

# THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

# news

Fortnightly newsletter for University staff | Volume 38 | Issue 22 | 21 November 2008

## Campaign leads the way



From left: Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon; Campaign Patron Jenny Gibbs; Campaign Chair Geoff Ricketts; Chancellor Hugh Fletcher; Campaign Patron John Graham; and Campaign Patron Chris Liddell.

More than 400 guests gathered at the “Leading the way” Campaign launch event on 14 November for an evening of celebration and aspiration, culminating in the announcement of a \$100 million fundraising target and attainment of \$48 million to date in gifts and pledges.

Attendees included some of the major benefactors to the University, members of the Campaign Leadership Committee, University senior management and staff representatives, alumni and friends, and student table hosts.

The Chancellor, Hugh Fletcher, welcomed guests to a “momentous night for the University”.

“This evening we formally announce the launch of a major Campaign which looks to the future of The University of Auckland, to the young men and women who are currently studying here, and to the generations to come.”

The Chancellor awarded Dr John Buchanan and Bridget Liddell Fellowships of The University of Auckland. John is Chair of the London-based UK Friends of The University of Auckland, while Bridget chairs the US Friends of The University of Auckland. These organisations support the University’s philanthropic activities in their respective countries. Both recipients are members of the Business School’s Advisory Board with

connections that began with their respective studies at the University.

Professor Richard Faull told guests the story of how he and his team advanced a dream to scientific reality thanks to philanthropic support from the Freemasons NZ and family trusts.

“With this vital funding – I call it dream-money – we ended up producing irrefutable scientific evidence from our human brain studies that, against all dogma, the human brain can repair itself by making new brain cells.”

Postdoctoral Fellow Dr Jessie Jacobsen, a member of Richard’s research group, spoke of her “blue skies” PhD project – the successful creation of a unique model of Huntington’s disease. “This will hopefully have the downstream effect of fast-tracking treatments for this and other neurological disorders in the clinic.”

An audiovisual presentation depicted the five themes that underpin the Campaign goals: the health of our nation; the development of our children; the growth of our economy; the future of our cities; and the expression of who we are.

“In this time of economic uncertainty, it has never been more important than it is now to fulfil the goals of the “Leading the way” Campaign and

(continued on page 2)

## Key events

### Why we need scientists

What can scientists offer to New Zealand, apart from publishing excellent papers in good international journals? On Monday 24 November, Paul Callaghan (Professor of Physical Sciences in the MacDiarmid Institute for Advanced Materials and Nanotechnology at Victoria University of Wellington) will discuss this provocative question in a public lecture, presented by emerging researcher group Stratus. He will explain why some of the principles of science, like persistence, scepticism and striving for excellence, could be useful for society as a whole. And he will question – with a view especially on New Zealand’s researchers – the habit of scientists to indulge themselves in comfortable mythology. The lecture, entitled “21st century New Zealand science”, will begin at 1pm in B15 Lecture Theatre, Library Basement, 5 Alfred Street.

### Punctuation Festival

The annual three-day pre-Christmas Punctuation Festival, designed to demystify English punctuation, is open to all staff and students who register at the Student Learning Centre. Beginning and ending with an examination of the grammatical English sentence, the high-octane full-on Puncfest explores English punctuation marks from the dratted apostrophe to the chaotic colon. The Puncfest takes place at the Student Learning Centre, Level 3, Information Commons, on 26, 27 and 28 November from 10am to 1pm. Organisers are Jenny Buxton and Dr Hamish Cowan. Go to [www.slc.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.slc.auckland.ac.nz) to book.

### How to be green

Advice will be offered on “Going green” at a free community event on Saturday 29 November. Environmental experts will present interactive seminars to promote green living in many areas, from buying and investing to renovating and travelling. Concurrent sessions will cover topics such as “How to eat green”, “How to have a green funeral” and “How to be green parents”. “Going green”, organised by the Centre for Continuing Education, will run from 9.30am to 4pm at the School of Engineering, 20 Symonds Street. For more information and to register visit [www.goinggreen2008.co.nz](http://www.goinggreen2008.co.nz) or phone 0800 864266.

### In this issue

- 2 | Scientists honoured
- 4 | Fieldwork in Mongolia
- 5 | Owning water

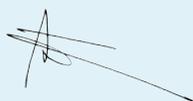
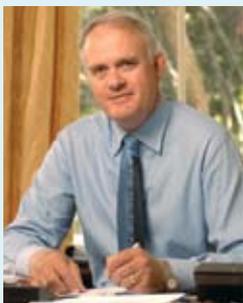
## From the Vice-Chancellor

On 14 November, we launched our first University-wide fundraising Campaign. Entitled "Leading the way", the Campaign seeks to raise \$100 million to support our teaching, research and community service activities. During the "quiet phase" of the Campaign (run since 2006) we have raised over \$48 million. I am therefore very confident that the \$100 million target will be achieved during the "public phase" of the Campaign, which ends in 2012. Following our "World Class Business School" campaign, which also achieved widespread government and community support, this will be a considerable achievement.

A Campaign of this type requires a great deal of effort by many people both within and outside the University. We have established a major Advancement group within External Relations to create the expertise required to underpin ongoing philanthropic activities. This includes staff who represent the University in the US and Europe. Foundations to support the process and to steward gifts have been set up in New Zealand, the USA and the UK, along with appropriate mechanisms for tax deductible giving in those countries and others. And a huge effort has gone into developing relationships with donors and others who are interested in supporting the University in a variety of ways.

During research prior to establishment of the Campaign, prospective donors told us they wanted to see the University making a real difference. The Campaign will therefore focus on building philanthropic partnerships in five key areas: health, especially biomedical research; child development, including physiology and education; improved economic development; better infrastructure, planning and design for our cities; and issues of national identity and culture. These are by no means our only areas of interest, but they are themes for which many donors have indicated a high level of support.

