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Vibrant success story celebrated



Left to right are Hester Mountifield, Raewyn Dalziel and Janet Copsey with the fifth birthday cake.

A lively group of staff gathered at Strata Postgraduate Lounge on 23 May to celebrate one of the University's great success stories: the Kate Edger Information Commons.

Described by *University News* at the time of its opening as the "vibrant new heart" of the City Campus, and by its manager Hester Mountifield as "a beautiful design with a feeling of space and flow, a wonderful development for the University" the custom-built building and its facilities received an even more glowing description five years on from Professor Raewyn Dalziel, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic).

Raewyn spoke of "a facility that has truly become an integral part of studying at The University of Auckland; that has beaten all other scores in our student satisfaction surveys; and that has become a benchmark for student learning facilities for planners, librarians and others, nationally and internationally".

Right from its opening on 28 April 2003 the Information Commons was enthusiastically embraced by its student users, who appreciated the pleasant study environment, computer workstations, electronic classrooms, and flexible study and social spaces, as well as the integrated

learning support services.

"It was absolutely astounding (and very gratifying)," said University Librarian Janet Copsey, "that as soon as we put up notices that the Interim Information Commons in the former Science Library was closed and the new Kate Edger Information Commons was open, the students just streamed into the new facility.

"I'm sure the text messages were flying around the campus as every computer was taken by 10am."

The journey from conception to completion of this much-used and appreciated facility had been remarkably rapid – from June 1999, when Janet Copsey wrote a paper for the Library Committee about the need for a facility of this kind, to April 2003, when the 4,726-square metre building opened its doors to students along with the Student Commons which forms the "other half" of the modern, elegant and spacious complex.

At the same time the General Library was being extended so that the Science, Biological Sciences and Geography Libraries could be included, with those extensions opening in 2002.

"It was a very demanding and exciting time for those of us involved in these two significant projects,"

(continued page 2)

Key events

Scintillating entertainment

See the Trio scintillatum at the Music Theatre in the School of Music at 5pm on 8 June with Concerto Competition winner Amalia Hall on violin, Sophie Williams on cello and John-Paul Muir on piano. This trio also won the 2007 Royal Over-Seas League Competition for Chamber Music.

The greenstone door

The Traditional Knowledge Conference 2008 focuses on traditional indigenous concepts, values, ideals, models and strategies for sustaining balanced and healthy relationships within and across families, communities, nations, nation-states, local, regional and global borders, territories and environments. Hosted by Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga, the conference will take place 8 to 11 June in the Owen G Glenn Building, Level 0. (For more information see page 4.)

Flexible work and breastfeeding

The Women Returning to Work project (jointly conducted by The University of Auckland and the Association of University Staff) invites all staff to attend this session which will provide information on new employment provisions for women returning to work, parents, grandparents and carers. Heather McDonald from the Department of Labour will speak on "Flexible work and breastfeeding legislation" at a session chaired by Trudie McNaughton, Pro Vice-Chancellor (EO), from 1-2pm on 17 June at the Federation of Graduate Women's Suite in Old Government House. You are welcome to bring your own lunch. Coffee, cake, fruit and juice will be provided. RSVP to Margaret Freeman (ms.freeman@auckland.ac.nz) by 13 June for catering purposes

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From the Vice-Chancellor

The University has recently submitted to the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology (FRST) its views on proposals for Phase 2 of the "Stable Funding Environment (SFE)". This is the policy which seeks to overcome the alleged failings of the competitive process for public research funding through FRST.

As we noted in the submission, we have repeatedly sought from MoRST evidence that the formerly competitive system was damaging New Zealand's capability (either in absolute terms or relative to the vibrancy that competition creates) and they have consistently failed to deliver any such evidence. It seems clear that SFE has its origins in a political response to redundancies in the Crown Research Institutes (CRIs) following their failure to win research funding in competition with the universities and research associations.

SFE is a response to a Ministerial Direction to improve effectiveness and stability of the funding environment, reduce transaction costs and complexity, and evaluate the effect of that policy direction. We do not believe that the proposed policy will provide this stability and do not see evidence of any evaluation taking place. In fact, the proposed SFE policy is extremely complex and likely to create a more conservative approach that actually reduces innovation in the New Zealand science system and as a result under-delivers value to this country.

