

# Uni NEWS

November 2018

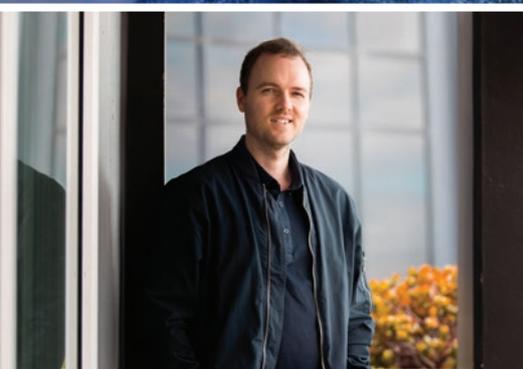


## NAU MAI E CINDY KIRO

Our new Pro Vice-Chancellor Māori



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### WEB MAGIC

You might have noticed the University's website has undergone a major revamp. November staff profile Harrison Black and his team are behind the fresh new look.

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### KHASHOGGI KILLING

Associate Professor Stephen Hoadley looks at the horrific murder of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, asserting that academics and journalists must unite in common cause against victimisation.

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### FERTILITY EXPERT HONOURED

Professor Cynthia Farquhar has been elected to the Royal Society Te Apārangi and is the winner of the Liley Medal for her significant contribution to women's health.

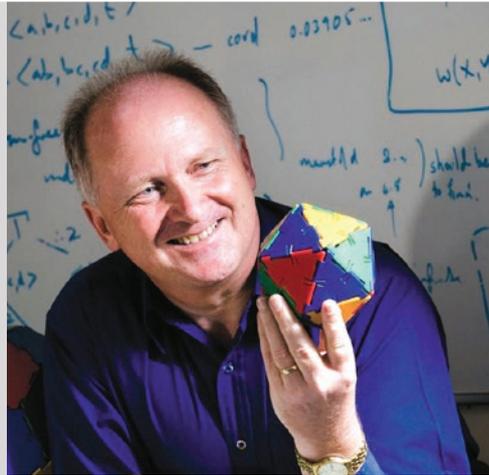
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## JONES MEDAL WINNER

Distinguished Professor Marston Conder has been honoured with a Jones Medal by the Royal Society Te Apārangi for a lifetime achievement in mathematics.

He says a main benefit of mathematical pursuit is “developing the ability to think clearly and logically about complex issues, and be adaptable, as the nature of these issues shift over time”.

He is delighted to receive recognition for doing something driven by his own curiosity and which delivers so much satisfaction.



## SPACE START-UP WINS CHALLENGE

Space start-up ZENNO Astronautics has won the 2018 Velocity \$100k Challenge, the University’s competition for emerging entrepreneurs. Founded by students Max Arshavsky, Sebastian Wiczorek and Will Haringa, ZENNO is developing a propulsion system for small satellites and software that will simplify sending satellites into space. The \$25,000 prize will go towards its initial software product launch in 2019. Solutions to problems at sea, in surgery and in love took out the other prizes.



## MY FRIEND MICHAEL JONES

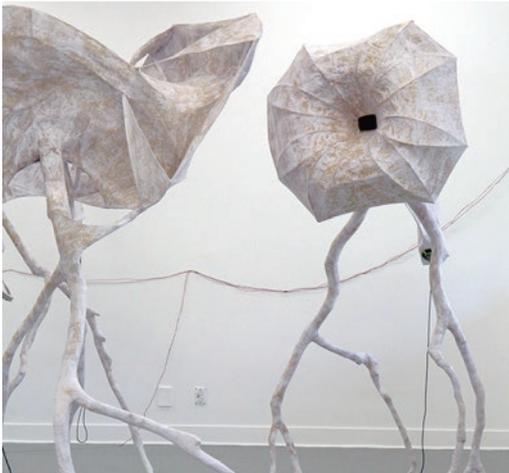
First-time filmmaker Ian Leaupepe, *far right*, a student from the Faculty of Arts, is the co-director of short film *My Friend Michael Jones*, which won ‘Best New Zealand Film’ at the Show Me Shorts Film Festival in October. It also stars CAI dance student Villa Junior Lamanu, who won ‘Best Actor’ in the same awards. Set in Otago, the film features an eclectic ensemble of Polynesian characters dealing with issues relating to anxiety disorder, bullying and suicide prevention. The film is an uplifting tale which promotes the theme of acceptance.



## ELAM GRADUATE SHOW

Head along this month to the annual Elam Graduate Show to experience more than 100 cutting-edge contemporary art projects by final-year students from Elam School of Fine Arts.

The show is on from 10am to 5pm, 22-25 November, across three locations: 20 Whitaker Place, 5 Symonds Street and 25a Princes Street, Auckland. Find out more at: <https://elamartists.ac.nz/exhibition>



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### SUPPORT MORE THAN SCHOLARSHIPS

Recent media coverage on whether New Zealand universities do enough to support disadvantaged students stated that most school leaver scholarships are awarded to students from high decile schools.

While this is true to an extent – although decile is given a weighting – it overlooks the many other ways we support students to attend university.

We have a range of scholarships and admission schemes, including the Academic Potential Scholarships and Undergraduate Targeted Admission Schemes (UTAS), for students who are financially disadvantaged or face other barriers such as being the first in their families to attend university.

And it's not just about offering scholarships. For many students the challenge is qualifying for university in the first place, let alone finding the financial means to do so.

So we invest heavily in a range of foundation and transition programmes to help bring students up to the level of academic achievement required to succeed at university.

These include STEM Online, which puts all of the NCEA science and maths curriculum online to support students and teachers in low decile schools.

### Our writers in London

Paula Morris, Associate Professor in English and Drama (Faculty of Arts), is one of five Māori and Pacific writers who will be showcasing their work in London in November, alongside the high profile *Oceania* exhibition. Paula will be joined by former Auckland Professor of English Witi Ihimaera, among others.