What will this mean for our staff and students? It will immediately create enhanced support for some, but it will also change the culture of University giving in New Zealand, allowing us over time to build significant endowments. That will in turn help to insulate us from the vagaries of government funding and ensure that we can always invest in excellence. I am grateful to those of you who have brought us to this point and encourage all staff, students and friends of the University to support the Campaign.



## Auckland scientists honoured by peers

Two University of Auckland scientists have been honoured with awards at this year's Royal Society of New Zealand Honours Dinner on 11 November at Te Papa, Wellington.

Associate Professor Ross Ihaka received the 2008 Pickering Medal for technology innovation, and the 2008 Liley Medal for medical and health science was awarded to Professor Ted Baker.

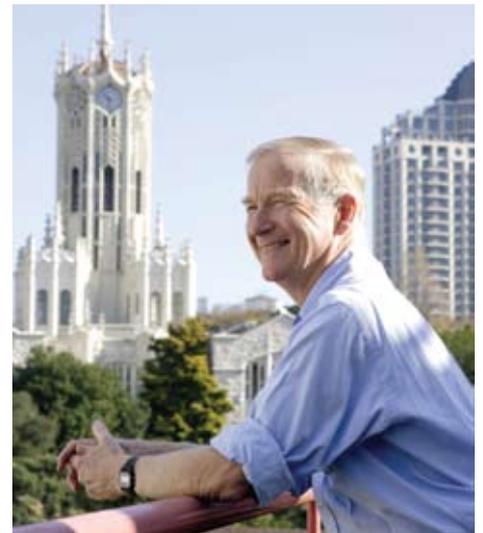
Ross, Associate Professor at the Department of Statistics, was recognised with the Royal Society's Pickering Medal for his part in developing the statistical computing software *R*. This free software, created over 15 years ago by Ross and colleague Robert Gentleman (now at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle), is used by academics, industry and government worldwide to analyse numerical data and present it in graphical forms. Computer programmers globally have contributed to *R*, with more than 1000 industry-specific add-ons created.

Ted, Professor at the School of Biological Sciences and Director of the Maurice Wilkins Centre for Molecular Biodiscovery, was awarded the Health Research Council of New Zealand's Liley Medal for his work on *Streptococcus pyogenes*. *S.pyogenes* is a bacterium which causes common infections such as sore throats and tonsillitis. Ted's research investigates the molecular structure of the bacterium with the aim of developing new drugs against infection by *S.pyogenes* and other related bacteria. As Ted is currently on sabbatical at the Institute of Molecular Biosciences of the University of Queensland, Professor Joerg Kistler, Director of the School of Biological Sciences, accepted the medal on his behalf.

"We congratulate Ted and Ross on their awards," says Professor Jane Harding, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research). "These awards demonstrate the high calibre of research at the University, and its importance to understanding and creating solutions for both New Zealand and



Ross Ihaka.



Ted Baker.

global issues."

Royal Society recognition was also given to Professor Diana Lennon of the School of Medicine, awarded the inaugural Dame Joan Metge Medal for excellence in research and contributing to capacity building and new knowledge. Dr Maurice Curtis of the Department of Anatomy with Radiology was awarded the Hamilton Prize for excellence in early career research.

(story continue from page 1)

to help create in this country a university of genuinely world class achievements that have a positive impact on people's daily lives," said the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stuart McCutcheon.

Together with the Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor and the Campaign Patrons – Chris Liddell, Jenny Gibbs and John Graham – the Campaign Chair, Geoff Ricketts, announced the target and attainment. He paid tribute to all those who had given to the University in so many ways over the past 125 years.

"Without your constant interest, your expectations for this grand seat of higher learning, and your unflagging willingness to see our University progress in a highly competitive world, we would not have achieved what we have already."



Dr Jessie Jacobsen speaks at the Campaign launch.

# Retrospective 1883-2008

In our first column in January we asked two questions. If you have kept an eye on the columns over the course of the year you will now know that the University's caretaker was paid £100 in 1895, and that the Men's Common Room was the only place smoking was allowed according to the 1933 Regulations for the Conduct of Students.

These are tiny details in the rich and complex 125-year history of The University of Auckland. We hope the columns published this year have provided interesting and occasionally humorous historical details of this kind, together with a broad picture of some key features of the University's past.

In selecting the material for the columns we wanted to address different aspects of the University's history – academic, cultural and social life, staff and students, the University's campuses and buildings, its faculties and divisions, and its controversies and celebrations.

Sources for the columns include the archival material held in the University Library and gathered by Professor Keith Sinclair ahead of his comprehensive *A History of the University of Auckland 1883-1983*. We also used the archived minutes of Council and Senate (and Senate's predecessor, the Professorial Board), the Registrar's holdings of Auckland University College and University of Auckland Calendars, Convocation addresses, *Craccum*, New Zealand newspaper accounts, *Hansard*, the Auckland City Library and, of course, archived copies of *The University of Auckland News*.

Pressure on space meant that some favourite discoveries could not be included. For example:

- Extracts from the parliamentary debate over the Auckland University College Bill in 1882. The question was whether the colony was in a

position to afford this extravagance – this little "toy for Auckland";

- Accounts of capping stunts, such as the appearance of small cars in lecture theatres;
- The *Craccum* editorial from 1945 suggesting that because "few women continue to make full use of their extensive training" they should be restricted to 10 per cent of the annual intake...

We hope we have highlighted some of changes that have occurred in the University since 1883. We have very much enjoyed researching the material over the course of the year and would recommend anyone interested in the University's history to visit the recently created New Zealand and Pacific Digital Collection on the Library's LEARN network, including an electronic version of Sinclair's *A History of the University of Auckland* and a number of historical photos.

The "Retrospective 1883-1983" columns published during 2008 can be found on the 125th Jubilee celebrations section of the University website.