It proposes the creation of platforms of research that will be run by "lead organisations" – but the rules for lead organisations will ensure that they are mainly CRIs, and universities will likely be excluded from that role. The policy will also preserve the status quo by allowing only those organisations that have previously received FRST funding to be at the negotiating table for platform funding. The net result is that the university sector – which comprises just a third of this country's researchers but produces close to two thirds of all publications and just over half of all patents granted – will in our view be relegated to a minor role in this process. Of even more concern, the proposed standard for research to be progressed is not "excellent" but merely "satisfactory". In essence, we will have moved from a system dominated by issues of research excellence and impact to one in which the viability of certain institutions is a major consideration. This is something that ought to be of concern to many university research staff.



(story continued from page 1)

said Janet, who acknowledged the strong support of Dr John Hood, Vice-Chancellor at the time.

The software environment, Janet believes, was one of the major reasons for the facility's success.

"For the first time, as well as being able to access the full range of enterprise systems including the Library's LEARN gateway, Cecil and nDeva and the Microsoft Office suite of software, students were able to log onto the Information Commons computers and access their files on the individual faculty drives, as well as the new central file storage system supplied by ITS for the new facility."

Employing a multi-cultural group of recent graduates or senior students with a strong service focus was also another key factor in the facility's success. Staff have a good rapport with students, understanding their needs and expectations. Ongoing communication through the Information Commons blog and focus groups also help the teams to deliver student-centred services.

In addition Janet believes that the co-location of key learning support partners added value to

the services offered in the Information Commons, with significant increases in the student uptake of voluntary generic library courses and the use of the Short Loans collection, as well as the English Language Self Access Centre and the Student Learning Centre.

Janet congratulated Hester Mountifield on "the magnificent job she and her team have done, not only in developing the original service profile for the facility, but also for their strong commitment to ongoing service innovation.

"Over the past five years we have had a constant stream of international visitors, and Hester has become well-known internationally as a speaker, a published writer and a consultant (in Australia, Ireland and England) on Information Commons developments."

Among others acknowledged for their contributions to the success of the Kate Edger Information Commons were John Hayward, Planning Librarian at the time, and the ITS team led by Stephen Whiteside.

Tribute to Kate Edger

Now on permanent display on the fourth floor of the Kate Edger Information Commons is a copy of the degree testamur of Kate Edger along with a replica of an inscription carved for a memorial door some 70 years ago.

The original door – carved in honour of Kate Edger, who in 1887 became the first woman to graduate Bachelor of Arts at a British university – was presented by the Federation of University Women for the Women's Common Room in the East Wing of the ClockTower.

Hosted by Raewyn Dalziel, Janet Copsy and staff

of the University Library, Dame Dorothy Winstone paid a recent visit to the Kate Edger Information Commons to view the display.

Dame Dorothy is a "Distinguished Member" of the Federation of University Women (now known as the New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women). She was a student of the University in the 1930s, and later served on the University Council for 22 years, twice as Pro-Chancellor. She was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws in 1983.

It is hoped that the original door has survived and may now be recognised and returned.

Speed dating spreads the word on talent

"Speed dating" sessions to match ICT student talent with potential employers resulted in job interviews, and provided an evening of excitement at the Business School in April.

Showcasing talent to industry in this immediate way was a first for the Business School. It was organised by the Department of Information Systems and Operations Management (ISOM), in collaboration with the Business School's new Careers Centre.

Before their speed dating sessions, the 56 nervous third-year and postgraduate students underwent "pre-date grooming", receiving coaching in interviewing and presenting, and even practised shaking hands.

Executives from eight companies each pitched the benefits of working for their organisation and what positions might be available. The students chose seven companies each.

Then the speed dating began, with the executives facing up to 30 rounds of two-minute interviews. The level of excitement rose as facilitator and ISOM administrator Helen Lacey rang a bell to mark the beginning and end of interviews, and as the students streamed in and

out of the Decima Glenn room.

At the end of the evening, students and executives handed in their "date cards", and matches were advised by email the next day. The two sides then talked directly and all eight companies have interviewed students.

The participating firms ranged from start-up IT businesses based at the ICEHOUSE, through to large corporates. They were Dealzaar, Deloitte, HP, INRO, Solnet Solutions, StayinFront, Tagulicious and Toll New Zealand.

"All firms had at least one 'serious' candidate," says ISOM Senior Lecturer Tuure Tuunanen. "All in all, they were very pleased with the event and so were the students. The students visibly gained confidence during the event with interviewing."

"The whole event was a brilliant idea. It is not a lot of time but I reckon that within a few minutes you can pick up quite a bit," says Gustav Tijsen, Auckland Delivery Manager for Solnet Solutions.

"We thoroughly enjoyed the experience. There were certainly some students that I can see have a lot of potential and those are the kind of candidates we are looking for," says Brad Robinson, Managing Director of Tagulicious.