One of the events will be a panel discussion at the Royal Academy, where each of the writers will choose an artwork as a starting point to explore the exhibition's themes.

*Oceania* opened to acclaim at the Royal Academy of Arts in September. It features around 200 works of art from New Zealand, Polynesia, Melanesia and Micronesia and is the UK's first major exhibition of the art of the region.



## PEACE AT LAST 11 NOVEMBER 1918

**The Special Collections First World War centenary website project comes to an end this month on the 100th anniversary of the armistice.**

Launched in August 2014, the website centres on a digitised version of the University's Roll of Honour.

The original Roll, now an archive in Special Collections, was created during the war to record the details of past and present students and staff who had enlisted. By the end of the conflict, it contained information about 720 men and women.

Special Collections staff and other contributors have also written about 60 of those collegians and explored life at Auckland University College during the war years.

Jo Birks, Cultural Collections advisor and centenary website editor, says the project was fascinating and rewarding.

"We digitised the Roll of Honour to make it widely available, so we were pleased when people from as far away as Britain contacted us to share information about collegians or to say they'd learned something new about their relatives as a result of the work we'd done."

The brief biographies showed their diverse lives and wartime experiences.

"We chose people who served in different capacities and a mix between those who survived the war and those who didn't," says Jo.

"One particular story that has stayed with me is historian Deborah Montgomerie's piece about conscientious objector Vivian Ramsay, a stretcher bearer who died in France in 1918."

She says archivist Katherine Pawley's 'college life' pieces revealed the impact of the war on what was a small and close-knit University community.

"Life carried on but student numbers did dip for a time, lecturers enlisted and had to be replaced, some clubs temporarily shut, graduation carnivals and Easter tournaments were stopped and even things like the supply of technical equipment was interrupted.

"And throughout, they maintained the Roll and mourned the absence and deaths of family, friends and colleagues."

Jo says the work has also highlighted the wide research value of the University-related material in Special Collections.

"We used a range of archives, books and periodicals that really helped flesh out this particular subject but they can be mined for so many more areas of research."

The project has ended but the website remains online at: [www.specialcollections.auckland.ac.nz/ww1-centenary](http://www.specialcollections.auckland.ac.nz/ww1-centenary)

*Photo above: All seven of these 1915 Auckland University College Debating Society members served in the war. Kiwi magazine. Special Collections, General Library.*

## PUSHING LIMITS

See our Dance Studies students pushing the limits of body and mind with four exciting performances from 31 October to 10 November. Visit: [goo.gl/v4PGHC](http://goo.gl/v4PGHC) for more information.





## LITERACY CHAMPION

**Improving literacy standards over the summer when many school students lose ground earned Dr Rachel Williamson the title of NEXT Woman of the Year for Education in October.**

The award recognised Rachel's 'Summer Learning Journey', an innovative online programme designed to keep students 'match fit' with their literacy learning over the long summer holidays. She co-designed the free programme in

partnership with the Manaiakalani organisation (a cluster of 12 Auckland schools), enlisted help from a team of educators to blog with the students and then trialled it, initially in selected schools in the eastern suburbs, in 2015.

The results were dramatic, with participants maintaining significantly more literacy 'muscle' than their non-blogging peers. Now in its fourth year, the programme is being used by hundreds of students in 52 schools from Kaikohe to Greymouth. Rachel is a research fellow at the Faculty of Education and Social Work.

## GET YOUR ORDERS IN EARLY

**Our procurement team contracts everything from office equipment to atomic force microscopes on behalf of the University, and the earlier they know what's required, the better job they can do for staff.**

The Strategic Procurement team's mission is to get the best value for money while staying in line with the University's ethics and minimising commercial risk.

Since 2012, the team has completed 217 major procurement projects, while IT procurement adds an additional 45 projects each year.

The combined savings of both teams has been around \$30 million since 2014, which comes from a combination of straight 'cash off the table' or reduced prices, cost avoidance and free products and services.

While these savings are commendable, it's the risk management and avoidance of risk through these projects that's inestimable, says Strategic Procurement Manager David Rees.

However, he says any major expenditure – more than \$100,000 – has to be the subject of a formal procurement process.

"Major capital equipment customers and end users need to advise their requirements early in the year, or even in the year before," says David. "Once approved through respective faculties and

LSRIs, a standard procurement process can take between three and five months and we must manage the work within a tight fixed resource." The largest category of spend is travel, which amounts to around \$22 million per year and includes taxis, trains, planes and accommodation while travelling.

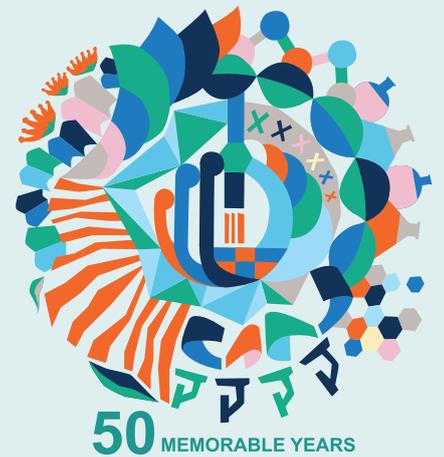
To find out more about the University's procurement policy, go to: [www.auckland.ac.nz/en/about-us/about-the-university/the-university/procurement.html](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/about-us/about-the-university/the-university/procurement.html)

## RUTHERFORD SUCCESS

**Associate Professor Jay Marlowe (Faculty of Education and Social Work) and Dr Tim Angeli (Auckland Bioengineering Institute) both received Rutherford Discovery Fellowships in the 2018 round last month.**

Tim's fellowship will allow him to put a research team together to develop cutting edge diagnostic tools and therapies for debilitating digestive disorders.