Enjoy the last column in the *University News* issue 23, that will come out on 5 December.



Heather Merrick (left) and Nina Herriman from the Vice-Chancellor's Office who compiled the "Retrospective 1883-2008" columns.

## Inimical to digital culture

Stringent copyright laws, which are growing ever stronger, are damaging our culture in the digital age according to a leading cyberlaw expert.

Professor Lawrence Lessig from Stanford University argued this point strongly in a recent public lecture at the University on "Keeping culture free: The choices law and technology force us to make about the future of the Internet and the progress of cultures".

Our culture is based on referencing the works of others, he said. Non-commercial uses of copyright works should not infringe copyright, and "remix" – the combining of existing works to create something new – is "simply the writing of the 21st century".

Professor Lessig, creator of the creative commons licence, explained the awkward fit of copyright law in the digital age. Traditionally most works protected by copyright could be used without infringing copyright: a book could be read, lent, sold, and even used as a pillow – all without infringing copyright. But as each use of a digital work involves the making of a copy, permission must be sought for almost any use of copyright material in a digital format.

He discussed the move from people being passive consumers of culture, reading books, going

to movies and watching television, to being active participants in our culture, both making and remixing it. What could only be achieved in the past by a professional with expensive and cumbersome equipment is now possible for anyone with a \$2000 computer and an Internet connection.

He observed that anyone under 20 who cannot shoot a video, recombine it with other material including a soundtrack and upload the final product to YouTube is regarded as not normal. Yet due to draconian copyright laws these normal people are labelled and treated as criminals for the fundamental human act of creating and sharing.

Professor Lessig began his lecture by describing how our culture and its education system are based on taking the words and ideas of others, for example, Shakespeare and other writers and poets. We take the text of these authors and quote, cite and paraphrase their words and combine them with our own.

He did not call for abolition of the copyright system, rather proposing that it be scaled back.

Professor Lessig's lecture was jointly hosted by the Faculty of Law, the Legal Research Foundation and the Department of Commercial Law. His website is at [www.lessig.org](http://www.lessig.org)

## ... in brief

### New trial to prevent heart disease

A new trial looking at a single pill to prevent cardiovascular disease is starting in New Zealand.

The PILL pilot trial, led in New Zealand by the Clinical Trials Research Unit, is testing a single pill which combines four drugs to reduce potential cardiovascular risk factors. The study is part of an international trial of 400 people in New Zealand, Australia, the Netherlands, the UK, the USA, Brazil and India.

"Cardiovascular risk is measured through a combination of factors, including higher than normal cholesterol and blood pressure, smoking, family history and being overweight," says Professor Anthony Rodgers, lead investigator on the New Zealand trial. "By identifying patients with increased risk early, and treating the risk factors with a single, once a day tablet, we hope it's possible to reduce the number of people developing chronic cardiovascular symptoms and needing long-term care."

The trial is looking for volunteers who display multiple cardiac risk factors, but are not currently on associated medication. Volunteers in Auckland and Gisborne may be recruited directly through their healthcare providers, or volunteers in Auckland may self-refer via the website [www.pillproject.org](http://www.pillproject.org)

### Documentary conference

The seventh biennial documentary conference will be held at the Gus Fisher Gallery on 22 February 2009. This one-day event – a collaboration between Massey University (School of Fine Arts) and The University of Auckland (Film, Television and Media Studies), in association with the DocNZ Film Festival – forms part of the DocNZ Summit (22-25 February). It will interweave selected documentary presentations by filmmakers, photographers and artists with academic papers.

Film/videomakers, photographers and artists are invited to show documentary works in production (rough-cuts, representative takes, edited sequences, etc) or completed works not yet shown widely. An open discussion will follow presentations.

The organisers are also seeking papers on documentary within film studies, history, anthropology, cultural studies, art history, media studies, fine art studies, etc. Selection will be determined through a peer-review process.

Proposals, which must be sent in electronic format by 15 December, should not exceed 250 words, should include a CV for each applicant for each submission and visual documentation if appropriate.

Please send all proposals to both email addresses: [a.goldson@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:a.goldson@auckland.ac.nz) and [j.j.distefano@massey.ac.nz](mailto:j.j.distefano@massey.ac.nz)

## First Associate Dean, Pasifika

The University of Auckland has appointed New Zealand's first Associate Dean, Pasifika to the Faculty of Education. Dr Meaola Amituanai-Toloo, Associate Director of the Woolf Fisher Research Centre and a Lecturer in the School of Arts, Languages and Literacies at the Faculty of Education, will support Pacific students studying within the faculty.

The appointment is an integral part of the University's dedication to improving educational outcomes and opportunities for Pacific peoples.

Meaola says she sees her role as a bridge that connects the schools in the Faculty of Education, all of which aim to help future teachers raise student achievement. "The Pacific Island population is increasing in New Zealand. Our greatest challenge is to think about teaching in innovative ways to enable these students of today to realise their full potential and participate fully in our country's future."

Born and educated in Samoa, Meaola had a career in business before becoming a primary teacher and education researcher. As a dedicated postgraduate student, she completed her masters degree while working part-time as an education researcher. Her PhD and research interests are centred on literacy and achievement for Samoan primary school children in bilingual and mainstream education.

## Fulbright award for BTech graduate

Jessica Rodrigues, a University of Auckland graduate, has been awarded a PhD scholarship worth \$350,000 by the Fulbright programme.

Jessica, who graduated with a Bachelor of Technology degree in May 2008, is one of only 40 students worldwide to receive the prestigious 2009 International Fulbright Science and Technology Award. It is the US government's most prestigious and valuable education scholarship, awarded to promising graduate students in science, technology or engineering.

The scholarship will allow Jessica to study for a PhD at a university in the USA. Her preferred destination is California, one of the world's largest biotechnology hubs, where she hopes to research the biotechnology potential of plants and microbes.