Retrospective 1883-2008



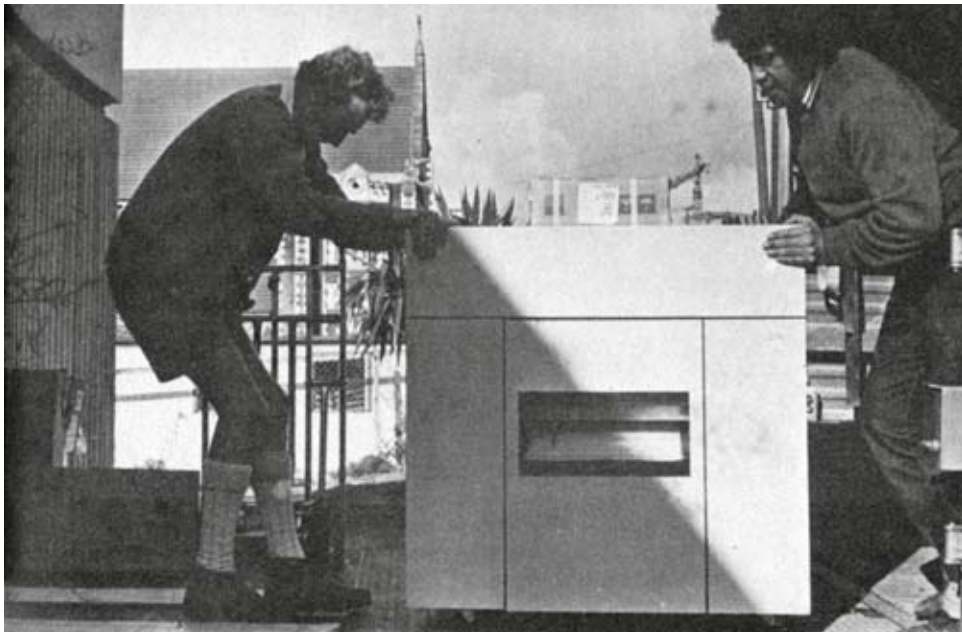
Part of the 86700 computer. Two line printers are on each side of the foreground, with card reader and control consoles in the centre of the picture. The main processing and memory units are in the background, with diagnostic displays visible on them. Photo: Tom Estie. (Reprinted from University of Auckland News, Vol 2, No 8, October 1972.)

The Minister of Education, Mr Talboys, announced on September 1 that orders had been placed with the Burroughs Business Machines Corporation for five large-scale, modern computer systems to be installed in the universities at Auckland, Palmerston North, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin.

This long overdue development will bring to the Auckland campus a highly-sophisticated, modern computer system, adequate for the teaching,

research and administrative functions of the University. To give some indication of the performance which may be expected from the B6700: Main Memory 80,000 words (51 bit); Processing Unit 5 – 10 MHz; Card reader – 1,000 cards/min; Printer 800 lines/min.

Extracts from 'New and Powerful Computer for the University', *University of Auckland News*, 7, September 1971, pp. 18-19



The University's new IBM 4341 computer is delivered to the Computer Centre in 1981. The IBM would take over the research computing load from the Burroughs 6700. (Reprinted from University of Auckland News, Vol 11, No. 8, October 1981.)

Because the new Computer Centre Building at Auckland University will not be completed until the end of next year, a temporary computer room has been prepared. Some 68 kilowatts of power are used when the machine is in operation and most of this power consumption ultimately appears in the form of heat generated. When the equipment is moved to the new Computer Centre Building the heat output will be put to good use; it will supply heating for the offices and workrooms in the remainder of the building.

The level of computer services available to

users through the B6700 will be very much better than has been possible until now. Our present computer is in operation 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and some users are booking the machine several weeks ahead to have programmes run. All of this work should be handled on the new computer in about two hours each day, so that most users will be able to collect their completed programmes only one or two hours after handing them in.

Extracts from 'The University's New Computer', *University of Auckland News*, 2, 8, 1972

... in brief

Business students in honour society

Last month nearly 40 top-stream graduates from the Business School were inducted into The University of Auckland Chapter of the international honour society Beta Gamma Sigma.

Beta Gamma Sigma encourages and recognises outstanding academic achievement by students enrolled in programmes at business schools accredited by AACSB International (the internationally recognised accreditation body for undergraduate and graduate business programmes.)

The ceremony took place at the ASB Atrium, Owen G Glenn Building. Chapter President and Business School Dean, Professor Barry Spicer, gave a welcome and the Chapter Officer, Associate Professor Norman Wong, presented the candidates.