Jay will be looking at mapping refugee settlement and how refugees stay in touch with home and family using the internet and mobile phones. The fellowships receive government funding of \$8 million per annum and each fellow is awarded \$800,000 over five years.



## FMHS ALUMNI CELEBRATE 50 YEARS

**Hundreds of alumni from across six schools at the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences reconnected at the recent 50th anniversary alumni weekend (5-7 October).**

Among them were two thirds of the first medical class intake of 1968, many of whom travelled from as far as the US and the UK.

The weekend began with a welcome back reception hosted by Faculty Dean Professor John Fraser, where the website for the FMHS History Project, a historical record of the Faculty compiled by Professor Linda Bryder and her team, was launched.

On Saturday, alumni were offered a full day of activities which included a tour of the Auckland Cancer Society Research Centre, class photos and a special programme of medical talks.

There was also a temporary display of rare medical books in the Philson Library, a pop-up Campus Store and an opportunity to view the new sculpture *Hygeia* by leading New Zealand sculptor and Elam graduate Terry Stringer.

The work was commissioned by the University's Art Collections Committee to mark the 50th anniversary of the Faculty.





## Harrison Black

Harrison is a senior software developer with Information and Technology Services (ITS).

### Did you grow up in Auckland?

Yes, my mother's English, my father's a Kiwi and I have a twin brother who's a teacher, and a sister at university. I went to Takapuna Grammar School and Auckland University of Technology, where I did a degree and postgraduate study in computer science.

### What were you like as a child?

I'm somewhat introverted (proven by my Myers Briggs test results!) and that was certainly the case as a child. While I did visit friends, having my own time has always been my preference. Being a twin (not identical) you do tend to get compared a lot so I was generally a hardworking student.

### A vivid memory of childhood?

I went on a big trip when I was ten because my grandparents saved up to take my brother and I travelling. While we were in Paris, we went up the Eiffel Tower where I managed to nearly faint from dehydration from being in the sun all day. I'll never forget it and I'm fairly conscious of drinking water because of it.

### Your wife is Japanese, how did you meet?

While we were both students, working part time at a supermarket on the North Shore. She speaks excellent English, so while I am (attempting) to learn Japanese, it isn't essential. She's studying for a PhD in social work here at the University.

### Have you lived in Japan?

I've never lived there but I've been there often. My wife comes from Tokyo, where the train system is super-complicated – even people who were born in the city get lost in the stations. But the food is great everywhere you go. Japanese people expect a high standard in their restaurants and they get it. We have considered living there but it doesn't currently suit our situation.

### You also studied Mandarin at school?

Yes I travelled to China when I was 18 and some of the time I was on my own in places like Shanghai, Beijing and Hong Kong. It was very hard, having to manage things like the language and finding your way around. But I think travel is fantastic, you grow as a person and learn so much.

### What do you do, in a nutshell?

I lead a technical team which builds the user experience, data integrations and tools to enable content editors and publishers to do their work on the University's main website [www.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.auckland.ac.nz). Over the past two years, we've embarked on completely updating and refreshing the site.

### Which must be a huge job?

Yes, involving a lot of people from across the University (the Web Presence Improvement Project, aka WPIP) and while that particular programme has finished, it's still a work in progress.

### Why did it need to happen?

It was fairly well known that the site offered a poor experience for all users. It's very important to get it right because it's our face to the world and one of the main ways people find out what the University has to offer; it drives enrolment and recruitment.

### What was your contribution?

The technical team looked at how things could work better. We gathered programme information from the source system, which was originally authored by hand, so there was great potential for error. Now the programme data is populated automatically.

### What changes would we notice most?

We've also enabled the site to work nicely across mobile, tablet and desktop devices, as well as supporting accessibility for all users. People can move around it more easily and there's a smaller technical footprint to maintain. The new site currently has around 5,500 pages, which sounds like a lot but it's a large reduction. This includes consolidating 13 separate websites into our single new website. We won a Vice-Chancellor's Excellence Award this year for our work.

### You're working in Agile. What does that mean?

You work in much shorter chunks towards functionality – sometimes just three weeks. You want to have a 'minimum viable product', something up and running that people can use, then give you feedback on so you can refine it as you go. With 'Waterfall', our previous way of working, it was a much longer process involving development, testing and then finally, a launch to the customer. It could take years, and often by the time you got there, the technology and requirements might have changed.

### Are there any pitfalls in this way of working?

It's important to get a balance between quality and speed, and I think we've achieved that. It's a complete change of mind set in how you work with people and how you approach work, which not everyone may be comfortable with.

### Have you worked well as a team?

Yes I think we've been very successful. We have a fantastic product owner (Penny Collins) who is very supportive and understanding. We also work with the content team led by Frazer Orr, who is great to work with and gives really effective feedback. The best thing has been the trust between team members and stakeholders, which enables open and honest communication.

### What sort of feedback have you had?

It's such a major overhaul from a design and content perspective that people are just blown away by the improvement. The site is easier to navigate and the content is clearer, thanks to the removal of duplication.

### What do you like most about your job?

It's got a good balance between technical tasks and working with people, and you can really see the results. It's also very international. I like being part of a diverse team that involves people from different backgrounds, cultures and age groups.

### What's your best reward work-wise?

People telling us the website is working effectively, looking great and meeting their needs.



Harrison with wife Yayoi on a recent trip.

## NAU MAI E CINDY

**Professor Cindy Kiro (Ngā Puhi, Ngāti Rehia, Ngāti Hine) has taken over the position of Pro Vice-Chancellor (Māori) from Jim Peters, who held the role since 2006.**

Coming from a varied academic background herself – she has an undergraduate degree in social work, a Masters in business and a post-graduate qualification in epidemiology – she is committed to supporting the work already being done to give Māori the confidence to choose university as an option.

“Some Māori families still see universities as elitist, and the big challenge for us is to change that and show we can work in an integrated way for undergraduates, and postgraduates who have studied elsewhere, while providing a world class university experience.”