For the last six decades the Fulbright programme has supported educational and cultural exchange between graduate students, research scholars, teachers, artists and professionals from New Zealand and the United States. On 22 November, Fulbright New Zealand will celebrate its 60th anniversary with an afternoon symposium at the Business School's Owen G Glenn Building. See [www.fulbright.org.nz](http://www.fulbright.org.nz) for more details.

# Unearthing ancient truths



Judith Littleton (right) excavating a burial mound in Mongolia. With her are Steven Young (The Center for Northern Studies at Sterling College, USA) on left and Dave Hunt (Collections Manager, Smithsonian Institute).

**Were these people nomadic or did they belong to a settled culture? Were the mounds they raised mainly for burial? Did they see the horse as a means of transport or as a source of food?**

These are some of the questions being raised in the study "Bronze age burials in Northern Mongolia", for which Associate-Professor Judith Littleton (Anthropology) has received a Faculty Research Grant.

Judith and masters student Michael Dickson have, over the last two years, been involved in fieldwork in Mongolia. They are excavating burial mounds just south of Siberia, casting light on the cultures that flourished near Lake Baikal. Their work is part of an international project in association with the Mongolian Academy of Sciences and the Smithsonian Institute.

The objects of their study are about 3000 years old. Judith calls this "the period just before the establishment of true pastoral nomadism". Much of their work involves seeking evidence that burials occurred throughout the year, which would mean that people died locally. "So you're looking for signs of population numbers and population density", she says, "and also for evidence of lifestyle that might indicate seasonality and people moving from place to place... for instance whether

you could discern from skeletons evidence of people riding horses."

Michael says that "for anthropologists it's nice" that the tombs in question contain little but human bodies. He focuses his work on the taphonomy - the whole process of decay of a body, meaning everything that happens between an individual's dying and the remains being recovered. The number of skeletons being unearthed challenges the assumption of some earlier archaeologists that the burial mounds were largely symbolic or were territory markers.

Is there a particular difficulty in doing this sort of research from New Zealand? Judith notes that archaeologists have always worked in field sites distant from their institutional bases. "The logistics are complicated but they're actually not that hard," she says. Michael adds: "The digital methods of data collection make it easy to share information between the partners involved."

As for the Faculty Research Grant, Judith describes it as "fantastic".

"It enables us to undertake two more years of fieldwork and involve other students as assistants. It has the added advantage of acting as 'leverage' with international partners because it's a sign of international collaboration, and commitment."

## Ingenio out next week

The Business School's new Entrepreneurial Challenge, Walters art prize winner Associate Professor Peter Robinson and 2008 Montana Fiction Award winner alumna Charlotte Grimshaw.

These are just some of the stories in the Spring issue of *Ingenio* out next week. There are also two major research features, one looking at how the University is advancing medical technology across several disciplines and one profiling two psychologists' fascinating research into the nature of memory.

This time round *Ingenio* will also incorporate an eight-page Campaign insert featuring details of the newly launched \$100 million fundraising

campaign as well as profiles of donors.

If staff would like a copy of *Ingenio* please contact Tamara Lobzina, Communications and Marketing by email [t.lobzina@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:t.lobzina@auckland.ac.nz) or telephone ext 87467.





The Industrial Information and Control Centre (I<sup>2</sup>C<sup>2</sup>), a joint initiative between The University of Auckland and AUT University, was officially opened on 6 November by Vice-Chancellor Stuart McCutcheon (above).

Hosted at the University's Faculty of Engineering Building in Symonds Street, the Centre brings together process control experts of both institutions and provides new opportunities for collaboration in seeking research funding and consulting projects.

Process control, plant-wide management of production and process simulation have a major role to play in New Zealand's industrial future as a significant percentage of New Zealand export industries, like dairy, food, pulp and paper and metals, depend on automation.

To support this growth, I<sup>2</sup>C<sup>2</sup> aims to provide a national focal point for research, graduate training, continuing education and industry consultation in these areas. The Centre wants to improve both learning and on-the-floor expertise in industrial

information and control by offering a great range of education and industry opportunities for those working in New Zealand's process and manufacturing industries.

The Centre's team is a multidisciplinary group of chemical, mechanical and electrical engineers with backgrounds in aluminium, manufacturing, biotechnology, and oil and gas processes. The team has close links with the University's Light Metals Research Centre, New Zealand industry, and international universities and companies.

Directors of the new Centre are Dr Brent Young, Associate Professor in The University of Auckland's Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering, and Dr David Wilson, Associate Professor in Electrical Engineering at AUT.

Not only the students of both institutions will benefit from the concentration of expertise, but also instrument technologists, process engineers and industrial business planners. Both The University of Auckland and AUT will deliver undergraduate and postgraduate courses in automation control specialising in instrumentation and process control.

"From better management of processes, improvements to the bottom line and the increasingly important environmental sustainability, turning data into industrial information for control is able to dramatically improve our ability to compete globally," the Vice-Chancellor said at the Centre's opening.

One of the Centre's recent project successes was the implementation of Advanced Process Control at the Mangere Wastewater Treatment Plant in 2006. I<sup>2</sup>C<sup>2</sup> researchers developed a novel dissolved oxygen control system that saved WaterCare \$400,000 per year.

## Research on a Pacific neighbour



The workshop's organisers and their keynote speaker (from left to right): Dr Yvonne Underhill-Sem (Development Studies), Dr Christine Dureau (Anthropology), Dr Ward Friesen (Geography, Geology and Environmental Science), Dr Orovu Sepoe, Dr Mark Busse (Anthropology), Associate Professor Peter Sheppard (Anthropology) and Dr Anita Lacey (Political Studies).

If someone asks whether you can show them "Melanesia" on a map, could you? If not, you are in good company with most New Zealanders who know little about the western Pacific archipelago consisting of Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Fiji.