The principles of Beta Gamma Sigma are represented by three concepts reflected in the name of the Society. Beta is the initial letter of the Greek word, bebaeos, which signifies honour. Gamma is the initial letter of the Greek word, gnosis, which signifies wisdom. Sigma is the initial letter of the Greek word, spoude, which signifies earnestness.

The inductees were presented with the Beta Gamma Sigma key.

Dean to depart

Dr John Langley, Dean of the Faculty of Education, is to leave the University this month to take up a new position as Chief Executive officer of Multi Serve Education Trust.

John was appointed as Principal of the Auckland College of Education in 2001. In that role, he was a key figure in the discussions on the amalgamation of the College and the University and the formation of the Faculty of Education. He has led the faculty since the amalgamation in September 2004.

During that time the faculty has seen many changes with the redevelopment of its curriculum, the introduction of new academic programmes, a new organisational design, integration of services with the central services of the University and the relocation of the School of Education from the City Campus to Epsom.

Writers on record

Academics from the Faculty of Arts featured in this year's line-up for the Auckland Readers and Writers Festival, which took place in May, included Associate Professor Annie Goldson (Film, Television and Media Studies), Professor Witi Ihimaera (English), Associate Professor Manying Ip (Asian Studies), Mike Johnson (English), Dr Michele Leggott (English), Professor Raylene Ramsay (European Languages and Literatures), Associate Professor Peter Simpson (English) and Dr Selina Tusitala Marsh (English).

Forgiveness essential for our deeper relationships

"Why should we love our enemies?" said Martin Luther King Jr. "The first reason is fairly obvious. Returning hate for hate multiplies hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars."

Dr Glen Pettigrove (Philosophy) is a specialist in moral and political philosophy with a particular interest in forgiveness both as it pertains to individuals and to groups. Forgiveness, he says, is of great importance historically, politically, philosophically, psychologically. While there is a lot of discussion focusing on questions of justice, fairness, and appropriate punishment, forgiveness is interesting, Glen believes, because it forces us to look beyond these and to consider how they may relate to concepts of mercy, hope and love. Forgiveness is a virtue humans value in their personal lives, whether they are seeking forgiveness from others or are being asked to forgive. Without forgiveness, Glen believes, our deepest relationships cannot work. One interest Glen is at present exploring is the relationship between apology and forgiveness. He is also writing a paper with Dr Nigel Parsons of Massey University on political forgiveness in the context of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Device helps stroke sufferers

Stroke patients can improve their movement by using a simple mechanical device to ready their brain for daily therapy.

Developed by researchers at The University of Auckland, a mechanical device, small enough to be easily used in the home, primes the brain to be ready for self-directed physical therapy. When they used it three times a day for ten minutes prior to practice with the stroke-affected hand, people saw a marked improvement in their hand movements after one month. Importantly, the device group had beneficial changes in brain function as a result of the priming, which were not seen in the control group and continued to improve after the month's trial.

Results of this Health Research Council-funded research are published in this month's issue of *Brain*. Lead author in the study is Dr Cathy Stinear (Sport and Exercise Science).

The device will be manufactured by New Zealand company Criterion Group Ltd through an agreement with Auckland UniServices Ltd, and is scheduled to be available in 2009.

Fresh perspectives on resolving conflict

More than 200 indigenous speakers and delegates from eight countries will meet at the University to present fresh strategies for achieving peaceful relationships between peoples and groups.

Hosted by Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga, the international conference, "Te Tatau Pounamu – The Greenstone door: Traditional knowledge and gateways to balanced relationships", will run from 8 to 11 June in the Owen G Glenn Building, Floor 0.

Dr Tracey McIntosh, Joint Director of Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga, says the the Centre is delighted to have attracted so many leading speakers.

"This shows the importance we all place on building better relationships," she says. "It is an overdue opportunity, particularly for indigenous peoples, to provide fresh perspectives to work from."

It also confirms the role Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga is now playing internationally.

International speakers addressing the four-day conference include:

Father Paul Ojibway, who has served as an adviser to the Vatican and to the White House on inter-religious and urban America Indian affairs, and is a member of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement and an enrolled member of the Fond du Luc Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

Dr Laiana Wong, a professor in the Hawai'i nuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, whose

address ("Attend to your fellow humans lest your love be wasted on dogs") refocuses responsibility for solving social problems back on indigenous peoples themselves, by taking a critical look at how well they are maintaining traditional values.