As the first in her family to go to university, she understands the barriers that can stand in the way; an obvious one being funding.

“Growing up I had two pairs of shoes, sandals for summer, gumboots for winter, that was it. I still remember on my 10th birthday, getting a pair of shiny patent leather shoes, I thought they were the best thing ever.”

Attending university, she says, was the result of wanting a different life from the one she saw laid out for her otherwise.

“I didn’t want to work in a factory or do the jobs that others in my family were doing. I liked finding out information. It’s such a gift to be working in an environment where people are thinking and discovering things.”

The oldest of six, she was born in Whangārei, grew up in South Auckland with her grandparents and went to school in West Auckland. Her parents moved south to find work and better opportunities, as many Māori were doing in the 1960s and 70s.

“My grandparents mostly raised us, they were native speakers,” she says, “but my grandmother was whipped for speaking Māori as a child. She was a very strong, hardworking woman, a force to be reckoned with.”

Her grandparents were both Māori wardens and members of the New Zealand Māori Council movement.

“They worked with others to establish community gardens, which supplied families with fresh fruit and vegetables. They worked with gangs who were replacing their lost families with a new form of family.

“As part of the emerging National Māori Council, they had a new sense of identity. They were strongly committed to their community and the families in them; my values are reflective of their values.”

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*‘ We deserve the best quality education, the best experience, the best jobs, we shouldn’t settle for less.’*



She remembers the time when her grandmother was made a JP at the Otahuhu District Court and the room was full of gang members.

“She knew them all. One of the biggest even called her ‘Ma!’”

After finishing Rutherford High School (west Auckland), she joined the first intake of social workers at Massey University in Palmerston North. She says moving out of the city to a provincial town was a culture shock.

“I felt like I’d landed on another planet at Massey. I was one of only two brown faces in my year (1973) and I missed the diversity and my family in Auckland.”

Some time in Australia with her former partner, where she had her two sons, was the beginning of juggling work and parenting.

“My story is a woman’s story; we multi-task, we adapt.”

Back in New Zealand with her young family, she completed her Masters in business at Auckland and then branched off into health.

“I actually love the sciences, I ended up studying epidemiology and I’ve worked a lot in public health policy, funding and planning for the Auckland District Health Board. And of course, I was the Children’s Commissioner for five and a half years, a job that was very much in the public eye.”

Suddenly, she says, she was public property and everyone had an opinion about what she’d said or done, not all of them kind.

“But there are some wonderful people in the world, wonderful young people, community advocates; there is always hope.”

Hope for a better future and improving the lot of the marginalised is a family affair. Husband Richard Davies is the resident doctor at the Auckland City Mission where he deals daily with desperate people; a disproportionate number of whom are Māori and rough sleepers.

“We Māori should not sell ourselves short. We deserve the best quality education, the best experience, the best jobs, we shouldn’t settle for less.

“The Māori economy is the fastest growing economy in the country, there are some great opportunities there for us in the future. We need to be seizing those opportunities and recognising the amazing talent that exists.”

In particular, she’s keen to encourage Māori into the STEM subjects.

“I really want to get young Māori to believe they are capable and can achieve in areas like engineering and science. Great work has been done to encourage Māori recruitment in medicine and I’d like to see the same done in these other areas.”

Cindy will retain close links to the Faculty of Education and Social Work’s Tai Tokerau campus in Whangārei where she was the director until her new appointment. She’ll also remain involved in her popular Tai Tokerau speakers’ series, which successfully attracted a number of notable people to the campus.

“This region needs good quality tertiary education institutions like Tai Tokerau. My iwi are from Northland, I was born in Whangārei and I do worry that Northland remains one of the poorest regions in the country. There is such amazing

beauty and talent there.”

She will also remain involved in the Welfare Expert Advisory Group, which was established by the Government in May this year to review the welfare system for fairness and equity. Based in Wellington, the group will report on their findings in February 2019.

She’s enthusiastic about seeing the new Te Reo Māori Policy – launched last month – embedded and celebrated in University life, with wider opportunities offered to learn te reo.

“I see the policy as a legacy of Jim Peters, alongside Sophie Tauwehe Tamati (a senior lecturer in the Faculty of Education and Social Work) and her committee. I’m not a great te reo speaker but Sophie is a wonderful Tuhoē speaker and so generous about supporting people in their efforts to learn and speak.”

And when she’s not in her office in the ClockTower, in Wellington, or back at Tai Tokerau, she can be found with Richard and her whānau – which now includes two stepsons, two grandsons and a niece who has lived with the family – on ten acres of native bush in the Whangārei Heads, or in Te Atatu where she has lived for the past 40 years.

“In Tai Tokerau we have kiwi, kotare (kingfisher), it’s ten minutes from Ocean Beach. I always knew I’d go home, I’m Ngā Puhi and that’s my tūrangawaewae.”

■ Julianne Evans

*Images from left: Husband Richard Davies with one of their mokopuna, Cindy under the famous Bridge of Sighs in Oxford and on the water in Dale, Milford Haven, Wales, where Richard is from.*



## FRUIT FLY MYSTERIES

**Those same tiny fruit flies that dive-bomb our wine are helping reveal some secrets of life.**

PhD candidate Jia Zhao is using the tiny insects, *Drosophila melanogaster*, for her research on the circadian clock.

Published earlier this year in *Scientific Reports*, her work, supervised by Dr James Cheeseman and Associate Professor Guy Warman from the Department of Anaesthesiology, has shown there is a molecular marker linked to the biological clock, which accurately predicts the death of the fly several days before it takes place.