"Melanesia is still a relatively unknown area and doesn't get much attention either in the media and

in academic life," explains Political Studies lecturer Dr Anita Lacey, "even though it is a region that is one of our close Pacific neighbours and distinctive in its history of settlement, languages and trade and development issues from regions like Polynesia."

Together with five colleagues from the Faculty of Arts, who are engaged in research in and about Melanesia, Anita organised a two-day "Melanesia: Conversations workshop". They wanted to create a space for scholars from different disciplines to talk about their uncommon field of research.

More than 35 researchers and graduate students from The University of Auckland and the Australian National University, Massey University and the University of Waikato attended the workshop. Inspired by presentations from diverse disciplines, the participants discussed the identity and community, cultural heritage and political economy of Melanesian people. The keynote speaker was Dr Orovu Sepoe, Senior Lecturer in Political Science at the University of Papua New Guinea.

"This inaugural workshop was just the beginning," Anita says. She and her colleagues intend to offer a monthly seminar on Melanesian themes and a workshop once a year. "We want to continue building an interdisciplinary network of scholars researching in and on Melanesia."

## Owning water

On 8-12 December, the Department of Anthropology will host an international conference on the themes of "Ownership and appropriation".

The issue of who owns key resources is a long-standing source of human conflict and, in a globalising world, finite resources are being rapidly depleted while also increasingly privatised and enclosed. Conflicts over water are particularly common: for example, angry civil protests followed the privatisation of the water industry in the UK, and in the late 1990s, similar moves in Bolivia led to widespread rioting and violence.

Recent anthropological research on water issues in Australia shows that within larger national and international debates lie many localised battles over water ownership. With continual intensification in agriculture, expanding urban demands for water and hydroelectricity, and the introduction of water trading as a speculative activity, almost every source of fresh water in Australia is subject to competitive claims.

The major loser in this competition is the environment, with over-abstraction of water bringing massive ecological degradation. But, as the conflicts reveal, the ownership and appropriation of water is not just a concern for environmentalists, it is also a major social and political issue. In Australia, as elsewhere, the interests of less powerful groups are often marginalised in the drive for economic growth.

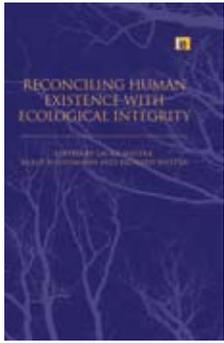
Anthropologists and other social scientists have argued that property relations are also social and political relations, and it is plain that the ownership of a resource as essential as water is fundamental to political and economic empowerment. Thus "who owns water" is not just a legal issue: it is also intensely revealing of the realities of relationships between groups.

Ethnographic research also shows that although concepts of ownership are usually framed in legal terms, there are many ways of owning and appropriating things. For example: domestic water users apply political pressure to resist restrictions on their access to supplies; conservation groups challenge the ownership of farmers with irrigation allocations by promoting a moral claim for sufficient "environmental flow" to maintain aquatic ecologies. River catchment groups manage creeks and riparian areas to combat the effects of industrial pollution.

All of these counter claims bring the "legal" ownership of water into question. They suggest a need for broader and much more fluid concepts of property, and for theoretical approaches that recognise ownership and appropriation as processes that take place within wider social and political interactions.

These ideas, and many other aspects of ownership and appropriation, will be explored in the upcoming anthropology conference, details of which are available at [www.theasa.org/asa08](http://www.theasa.org/asa08)

Professor Veronica Strang  
Anthropology



## Reconciling Human Existence with Ecological Integrity

Professor Klaus Bosselmann, Faculty of Law, has edited *Reconciling Human Existence with Ecological Integrity: Science, Ethics, Economics and Law*, Earthscan, London together with philosopher Laura Westra, Emerita professor at the University of Windsor, Canada, and economist Richard Westra, professor at Pukyong National University, South Korea.

It was launched at a recent international conference with the same title, at Humboldt University in Berlin. Klaus was the main organiser of the conference. Together with Laura Westra, Klaus is Co-Chair of the Steering Committee of the Global Ecological Integrity Group, a network of 250 environmental scientists, philosophers, economists and lawyers from around the world.

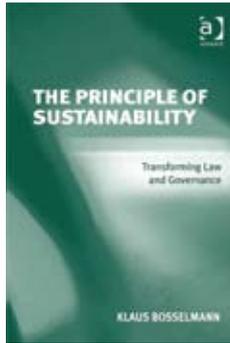
Ecosystems have been compared to a house of cards: remove or damage a part and you risk destroying or fundamentally and irreversibly altering the whole. Protecting ecological integrity then aims for maintaining that whole – an aim which is increasingly difficult to achieve given the ever-growing dominance of humanity both in terms of population numbers and impact on the global environment.

The book has been described as the definitive examination of the state of the field now, and how societies must develop in the future. With contributions from members of the Global Ecological Integrity Group, the book takes an interdisciplinary approach to ecosystem research and its relevance for economics, law and policy. Among the covered topic areas are the scientific and ethical foundations of ecological integrity, human health, environmental justice, climate change, energy, biodiversity, economics, indigenous rights, human rights and global governance.

## Swedish royalty visits

Her Royal Highness Princess Birgitta of Sweden – King Gustaf's 71-year-old sister – visited the Business School last month to attend a one-day symposium on achieving sustainability through collaboration.

Experts in sustainability from Sweden and The University of Auckland discussed how Sweden, which is recognised internationally as a leader in managing environmental change, has identified specific steps that need to take place over the next 50 years to ensure business practices are transformed from "business as usual" to "business as sustainable".