Patricio Dominguez, a member of Pueblo de Las Cruces, New Mexico, who is a shaman, and on the advisory committee of the International Indigenous Coalition, looks at traditional Native American approaches to conflict resolution that aim at satisfying all parties rather than defining winners and losers.

Dr Irene Watson, a Fellow at the University of Sydney Law School and a widely published writer on Aboriginal law from the Tanganeakal and Meintangk tribal groups, has studied wide-scale violence in Aboriginal life and will offer perspectives on the potential for future applications of Aboriginal law in addressing this.

Speakers from New Zealand and other Pacific Islands include Dr Pita Sharples, Sir Paul Reeves, Moana Jackson, Dr Huirangi Waikerepuru, Professor Linda Tuhiwai Smith, Professor Whatarangi Winiata, Dr Tamasailau Sua`ali`i-Sauni, and a panel of Tongan people led by Dr Linitā Manu`atu.

For further information visit

www.indigenous-peace-conference-2008.ac.nz or email indigenous-conference@auckland.ac.nz

Auckland winners 'superb all-rounders'

Among 35 students presented with Freemasons University Scholarships at Government House in Wellington on 13 May were six from The University of Auckland.

According to Dr Paul Augustinus (Geography, Geology and Environmental Science), who represented the University at the event, the Auckland winners were very impressive and stood out as being superb all-rounders.

Freemasons New Zealand has provided scholarships totalling \$3 million to nearly 859 students in New Zealand over 31 years, making it one of the country's largest privately-funded university scholarship programmes. This year the Governor-General the Hon Anand Satyanand presented the 35 students with scholarships totalling \$238,000.

Twenty-eight students each received \$6,000 and seven postgraduate students each received \$10,000.

A recent revamp of the scholarships programme has increased the value of scholarships and altered the application criteria. While applicants must be A students completing their degrees, they must also take part in a non-academic community activity.

University of Auckland scholarship winners were Dominic Searles (MSc in Mathematics), Akbar Ashrafi (Bachelor of Human Biology, MBChB), Nathan V Bailey (doctorate in Mechanical Engineering), Chan Mi "Angela" Lee (Bachelor of Science, Biomedical Science), Mega Schlotjes (Bachelor of Engineering), and Dasha Nelidova (Bachelor of Human Biology Hons).



Scholarship winner Akbar Ashrafi shows the Governor-General the NZ Medical Students Journal, of which he is on the editorial board.



Chris Tremewan speaks at the opening of the Technology Commercialisation Networking Forum.

A multi-purpose visit to China last month by a group of University senior staff has consolidated a number of relationships that are beginning to bear fruit of great value to both countries and to the University.

It has also been successful in establishing new relationships that look likely to bring substantial benefits to New Zealand and China in the immediate future.

The delegation included almost 20 people from the University, led by Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon; Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) Associate Professor Christopher Tremewan; the Deans of Medical and Health Sciences and Engineering, Professors Iain Martin and Michael Davies; Dr Peter Lee and Garry Putt from Auckland UniServices Ltd; Professors Wendell Dunn (Entrepreneurship) and Hugh Whittaker (Management and International Business); Professor Peter Malin from the Institute of Earth Science and Engineering; Professor Lynnette Ferguson (Nutrition, Auckland Cancer Society Research Centre); Dr David Budgett (Bioengineering); Associate Professor Cristin Print (Molecular Medicine and Pathology); and Vik Naidoo (Auckland International).

For Chris Tremewan (as for all the others) the week was very busy, commencing with a journey on the Sunday night – with Stuart McCutcheon, Iain Martin, Michael Davies, and the New Zealand Ambassador to China, Tony Browne – to Qinghai University, which is situated on the Tibetan Plateau in the city of Xining.

The object of the visit was to further explore the most fruitful fields of collaboration between The University of Auckland, Qinghai University and Tsinghua University, which together form a “Three Brothers” partnership – a concept created by the Chinese government to help advance the universities in the west and interior of China by forming them into partnerships with the premier universities in Beijing and on the east coast, and with selected research-intensive overseas universities. The Vice-President of Tsinghua University was also present for the intensive two-day visit, which included a meeting with the provincial governor.

The research groups are now seeking funding

both in China and in New Zealand for projects which cover a whole range of disciplines, including high altitude medicine, environmental management of river systems, and ethnobotanical and engineering projects.

Back in Beijing Chris and his colleagues were involved in bilateral meetings with Peking University and with Tsinghua University, in which the specialists in different fields met in small groups with their counterparts.

“Peking University is very interested in how we commercialise research,” says Chris.

