies and Anthropology, UoA.

Bioengineering research seminar
Hayley Reynolds, Auckland Bioengineering Institute: *3-D visualisation and analysis of skin lymphatic drainage patterns in melanoma*. 4-5pm Rm 421 W-301, ALR5.

WEDNESDAY 27 AUGUST

Department of Philosophy graduate seminar

Jonathan McKeown-Green and Justine Kingsbury: *Definitions: Does disjunction mean dysfunction?* 4-6pm Rm 501, Bldg 207, Arts 2.

Public lecture
Sir Kenneth Keith: *1883 to 2008: Law and legal education: Then and now*. 6pm Stone Lecture Theatre, Faculty of Law, 17 Eden Crescent. Refreshments will be served in the Staff Lounge, Faculty of Law from 5.15pm. RSVP to ext 85971 or lawreception@auckland.ac.nz

THURSDAY 28 AUGUST

Griffins morning tea
10am-12noon Parentspace, 4 Alfred St. Come and meet other parents who share similar experiences of raising children whilst studying. Queries to spro@auckland.ac.nz

Dept of Electrical and Computer (ECE) Engineering research seminar
Dr John Pollard: *Wireless sensor area network*. 11am-12noon Rm 3.401, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds St. Queries to Patrick Hu, ext 84535.

Holy Communion
12.30-12.50pm Maclaurin Chapel, 18 Princes St. A weekly Holy Communion service will be held today led by the Maclaurin Chaplain.

Inaugural Lecture
Prof Wayne Cutfield, Liggins Institute: *The indelible fetal footprint*. 5.30-6.30pm (refreshments from 5pm) Robb Lecture Theatre, Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, 85 Park Rd, Grafton.

Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

Fully-furnished rooms including linen, available now in spacious, sunny Mt Eden house. One stage on bus to University. Osp and in well lit street. Starting at \$165 pw including expenses. Two living areas, 5+ bthrms, Sky TV, Wireless Internet, washer and dryer. Postgraduates or O/E studying. Phone (021) 823-494 or 620-5649.

Herne Bay. Three-bdrm house, fully-furnished, available for short-term rent until mid-November. New kitchen, very tidy bthrm. Faces north with flat, enclosed, private back yard. Suitable for children. Five minutes drive to the city. Rent by neg. Phone June on 376-1168.

Pleasant and friendly flatmate wanted to share with two others - one professional and one mature student - in a new, light and sunny house in Waterview, just 12 minutes by car from the central city. Off-street parking. Quiet surroundings. \$120 pw + expenses. Phone ext 87383 or (021) 135-5306.

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

Do you have a house near Auckland Hospital to rent? House needed May/June 2009 to Dec 2009/Jan 2010. Kiwi doctor currently working in Tasmania needs NZ home for six months whilst she works at Auckland Hospital in the Palliative Care Team. She is coming with two children and house-husband. A three-bdrm house with garden would be

fantastic. Please contact Robyn on robyn1602@gmail.com or +61 36 222 6308.

Going away? Bachelor of Physical Education student and his wife and baby looking to housesit in Auckland area, preferably long-term. Available immediately. Can provide references. Contact Tasi on (021) 209-0684 or tasitasi29@hotmail.com

Mature couple with teenage son require house-sitting for six months or longer while house is built. Home owners for 20 years, excellent care will be given. I have a garden maintenance/landscape business so would enjoy maintaining your garden and looking after any animals. References available. Phone Marilyn on 365-2308 or email home@petromont.co.nz

PROPERTY FOR SALE

House for sale, stunning original Californian bungalow, 3-4 bdrms, polished floors, 134 msq, newly painted, garden, suit academic couple and family, Gladstone Zone, near Unitec, quiet side street, Phone Andrew on (09) 849-7212 or (021) 054-8768.

Northcote Point sunny brick and tile unit. Two bdrms, one bthrm, huge storage/studio with 12-foot stud, lock-up garage, completely redecorated, dishwasher. Registered valuation \$390,000. LIM report available. Asking price \$338,000. Phone owner on 480-0680 or email jerri.nz@xtra.co.nz

FOR SALE

Timber wood lathe, Teknatool Nova TL 1500, 8 speed swivel head. For sale on an 'as is, where is basis'. Tenders invited. Closing date 15 Sept 2008. For enquiries please contact Dave MaCallum on 373-7599 ext 88488.

MISCELLANEOUS

International travel insurance. The AUS recommends that members use Uni-Care insurance for sabbatical, other study overseas. Uni-Care offers 15% off standard rates for travel out of NZ to all university staff, full-time tertiary students and their families. Uni-Care Educational Travel Insurance, PO Box 32-167, Devonport, ph (09) 446-1166, fax (09) 445-8832, email insure@uni-care.org Website www.uni-care.org

Need a builder? Renovations, home maintenance and repairs, new building work. Call Jack Patana on 620-0643 or (021) 206-4159. References available from UoA staff. Registered builder and master tradesperson. Or call Dan Plunket of DP Build, (021) 269-4094.

Volunteers needed for a study by PhD candidate studying issues for ageing in NZ. Predicting future needs and choice for care is important considering the projected population increase for over 65s in NZ volunteers, currently aged 45 to 65 years old, with the experience of caring for or supporting older relative or friends are needed. Participants would meet in a focus group setting to discuss experiences and thoughts on future ageing and support needs. For more information contact Helen Malcolm on (09) 373-7599 ex 87934 or h.malcolm@auckland.ac.nz