## The Principle of Sustainability

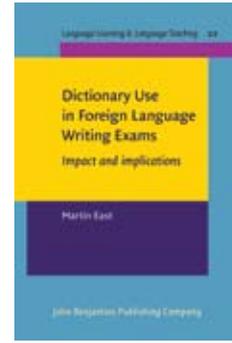
*The Principle of Sustainability: Transforming Law and Governance* (Ashgate Publishing, Aldershot, UK) by Professor Klaus Bosselmann, Faculty of Law, investigates how sustainability informs the universal principles used in domestic and international law.

The first chapter discusses ancient cultures and pre-industrial European traditions to demonstrate the meaning and fundamental importance of ecological sustainability. The following chapter examines how governments and judicial review systems (including New Zealand) have interpreted the principle of sustainability.

The remaining chapters focus on the relationship between sustainability and other fundamental concepts of society: justice, human rights, the state, civil society and citizenship.

The book's overall thesis is that only a strong sense of citizenship can bring about the necessary transformation of law and governance. Like social justice and human rights, sustainability reflects a public morality that governments and business have yet to embrace.

The book's foreword is written by Judge C G Weeramantry, former Vice-President of the International Court of Justice, who is widely recognised as the pioneer of international sustainability law. In April 2009, Judge Weeramantry and Klaus will jointly teach a course at the Faculty of Law.



## Support for language learning

Learning another language has always been a challenge, but it may be easier thanks to a new book by Dr Martin East (Faculty of Education, School of Arts, Languages and Literacies).

*Dictionary Use in Foreign Language Writing Exams: Impact and Implications* provides an in-depth analysis of what happens when intermediate language learners use a bilingual dictionary when writing.

Dictionaries are frequently promoted to people learning a foreign language. However teachers often talk about their students' inability to use dictionaries properly – especially when they write. Martin asks "Does a dictionary really make a difference, and how can using one in exams be both useful and fair?" This book paints a comprehensive picture of the differences a dictionary makes and brings out the implications for language learning, teaching and testing practices.

It draws on three studies in which New Zealand participants took writing tests in two test conditions – with and without a dictionary. They were asked what they thought of the two tests, and their performances and opinions were analysed.

This book's release is timely, as from 2010 there will be a new requirement that all students in Years 7-10 should be offered the opportunity to learn another language. Team Solutions at the Faculty of Education is helping schools prepare for this, and Martin is teaching and co-ordinating courses within the faculty for current and intending teachers of languages.

## Obituary: Professor David Cole

This is taken from a tribute delivered to Senate by Professor Iain Martin, Dean of Medical and Health Sciences.

It is with great sadness that I have to inform Senate of the death on 8 September of Emeritus Professor David Simpson Cole CBE, BMedSci, MBChB, FRCS, FRACS, the second Dean of The University of Auckland's School of Medicine.

Having grown up in Waihi where his father was a local doctor, David attended King's College in Auckland.

He moved from Auckland to the University of Otago in the 1940s, where, as a student of Knox College, he attained his BMedSc and later an MBChB.

Prior to his association with The University of Auckland, David had established a reputation as

an eminent, highly capable cardio-thoracic surgeon based at Greenlane Hospital. David was one of a small number of surgeons who pioneered cardio-thoracic surgery in New Zealand alongside Professor Sir Brian Barratt-Boyes.

Through 1967-1968 with the Auckland Medical School moving to a reality, David was among the first appointed to the new school's teaching staff, and over the next few years took up the role of Associate Dean of Graduate Studies before being named Deputy Dean.

In 1974 when the inaugural Dean Professor Cecil Lewis stepped down just as the first class was to graduate from the Auckland Medical School, David was appointed as Dean, a role he held for a remarkable 15 years.

# From the collection

## Art



Bill Hammond (b.1947), *Twirl*, 1995, Acrylic on paper, 830x1145mm, The University of Auckland Art Collection

The mid-1990s were an important period for Lyttelton-based painter William (Bill) Hammond, whose established practice was undergoing a distinct evolution that resulted in the iconic bird paintings he is now famous for.

In contrast to his current popularity and active exhibition schedule, Hammond's exhibiting career began slowly. Graduating from the University of Canterbury's School of Fine Arts in 1966, he didn't start exhibiting his paintings until the 1980s, working for a period as a toymaker and first exhibiting wooden constructions in the late 1970s.

Throughout the 1980s he developed a trademark style of exaggerated multiple perspectives and layered horizons, stacked and ricocheting at contradictory angles that defy the Western tradition of placing the viewer at the centre of the image. Using a clammy palette of washy reds and yellows, with hallucinogenic fervour, he depicted that decade's claustrophobic

world of suburban neuroses, of marching business suits and preening traders, wailing bedroom singers and gym work-outs, high-rise buildings and designer décor, often captioned with punk rock song titles.

It is now indelibly written into New Zealand's art mythology that, in 1989, Hammond accompanied photographer Laurence Aberhart and painter Gerda Leenards on an expedition to the subantarctic Auckland Islands. His work has not been the same since. Inspired by the pre-human environment, his dribbling paint strokes began to coagulate into the hooked beaks and tapered torsos of birds. A darker palette of mossy green washes and white streaky highlights became guano-stained land-forms and swampy forests. Rows of curling waves roll past, reprising those of Japanese prints – an influence he was able to explore further with a grant to visit Japan the following year.

Hammond is best known for his hybrid bird-people. At first they appeared in scenes reminiscent of his 80s work, loitering in bars or laid out on a table for stuffing. Titled with lines like *Waiting for Buller*, *Buller's Bar*, or *Buller's Table*, these make reference to the 19th-century lawyer and ornithologist Sir Walter Buller, responsible for preservation of thousands of native birds for collections, but also a major contributor to the extinction of many through the same activities.

There is something ominous about Hammond's bird-people, who languish in a mysterious limbo. It is not clear whether they are anticipating Buller's impending holocaust, or if their intent is more malicious, perhaps waiting in revenge. Are they birds that have become like people, or people transformed into birds – evolution or devolution? Eventually the birds would hover in formation or swing from trees, often dressed, decorated or camouflaged in the sumptuous kimono-like foliage designs evidenced in *Twirl*.