The circadian clock, which generates the daily rhythms in most organisms, including

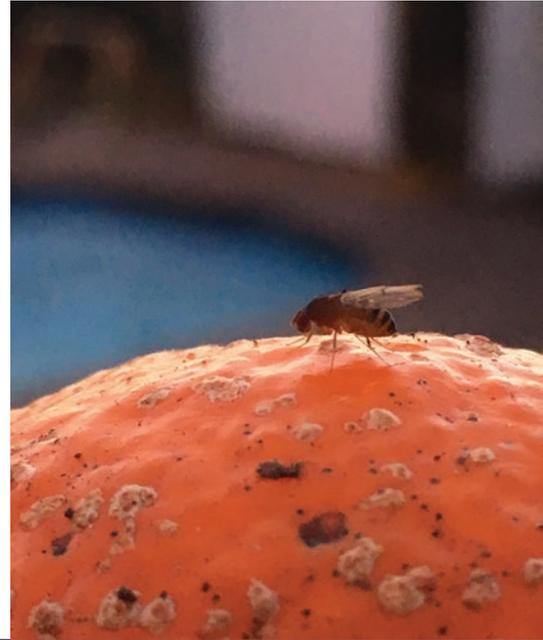
humans, is affected by time and diminishes with advancing age.

“It controls everything from behaviour to physiology,” says James Cheeseman. “The primary implication in this study is that death, at least in flies, can be reliably predicted in clock gene expression.”

The fruit fly was chosen because it has a short life cycle and shares a similar circadian clock to humans. Jia says the study looked specifically at two circadian clock genes, PERIOD and TIMELESS (which have similar counterparts in humans), and how they change immediately preceding death.

“The significance of the finding is the linking of the breakdown in the circadian clock with death.”

This fly provides a model for the ageing of circadian clocks more generally and has implications for other animals and humans.



## PIONEER IN WAVE DATA

Associate Professor Renate Meyer, statistician and pioneer in gravitational wave data analysis (Faculty of Science) is one of just three New Zealand scientists to be recognised for sustained research excellence with a prestigious James Cook Research Fellowship.

During her research, Renate will collaborate with high-profile European astrophysicists and statisticians, as well as researchers within the LIGO (Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory) Scientific collaboration and the LISA (Laser Interferometric Space Antenna) community to combine expertise in general relativity, gravitational waves, applied Bayesian statistics, and ‘big data’.

Her contributions will help make exotic and extreme events such as the coalescence of black holes observable using gravitational waves.

## FERTILITY HOPE

**Women with fertility issues can take heart from recent research by Professor Cynthia Farquhar (Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences).**

Professor Farquhar has been awarded the Liley Medal from the Health Research Council of New Zealand for her study into Intrauterine Insemination (IUI), published in *The Lancet* last November.

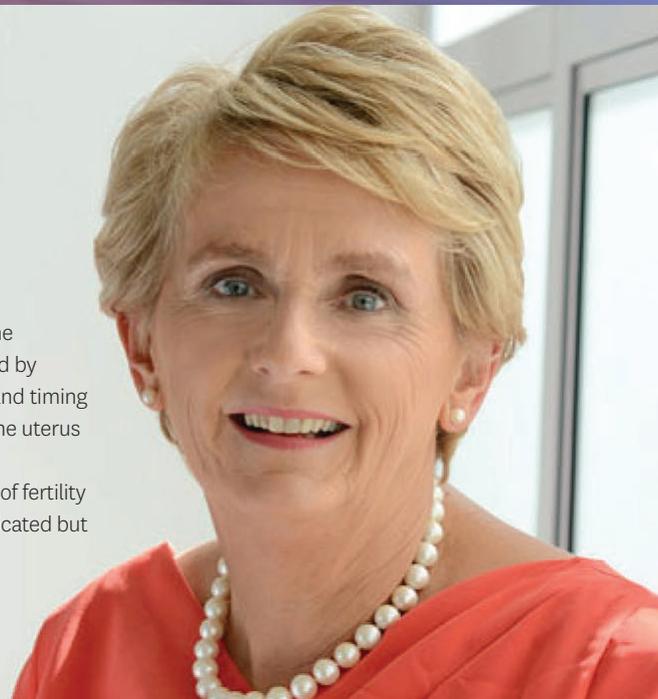
In a clinical trial, she showed for the first time that IUI combined with ovarian stimulation was three times more effective than trying to conceive naturally in women with unexplained infertility and an unfavourable prognosis for natural conception.

In the trial, 101 women receiving IUI treatment had 31 live births, compared with nine live births for the 100 women assigned to ‘expectant management’.

The study concluded that IUI could be offered as a safe and effective first-line strategy for couples with unexplained infertility.

Cynthia credits the breakthrough to the medication giving couples a helping hand by encouraging more eggs to be released, and timing conception right by getting sperm into the uterus and thus halfway to the egg.

She says that IUI offers a simpler type of fertility treatment than IVF, which is more complicated but thought by many to be more effective.



## FRENCH BOOST

**A New Zealand start-up making apple, sauvignon blanc and pinot noir flour has received a \$NZ1.2 million injection from the home of gastronomy, France.**

Greenspot Technologies Ltd creates nutrient-rich alternative flours from fermented fruit and vegetable pulp that would otherwise go to waste. Their range, which is zero-waste, also includes beetroot, orange, carrot and parsnip flours.

They are made using a sophisticated fermentation process developed by academics-turned-entrepreneurs Associate Professor Silas Villas-Boas and doctoral candidate Ninna Granucci from the School of Biological Sciences. The pair are now heading to France to expand their fermentation business.

“France is a world leader in fermentation technology, but this technology is for the whole world because the whole world processes fruits and vegetables,” they say.

The seed funding boost will allow the company to expand its team, test various fermentation technologies to inform the design of a dedicated manufacturing plant and develop new food formulations.

Long-term plans are to have manufacturing plants in different parts of the world, including New Zealand.



Associate Professor Silas Villas-Boas and doctoral candidate Ninna Granucci from the School of Biological Sciences.