Specialists in different fields were similarly matched with their counterparts at a Roundtable with the Chinese Academy of Sciences, whose president, Professor Lu Yongxiang, holds an honorary doctorate from The University of Auckland. CAS is China’s main research engine with many institutes which collectively have a budget of US\$18 billion per annum.

The China-New Zealand Science to Market Conference, a large event initiated by The University of Auckland which brought together speakers from Auckland and Peking Universities and from the governments of New Zealand and China, took place on 16 and 17 April. Keynote speakers were Liu Yanhua, Chinese Vice Minister of Science and Technology, and the Hon Pete Hodgson, New Zealand Minister of Research, Science and Technology. Each of the five panels – on Energy, Environmental Science, Food Science, Health and Biotechnology, and Agriculture – included both Chinese and New Zealand speakers from universities, research institutes and government research centres.

Friday’s event, the China and New Zealand Technology Commercialisation Networking Forum, described as highly successful by Stuart McCutcheon in his subsequent report to Council, brought together representatives from New Zealand universities, technology transfer companies and private companies. With a total of 150 Chinese companies present, this provided wonderful opportunities to make contacts, with the prospect of valuable business partnerships arising from these.

“The University of Auckland has started to leverage its very good relationships with institutions into partnerships for commercialisation of technology,” says Chris.

Access to fresh water

Water is more than a commodity. It is a necessity of life.

This is reflected in the traditional customs and laws of many countries. In Valencia, for example, management of scarce water for orange growing has for centuries been managed by community “water tribunals”. The rice harvest in South-east Asia relies upon intricate cultivation systems for optimal use of monsoon rains. In Afghanistan the growing season is short and heavily dependent upon spring snow-melt delivered through ancient communal irrigation systems.

Water covers approximately 75 percent of the world’s surface, yet less than 0.5 percent is readily accessible fresh water. Today, the availability of that very limited resource is facing critical natural and economic constraints through over-population, deforestation, bad agricultural practices, and pollution. Around one-sixth of the world’s population lacks access to safe drinking water. The privatisation of water supply and infrastructure services places further economic limitations on access to water for many people and communities.

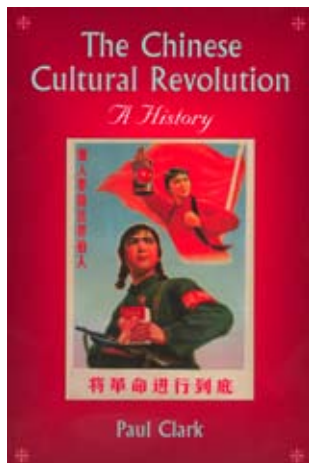
In New Zealand we have the advantage of a relative abundance of fresh water. Our legal system, as with other common law countries, has always recognised the special status of water. Water in its natural state has never been regarded as capable of individual ownership. This has ensured that water cannot easily be monopolised by private ownership at source. Water use is now closely managed by local authorities under the Resource Management Act 1991. Recent disputes between hydro-electric operators and competing agricultural users of lakes and rivers illustrate that, even in New Zealand, utilisation of fresh water is subject to many constraints.

Availability of, and access to, fresh water raises some of the most fundamental socio-economic, geo-political and regulatory challenges today. Availability must be addressed through sustainable resource management policy and practice both at the international and local levels. Access must be provided based on need rather than wealth. A fundamental rethink of economic policy that encourages commodification of water resources is required. Leaders and decision-makers could well reflect upon traditional and time-honoured water management systems where the resource is managed for the overall good of the community rather than the pursuit of individual profit.

Associate Professor David Grinlinton (Law)

Books

The Chinese Cultural Revolution: A History



A groundbreaking study of cultural life during a turbulent and formative decade in contemporary China, this book, written by Professor Paul Clark (Asian Studies) and published by Cambridge University Press, seeks to explode several myths about the cultural revolution (officially 1966 to 1976).

"The present book has three purposes," says Paul Clark in his introduction. "To offer a history of culture during the Cultural Revolution; to provide more insight into life beyond the political or social elites during those years; and to place this decade more firmly into its twentieth-century Chinese context."

Through national and local examination of the full range of cultural forms (film, opera, dance, other stage arts, music, fine arts, literature, and even architecture) Paul argues against characterising this decade as one of chaos and destruction. Rather he finds that innovation and creativity, promotion of participation in cultural production, and a vigorous promotion of the modern were all typical of the Cultural Revolution.

Using a range of materials, he forces us to fundamentally reassess our understanding of the Cultural Revolution, a period he sees as the product of innovation in conflict with the effort by political leaders to enforce a top-down modernity.