When The University of Auckland Art Collection purchased *Twirl* in 1995, Hammond's bird-land was in full swing – in the previous two years he won both the James Wallace Award and the Visa Gold Premier Award. In the same year he painted one of his best-known works, *The Fall of Icarus*, followed in 1996 by his *Placemakers* series.

This work retains some traces of his urban roots, most evident in the ghostly couple crumpling to the ground, the furniture-landscape on the pool table and the psychiatrist's couch where some extinct species unloads its anxieties. Nevertheless, there is a graphic simplicity to this painting, which is in relief to the dynamic activity of his earlier pieces and the dense, floating menageries that replaced them, as if this is the dawn moment when the nightlife is grinding to a halt and the dawn chorus is just starting to stir.

Andrew Clifford

Under David's guidance and management, the Auckland Medical School flourished. In 1976 the school's intake was doubled to 120 students on the strength of a very positive report from the General Medical Council of the UK, and two years later, academic units were established at Greenlane and Middlemore Hospitals.

Through his time as Dean it was not unusual to see him emerge from his office in his white coat and head across to the Auckland Hospital where he maintained his clinical activities as a thoracic surgeon, then witness him dashing back to a teaching class in the same coat.

David (he held a personal chair in Surgery) was instrumental through his deanship in developing the research core and culture that underpins today's faculty, and played a major role in galvanising support for teaching and research activities from the wider community. Much of the

quality art collection the faculty houses was secured under David's direction.

David retired as Dean at the start of 1989, his place being taken by his brother-in-law Professor Derek North. Professor Cole maintained close contact with the Medical School and University, being honoured as Professor Emeritus, while he and his wife Margo were regular and interested participants at every alumni event they could make.

In the 15 years David headed the Medical School, he took it from a fledgling medical training establishment to something much closer to the multi-disciplinary teaching and research-based faculty we know today. This was very much the maturation period for medical training in Auckland, and the faculty, University and medical community in Auckland will long be in the debt of Professor David Cole.



Professor David Cole.

# What's on

FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER

## Cultural Crossings Conference:

*Negotiating identities in Francophone and Anglophone Pacific literatures.* Until 22 November. 9am School of European Languages and Literatures, Level 6, Arts 1, 14a Symonds St. Plenary by Prof Dame Anne Salmond: *Sacrifices from afar: Tahiti and Europe. French accounts of early exploration in the Pacific.* 4pm Rm 709. For conference registration and inquiries, please contact diwalton@ihug.co.nz

## Web 3D and Virtual Worlds symposium

1-4pm Rm IC 420, Kate Edger Information Commons. What do online worlds like Second Life, OpenSim and Wonderland offer for teaching, learning and research in higher education? Invited speakers will present projects they have been working on and engage in panel discussion to explore potentials and pitfalls.

## Friday Night Bar-B-Que

4.30-6.30pm OGH. \$10 for BBQ rump steak, sausage and onion with a tossed green salad, bread and condiments. Queries to Tim Biggs, ext 85341.

## SATURDAY 22 NOVEMBER

### Exhibition talk

Dr Alex Monteith, artist and lecturer at Elam School of Fine Arts, discusses with Fiona Amundsen her portrayal of public spaces. 1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Queries to gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz

## Fulbright NZ 60th Anniversary Symposium

*Creative partnerships* 1.30-5pm Owen G. Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. RSVP to info@fulbright.org.nz

We warmly welcome all alumni of Fulbright and other NZ-US exchange programmes, the wider academic and business communities, and the general public to attend.

## MONDAY 24 NOVEMBER

### Stratus lecture

Prof Paul Callaghan, Alan MacDiarmid Professor of Physical Sciences, MacDiarmid Institute for Advanced Materials and Nanotechnology, Victoria University of Wellington: *21st century New Zealand science.* 1pm Lecture Theatre B15, Library Bldg, 5 Alfred St. Visit [www.stratus.ac.nz](http://www.stratus.ac.nz)

## IEEE distinguished lecturer workshop

Prof Anjan Bose, Washington State University: *The evolution of control and control centres for the smart transmission grid.* 1-4pm Rm 303.257, Science Centre. Queries to Patrick Hu, ext 84535 or email a.hu@auckland.ac.nz

## WEDNESDAY 26 NOVEMBER

### Punctuation Festival

10am-1pm SLC, Level 3, Information Commons. Until 28 November. Visit [www.slc.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.slc.auckland.ac.nz) to book.

The annual three-day pre-Christmas Punctuation Festival, designed to demystify English punctuation, is open to all staff and students who register.

## FRIDAY 28 NOVEMBER

### Building and managing relationships

9am-4.30pm Rm 336, Level 3, Bldg 810, 1-11 Short St. For staff focusing on the art of maintaining effective relationships. Enrol via PeopleSoft HR Employee Self Service (course code HRBMR). Queries phone ext 89630.

## Religious History Association of Aotearoa NZ Conference

*Doing religious history in New Zealand.* Until 29 November. Rm 260-051, Owen G. Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. Cost \$80. Scholarships available for postgraduate students. Queries to Allan Davidson, email ak.davidson@auckland.ac.nz

## Research Information Management System training/refresher workshop

10.30-11.30am Rm 420, Kate Edger Information Commons.

This workshop will cover the new functionality, the APR through RIMS, entering information and getting it back out. Queries to c.reddell@auckland.ac.nz

## SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER

### Going Green 2008

*Green "how tos" for everyday living.* 9.30am-4.30pm School of Engineering, 20 Symonds Street.