## WHAT'S ON CAMPUS

### MENOPAUSE MATTERS

**What:** A staff seminar on menopause

**Where:** Level 2, Case Room 23, Sir Owen G. Glenn Building

**When:** 12-1pm, 14 November

The Equity Office is holding a seminar to discuss how menopause affects women at work and what support is available.

Leading experts in this area Dr Janice Brown and Dr Helen Roberts want to help women experiencing troubling menopausal symptoms, and to support them and their colleagues with any impacts on work.

### SPRING WEEK ON CAMPUS

**What:** A series of public lectures by leading University academics

**Where:** All lectures will be held at the City Campus in the General Library lecture theatres. Find out more at: [www.publicprogrammes.ac.nz/events/spring-week](http://www.publicprogrammes.ac.nz/events/spring-week).

**When:** 19-23 November

This annual event features some of our world-class research with 15 talks presented by distinguished faculty members. Topics range from the US-Soviet space race to women and performance art in Aotearoa. All staff are entitled to a 20 percent discount using the code UOASTAFF18. Enrolment options include: full week pass, single day pass and a mix-and-match pass. To find out more about Spring Week and other public lectures, visit [www.publicprogrammes.ac.nz/events/spring-week](http://www.publicprogrammes.ac.nz/events/spring-week)

### FOCUS ON PUBLIC SPEAKING

**What:** Ingenio Toastmasters Club

**Where:** Sir Owen G. Glenn Building, Business School

**When:** Second and fourth Tuesday of the month  
Staff keen to polish their public speaking skills and improve their listening and confidence are invited to join the Ingenio Toastmasters Club. Dedicated to being a safe and supportive environment, the club meets every second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 5.30pm in the Sir Owen G. Glenn Building, Room 040B at 12 Grafton Road.

For more information visit: [www.ingenio.toastmastersclubs.org](http://www.ingenio.toastmastersclubs.org)



The new Terry Stringer sculpture *Hygeia* in its permanent home at Grafton, outside the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences.

## STRINGER SCULPTURE BLESSED

**A crisp, clear morning greeted the crowd as they gathered on the forecourt of Grafton Campus for the blessing of the new sculpture by renowned artist Terry Stringer.**

Commissioned in honour of the 50th anniversary of the Faculty of Health and Medical Science, *Hygeia*, the classical goddess of health and healing, rises elegantly from her plinth amid the trees and gazes out into the distance, watching over the surrounding community.

Professor John Fraser honoured the significance of the artwork, saying *Hygeia* reflected the values of the faculty and the role they play in the wider community. As Dr Robin Woodward, senior lecturer in Art History pointed out, *Hygeia*'s presence across the road from the Auckland Domain provides welcome feminine balance to the Richard Gross sculpture of 1936, the nude male figure that stands on top of the Domain gates.

*Hygeia* stands nearly four metres high off the plinth, her cast bronze skin supported by a stainless steel armature and finished with a black patina.

A team of artists assisted Terry with the complex fabrication process. Those familiar with Terry Stringer's sculptures will know that within

one work, there is always more than one image. Figures and objects combine to create works which embody multiple perspectives.

Curious viewers are rewarded by the changes in form as they move around the work.

*Hygeia*'s face morphs into two hands, flanked by sprigs of flax. The hand of a younger person reaches down to the hand of an elder, to help them up by offering support, while the flax honours rongoā, traditional Māori healing.

■ Lara Thomas, University Art Collection assistant

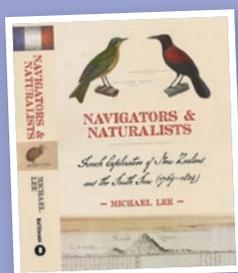
## University Art Collection up for international award

The University's Art Collection has received a nomination in the 2018 Corporate Art Awards, an international tribute that recognises best practice in collaboration between the corporate and art worlds.

The winner will be decided by popular vote on social media, so the more 'likes' and 'shares' our collection receives, the better.

To vote, go to [www.news.library.auckland.ac.nz/2018/10/02/international-award-nomination-for-university-art-collection](http://www.news.library.auckland.ac.nz/2018/10/02/international-award-nomination-for-university-art-collection), then visit our participants page and click on the red heart. Voting runs from now until 16 November 2018.

## WHAT'S COMING OUT



### The French in the Pacific

*Navigators and Naturalists, French Exploration of New Zealand and the South Seas (1769-1824)*, by alumnus and Auckland

councillor Michael Lee, focuses on the key characters of the age of French exploration.

Weaving together geography, natural philosophy and human history, the book tells the stories of exploration of the great French naturalist-voyagers: their scientific hunger to discover new lands and document the people, plants, animals and minerals they found there. It also looks at their relationships with Māori and the desire of France to compete with the British in the Pacific.

It features navigators and naturalists like de Surville, Marion Dufresne, La Pérouse, d'Entrecasteaux, Dumont d'Urville and Lesson and their journeys around the Pacific, New Zealand, Australia, Tahiti, New Guinea and the Spice Islands.

The book draws in the main on primary sources (both here and in France) and includes primary research from original French documents never before translated into English, as well as scholarship from key researchers in this field. Mike Lee first came across the journals of Dumont d'Urville's 1827 *Astrolabe* voyage in 1996 while writing his thesis for a Masters degree in Biological Sciences. Published by Bateman, November 2018.

### Academic guide a top resource

A practical guide on how to launch an academic career in New Zealand by Associate Professor Carol Mutch (Faculty of Education and Social Work) won best teacher resource in the tertiary category at the CLNZ Education Awards in October.

*Optimising your academic career: Advice for early career scholars* provides new and emerging



academics with answers to all the questions they might have about getting started in their careers.

The book covers tertiary institutions of all types – wānanga, institutes or universities of technology (polytechnics), private providers and universities.