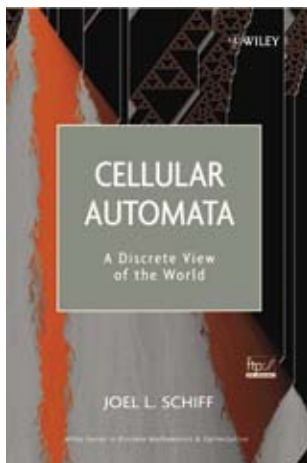
Paul Clark pioneered the study of Chinese films with his *Chinese Cinema: Culture and Politics since 1949* (Cambridge University Press 1987) and most recently updated this work with *Reinventing China: A Generation and its Films* (2005) on Chinese cinema's new wave since the 1980s. This present book draws on his experience as an exchange student in Beijing from 1974 to 1976, the last two years of the Cultural Revolution.

For the record

In the last issue of University News, Paul Rishworth and his daughter Hannah, pictured on page six as part of a graduation story entitled "In the blood", had their names incorrectly spelled in the caption (without the first "h").

Kath Clarke, Human Resources Director, was wrongly described as HR Registrar in "Staff stalwarts welcomed back" on page 2 of the same issue.

Cellular Automata



As the applicability of cellular automata broadens and technology advances, there is a need for a concise but thorough resource that lays the foundation of key cellular automata rules and applications.

In recent years, Stephen Wolfram's *A New Kind of Science* has brought to the attention of the scientific world the modelling power inherent in the medium of cellular automata.

Now, *Cellular Automata: A Discrete View of the World*, written by Dr Joel Schiff (Mathematics) and published this year by John Wiley and Sons, presents the thrust of the classic Wolfram text in a straightforward, introductory manner. Utilising at times novel material this book provides an introduction to cellular automata as a constructive method for modelling the behaviour of a wide range of complex systems (from bacteria to perhaps the universe itself) where patterns of self-organisation arising from simple rules are revealed. Some of the material is presented for the first time in book form.

The highly visual nature of the subject is accentuated with more than 200 illustrations that provide vivid representations of the cellular automata under discussion. Eight pages of these are in colour.

Readers can create their own cellular automata using Java applets and simple computer code, which are available via the book's FTP site. This book serves as a valuable resource for undergraduate and graduate students and would be of interest to any reader with a scientific background.

Last chance



Karl Van Mourik, work in progress, with Te Rangitu Netana. Photo: Becky Nunes.

Working in collaboration with the authors of recently published book *Mau Moko: The World of Māori Tattoo*, a study of the history and renaissance of Māori tattoo, photographer Becky Nunes travelled extensively through the North and South Islands making contemporary portraits of those who wear and practice ta moko.

If you hurry along (by 7 June) to the Gus Fisher Gallery, you will still have a chance to see some of these superb photographs in the foyer.

David Bryant (Geography, Geology and Environmental Science)



New associate professor, David Bryant, works on mathematical, statistical aspects of evolutionary biology. He designs methods that visualise patterns of relationship between different species or sequences.

His work has diverse applications, from virology to linguistics to agricultural scientist and archaeology.

David Bryant received his PhD at the University of Canterbury, with Professor Mike Steel. He was a postdoctoral fellow in Germany, Montreal, and France. In 2001 he took up a joint Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science position at McGill University in Montreal, where he obtained tenure before transferring to Auckland.

David is currently an Alexander von Humboldt fellow in Dusseldorf, Germany, where he is researching domestication patterns in ancient einkorn wheats as well as methods for teasing out evolutionary relationships between closely related bacterial strains.



Mark Adams (b.1949), 9.4.1992 Piopiotahi - Milford Sound, Atawhenua - Fiordland, 2006, Triptych, gold toned fibre-based silver bromide prints from black and white negatives, 510 x 610mm each. The University of Auckland Art Collection

On a Thursday before Easter in 1992, photographer Mark Adams put his large format camera up on a tripod in the wettest place in New Zealand. In three parts, he re-created the well-known panoramic view of Milford Sound looking northwest from Freshwater Basin. But something is missing from the resultant images. The centrepiece of this glacier-carved fiord (and its quintessential geological feature) is obscured by mist. Gone is the distinctive marker which elevates this landscape above the picturesque to iconic status as a World Heritage Site. The sublime Mitre Peak has become a haunting absence.