Going Green is a day of free interactive seminars by leading environmental experts for green conscious but slightly confused consumers! The event is designed to educate and promote green-living practices and provide environmental insights for the way we work, play and live. To register visit [www.goinggreen2008.co.nz](http://www.goinggreen2008.co.nz)

## TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER

### Retirement Policy and Research Centre Breakfast Briefing

Hazel Bateman, Assoc-Prof of Economics, Director, Centre for Pensions and Superannuation, University of NSW: *Behavioural finance: Choice overload in retirement savings. The paradox of plenty.* 7.15-8.45am Decima Glenn Rm 310, Owen G. Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. Cost \$35. Queries to Tressy Menezes, email rprc@auckland.ac.nz

## Introduction to managing people

Tue and Wed, 8.30am-4.30pm Rm 336, Level 3, Bldg 810, 1-11 Short St. Two-day programme designed to give staff with team leader or supervisory responsibility the foundation skills for managing people. Enrol via PeopleSoft HR Employee Self Service (course code HRIMP). Queries phone ext 89630.

## THURSDAY 4 DECEMBER

### Women returning to work network meeting

1-2pm Federation Rm, OGH. Updates will be provided on policy and resources of interest to staff who have

returned to work from parental leave. Please feel free to bring your lunch. RSVP to Margaret Freeman by 28th Nov to ext 87855 or ms.freeman@auckland.ac.nz

# Classifieds

## ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

**Devonport cottage to rent.** The old police station cottage in the heart of historic Devonport village. Residential street. One bdrm. Totally self contained. Completely furnished with everything, including linen, supplied. Own laundry and BBQ. Six mins walk to the ferry and a relaxing 8-minute harbour crossing to downtown Auckland. Within walking distance of beaches, cafes and supermarket. OSP. N/s. Would suit single, professional woman. \$350 pw. Phone 445 7055 or (021) 050 4992 or email rive@xtra.co.nz

**Furnished townhouse.** Two bdrms and study with courtyard and garden, in Sandringham, just 7-10 minutes from the city and the University, on bus route. Close to shops. Available for sublet from January to December 2009. \$390 pw. Contact (09) 373 7599 ext 86673 or (09) 845 4988.

**Great little studio flat,** sunny, self-contained, available for rent, attached to our villa. Newly refurbished. One dble bdrm with ensuite and separate large kitchen with cooker, washing machine and fridge. Separate entrance with deck and garden. Separate electricity meter. Great location in Remuera, close to all amenities, bus to the UoA goes by at the end of street, two minutes walk away; close to shops, cafes and motorway. The flat is available for long-term or temporary rentals. We can do B&B for short periods. Phone Kiri or John on 524-8916.

**Mt Eden.** Fully-furnished one-bdrm apartment available mid-January until June 2009. TV, DVD, broadband, etc. Quiet, nice courtyard, carpark, 20-minute walk to University, close to bus-lines. \$275 pw. Contact Megumi, (09) 623-3738 or m.inoue@auckland.ac.nz

## ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

**House wanted to rent** (beginning 2009), Titirangi/Glen Eden. For professional couple and family. We are home owners and will be careful, respectful tenants. Minimum three bdrms. Two bthrms preferable. Must be sunny with open aspect and well located. Garage/OSP essential. Ph Roz or Mark, 376 0366 or (021) 124 6960 or email younglarkin@xtra.co.nz

**House-sit wanted.** Academic and professional partner need accommodation while building house. Mid-January to mid-September, or any part of this period would be great (flexible). We will care for pet, plants, lawns etc. Experienced with pets. References available. Titirangi or Auckland Central areas preferred, but any area considered. Please email h.friedrich@auckland.ac.nz

**Professional with one daughter,** looking for accommodation for 4 Dec for 6 to 12 weeks. Very reliable, references available (registered teacher), prefer house-sit. Please contact Pam Hutchins on (021) 0238 8793 or (09) 846 4016 or pamhutchins@xtra.co.nz

**Quiet academic couple from US** on sabbatical at the University with two daughters looking for furnished house for January to July 2009. Prefer inner suburbs. Will consider house-sit or rental. Please contact John at jwilkin@rutgers.edu

**Visiting professor** requires a house or apartment, fully-furnished, for a family of four (two adults, two children) from Jan-31 July 2009. Email Mario.Farard@gci.ulaval.ca

**Young German lawyer** with wife and baby seek furnished 1- or 2-bedroom accommodation for approximately three months, early April-early July 2009 within a 15-minute drive of City Campus/Alfred Nathan House. Car park preferred. Please phone ext 87754 or email ruth.taylor@auckland.ac.nz

## HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

**Absolute beachfront cottage available summer holidays.** Weekly rentals. Delightful self-contained cottage on beachfront at Snell's Beach (one hour north of Auckland, close to Warkworth, Matakana etc). Suitable couple/small children. Own linen. \$100 per night. Contact margh@ihug.co.nz or (09) 480 6213.

**Fully furnished two-bedroom Tutukaka coast cottage** with beach below and Poor Knights views. Bookings available from 29 November to 1 March. \$120 per night, minimum four-night stay, week-long bookings preferred. Phone (09) 434 3123 or email lintsgroup@xtra.co.nz for further information.

## PROPERTY FOR SALE

**Gorgeous in Grafton.** For sale. This classic cottage has been tastefully renovated. Two/three bdrms, one bthrm, 2 x WC. Minutes from CBD, universities, Med School, Hospital, the Domain and Newmarket. Grammar zones. Walk to work and come home to this peaceful city retreat; asking \$575,000. Ph Stuart, (021) 286 0230.

## SITUATIONS VACANT

**Engineer.** Senior with environmental engineering experience wanted to join young dynamic team for an exciting role based in Symonds Street. Visit [www.jobsdirectly.co.nz/37839.php](http://www.jobsdirectly.co.nz/37839.php)

## 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, phone 09 446 1166, fax (09) 445 8832, email insure@uni-care.org Website [www.uni-care.org](http://www.uni-care.org)

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

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