While it's designed for people at the beginning of their academic careers, Carol says it will also be useful to experienced academics who want to mentor younger colleagues. It's published by the New Zealand Council for Educational Research (NZCER) and available from the NZCER website and the University bookshop UBIQ.

## ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

**INTERESTED IN A ONE-YEAR HOUSE-SWAP CLOSE TO PARIS, FRANCE FROM FEB 2019?** University staff member and her husband seek to exchange their 3 bed, furnished home in Nozay (quiet village, 25kms from Paris, public transport/highway nearby, primary/secondary schools, all amenities) for similar furnished accommodation in Auckland. Contact: s.hermann@auckland.ac.nz.

**TWO-BED, FURNISHED STAR-BLOCK APARTMENT IN GREEN, PARK-LIKE SETTING IN FREEMAN'S BAY.** Easy walk to University, Ponsonby Road and Viaduct. Available late Jan to Xmas 2019. Carpark, internet, power, water included, \$765 pw. Phone Tess: 022 636 849 or email: writingtheland@gmail.com

**ONLY A FEW MONTHS UNTIL SUMMER AND WE HAVE BEEN BUSY PREPARING FOR THE LAUNCH OF OUR NEW WEBSITE:** www.summerstays.auckland.ac.nz. We have special rates for University staff and their family and friends. Please quote 'Staff' for discounted rates. Our accommodation ranges from single studio rooms to family apartments.

**ROOM TO RENT, SUNNY ST HELIERS, AUCKLAND:** Large fully furnished bedroom in cosy three-bed, 1 bath peaceful home. Ten mins. to beach. 30 mins. drive or bus, along Tamaki Drive to CBD, Tamaki Campus. Share with mature professional woman. Suit academic or professional, \$250 weekly plus electricity. Contact: Penny: pkstar@gmail.com

**TWO BEDROOM, TWO BATHROOM FURNISHED HOME IN REMUERA/MEADOWBANK:** Spacious feel with high ceilings and patio garden. Walk to bus stop for direct bus to Medical School or University or park car in the driveway. Suitable for visiting academics or professional couple. Available late May through November. Email: john@metronz.co.nz or text 021 308800.

**WAIHEKE ISLAND:** Characterful, sunny and compact cottage. Perfect for sabbatical, writing retreat or holiday. Views from decks, short walks to beaches. Bus stop nearby, short drive from car ferry. Fully-equipped kitchen, WiFi. Max. four guests, min. two-night stay. Spring (Sept-Nov) rate: \$95/night/two, \$10 extra pp. Photos and availability: pat.neuwelt@gmail.com

**BUCKLANDS BEACH, 5-BED HOUSE FOR RENT, 4 WEEKS OVER CHRISTMAS:** Large, sunny, well equipped, coastal views. 5 mins. walk to two different beaches, 15 mins. to Half Moon Bay ferry. Available 15 December 2018 - 11 January 2019, \$800 a week or \$700 if you're happy to feed our cat. Contact: f.boermans@auckland.ac.nz

**COMING TO AUCKLAND FOR LONG STAY OR TO LIVE?** Need an exceptional living environment for a few weeks or months? Self-contained one bed, furnished apartment annexed to main house in Waitakere Ranges, with view of bush and beach. Short drive to Swanson train station, 45 mins. to the CBD, and easy walk to Uni or 45 mins. by car. Interested? Email: www.bushsandandsea@gmail.com or call Lyn on 64 (09) 810 9584.

**SHORT TERM SUMMER RENTAL PARNELL:** Available approx. 3 Jan to 16 April 2019. Fully furnished one bed, flat, secluded location near Auckland Domain. Sunny, leafy outlook, like living in treetops. Q-size bed, good clothes storage, fully equipped kitchen. Off-street undercover parking. \$400 pw neg. includes power, landline and WiFi. Email: jacqu.walker@gmail.com

**FULLY FURNISHED 3-BEDROOM HOME IN EAST AUCKLAND FOR LONG TERM RENT:** Stunning views over Auckland from deck and lounge, also overlooking swimming pool and garden. Large family home in Pakuranga, close to schools and short walk to local shopping mall. Easy commute to University, motorway 5 mins. away. Rental available for 1-2 years from Dec 2018 \$650 per week. Contact: melissabaily@gmail.com

**LOVELY PRIVATE ROOM FRESHLY RENOVATED TO A HIGH STANDARD:** Large and sunny overlooking garden with own deck. Although part of our house, the room does have a separate entrance and ensuite and can be locked from the rest of the house. Also available is a lounge/sunroom with a single day bed, TV, armchairs and books to enjoy. Centrally located in the heart of Parnell. Contact: Christine on: 0274 430006.

**FULLY-FURNISHED HOUSE IN BELMONT, NORTH SHORE:** 3-bed, 1-bathroom, sunny, nice outlook, private back and front gardens. Close to schools, parks and beaches. Ferry or bus to University. Available from May-June till mid-November. \$600 per week. Contact: j.laurie@auckland.ac.nz

**INTERESTED IN A 2-6 MONTH HOUSE-SWAP IN SYDNEY IN 2019?** Recently retired academic and her writer-husband seek to exchange their two-bedroom, fully furnished flat in Glebe (15 min. walk to Sydney University/near public transport) for similar Auckland accommodation. Flexible time frame, but early 2019 preferred. Contact: laurie.miller@sydney.edu.au for more information.

## SERVICES

**CITY LEGAL SERVICES:** Rainey Collins Wright is a small law firm centrally located at L1 Princes Court, 2 Princes Street. We are near the University, with good parking. We can assist with property transactions, trusts, wills, administration of estates, enduring powers of attorney and relationship property matters. Please call our senior solicitor Nichola Christie on 600 0256 to discuss your needs, or email: nchristie@rainey.co.nz. Visit www.rainey.co.nz

**NOTARIAL SERVICES:** I am a Notary Public with many years experience and can notarise documents to be sent overseas and provide my Notarial Certificate. I'm situated on the ground floor, Princes Court, 2 Princes Street, Auckland, next to the Pullman Hotel. Phone Stewart Germann on (09) 308 9925 to make an appointment or email: secretary@germann.co.nz

**DIGITAL PRINTING:** Course books, presentation and display prints, conference printing, pull up banners, posters and flyers. Barny Hards is our specialist university print adviser. Contact him at: barny@newcomb.co.nz. Newcomb Digital, 2A Augustus Terrace, Parnell. Phone 303 2878. Approved 'preferred supplier' to the University of Auckland.

**EDITORIAL AND PROOFREADING SERVICES:** Providing excellence in assistance with all aspects of thesis preparation, abstract, formatting, editing. Conference papers and getting your abstract accepted. I'm interested in providing support to energetic students in all academic fields. Published author and graduate. Contact: Editorial0021@gmail.com or 022 090 1513.



A major work in the Collection: Don Binney, Kereru over Wainamu Te Henga, 1965, oil on board

## ABOUT THE COLLECTION

The University Art Collection comprises more than 1600 paintings, prints, photographs, sculptures and video on permanent display throughout all four campuses.

Established in 1965 with an annual acquisition budget of just £300, the collection has grown into a major asset with a total value of well over NZ\$20 million.

All of its predominantly New Zealand artworks (including major works by Don Binney, Frances Hodgkins, Colin McCahon, Ralph Hotere, Pat Hanly, Robin White and John Pule) are on constant display around the campuses, as well as online.



Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi talking at Project on Middle East Democracy (POMED) in March, 2018. Author: April Brady/Wikimedia Commons

## KHASHOGGI KILLING

**The murder of Jamal Khashoggi is shocking but not unprecedented, writes Stephen Hoadley.**

Journalists around the world are at risk, and the risks are growing. Will academics be next?

The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), an international journalists' monitoring association, reported that in 2017, 48 journalists were killed.

It noted that 'a record number' were imprisoned; three-quarters of the 194 journalists convicted around the world in 2017 were charged with 'anti-state activities'. Among the worst offenders were the governments of Turkey, Iraq, Syria, India, Mexico, Russia and China, but the list extends much further.

The majority of repressive governments are found in the Middle East. On the Reporters Without Borders (RWB) scale of press freedom, on which Norway is ranked first and New Zealand 8th, Egypt is ranked 161st, Iran is 164th, Saudi Arabia 169th, and Syria 177th. China and North Korea are ranked 176th and 180th respectively.

It is ironic that Turkey, whose government has taken the lead in accusing Saudi Arabia of Khashoggi's murder, is ranked 157th in press freedom and has imprisoned or blacklisted hundreds of journalists for alleged complicity in the attempted coup of 2016.

CPJ's inventory of threats to journalists includes extrajudicial executions; hostage-taking by governments; hostage-taking by nonstate actor; state-sanctioned surveillance; prosecution under obscure laws; public smear campaigns; accusations of assisting terrorists and censorship of social media. What recourse do journalists, and those who respect their reportage and insights, such as academics and liberal officials, have? In earlier years, one might have recommended emigration to a liberal Western country such as

the United States. Khashoggi did so when officials in Saudi Arabia, his home, threatened him.

Today, however, President Trump, apparently with the approval of a substantial proportion of the American public, has branded the mainstream news media as 'enemies of the people'. In 2018 the US sank to 45th on the RWB scale. Trump's assertion of 'alternative facts' also clashes with academic research values.

Appeal to the judiciary, with the support of liberal lawyers and NGOs, is another route. But in many states such as Turkey and Saudi Arabia the judiciary is aligned with the ruling regime, and protection of individuals' freedom of speech has low priority in contrast to regime stability and compliance.

Even in the United States, the ability of the president to appoint justices and judges sympathetic to his administration's ideology creates headwinds facing journalists in their appeals for 'equal protection' and 'due process of law'. A third recourse for journalists is to speak out through liberal media and social media. However they face the barrier of self-censorship of media organisations whose CFOs are oriented to advertisers, who in turn are loath to condone criticism, controversy and disruption of the prevailing narrative.

The outspoken investigative journalism of the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post* is all the more remarkable, and commendable, in resisting pressures for conformity and in giving investigative journalists an international platform 'without fear or favour'.

Social media, too, has become a channel of choice, as long as it can escape overt censorship, as in China and Turkey.

Ultimately, governments have overwhelming powers of repression, both overt and covert, both legal and illegal. The challenge for journalists is to persuade political leaders that a free press serves their own interests as well as the public interest.

They must show that public debate contributes to better policy and builds social consensus that in turn underpins stable and legitimate government. Inasmuch as many academics also engage in reporting publicly on their research and in offering opinions on public issues, often through the news media, they work in parallel with journalists and should make common cause with them.

State censorship, harassment, prosecution, imprisonment, and the killing of journalists violate academic values and cast a chill on critical enquiry and assessments by scholars. Thus Khashoggi's fate impinges on ours in academia. It has taught a harsh but necessary lesson; that free speech and a free press, and by extension, academic freedom, are not givens but must be actively sought and defended.

Regimes that would repress these freedoms must be identified and their policies held accountable. The refusal by important financial leaders to attend a Saudi investment conference, for example, is a commendable gesture.

Academics should take into account the reports on press freedom by the Committee to Protect Journalists and Reporters Without Borders, and on academic freedom by the monitoring organisation Scholars at Risk, when deciding whether to accept state-sponsored research grants, conference invitations, or media commentary queries in countries hostile to journalistic and academic values. Then what? The alternatives are: boycott contacts with counterparts in repressive countries; or engage selectively with counterparts so as to recommend, and set an example of, open enquiry and publication. In the long run, engagement will be more constructive.

*Stephen Hoadley is an Associate Professor of Politics and International Relations in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Auckland.*