This triptych featured as the fold-out section of Adams' 1993 book with historian Harry Evison, *Land of Memories* (Whenua i maharatia, haehae nga takata/Land of memories, scarred by people). By design, the locality's privileged position in the

publication corresponded both to its place in art history and its economic significance to Ngai Tahu. Greenstone still glows on the beach at Anita Bay at the entrance to Milford Sound. Known as takiwai or teardrop because of its translucence, it was once the preferred stone for making jewellery, and traded widely. The Pounamu Vesting Act 1997 restored ownership of this resource, but *Land of Memories* predates this, and is strategic in its story telling. In an afterword, Adams explains how with "the arrival of the colonising cultures from the northern hemisphere...the old tribal economy was destroyed almost completely".

In the title Adams gives his photographs, Piopiotahi precedes Milford Sound, pointing both to European renaming and to the extinction of the native thrush or piopio, after the introduction of European mammalian predators. Mark Adams himself is European, "a South Islander, familiar

with this landscape, as the evolving relationship my culture has with the indigenous culture in its relationship with the land". As our guide and interpreter, he encourages us to look beyond the seen scene, while announcing where he stands in this continuum of history, his subjectivity foregrounded by the precise date which prefixes the title.

Precision is also perceptible in the details such as Bowen Falls on the right. This is achieved by enlarging from eight-inch by ten-inch negatives. In pursuit of even higher levels of resolution, Adams is also known to print directly onto light-sensitive paper without an enlarger. Five examples of Mark Adams photographs from the 1980s made using this technique are included in the group exhibition *Close-Up: Contemporary Contact Prints* at the Gus Fisher Gallery until 5 July.

Linda Tyler

Good response from general staff



David Skilling.

The majority of the 418 staff who attended the 2008 General Staff Conference enjoyed it thoroughly and rated it highly.

Organiser Kerryn Patten says feedback has been very positive, with 78 percent of participants marking the quality of the conference as "high" or "very high".

"I thought it was run extremely well," said one participant. "This was the first staff conference I attended and I would certainly go again."

"Well done," said another staff member.

"This was a great opportunity to network with colleagues and I personally got a lot out of it."

In her opening remarks Professor Raewyn Dalziel reflected on the conference theme

"Investing in the future - The next 125 years".

Raewyn provided an historical view of the contribution general staff have made to the University since 1883, and described the complexity and diversity of general staff roles in the 21st century.

Keynote speaker David Skilling is founding Chief Executive of the New Zealand Institute, a think tank established to contribute new and creative thinking on issues that matter to New Zealand's future. He spoke about what New Zealand has to do to find its place in the global economy.

Trudie McNaughton, Pro Vice-Chancellor (EO), spoke about her role and the part EEO plays in working to achieve equity at the University.

Two of the plenary sessions were based on responses to the 2007 Staff Survey. Sarah Strong's "Extreme makeover - Career edition" provided tips and ideas to help manage a successful career, and was well-rated by participants. The Senior Management Team panel discussion was also highly valued by those who attended.

The 27 workshops covering a wide range of topics provided great opportunities for general staff to learn and get to know one another.

Great turnout of potential postgrads

At least 1,000 current or prospective students now know much more about postgraduate study since attending the inaugural Postgraduate Information Week.

Organisers were delighted with the turnout, which exceeded expectations right across the faculties and throughout the week of 12 to 16 May.

Organiser Lynda Ferris (Communications and Marketing) said the event had successfully achieved its object of increasing awareness of postgraduate programmes and showcasing the importance of advanced study.

The week's activities ended with a dinner at Old Government House for 40 prospective postgraduate students and representatives from all faculties.

Master of ceremonies was Professor Gregor Coster, Dean of Graduate Studies. Speakers were Professor Raewyn Dalziel, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic), Distinguished Professor Brian Boyd (English), and current PhD student and 2007 Young Scientist of the Year Jessie Jacobsen (Neurogenetics and Neuroanatomy).

What's on

FRIDAY 6 JUNE

Department of History seminar
Fanon Che Wilkins, Doshisha University, Kyoto: *Searching for Black Power: African Americans and Africa, 1957-1976*. 1-2pm Rm 59, History Dept, 7 Wynyard St.

Department of Philosophy seminar
Boris Kment, Michigan: *Haecceitism and counterfactuals*. 3-5pm Rm 202, Fisher Bldg, 18 Waterloo Quadrant.

SATURDAY 7 JUNE

Film screening
1pm Gus Fisher Gallery. *Questions for Mr Reynolds* by Shirley Horrocks. Email gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz

SUNDAY 8 JUNE

Traditional Knowledge Conference 2008: Te Tatau Pounamu - The Greenstone Door: Traditional knowledge and gateways to balanced relationships. Until 11 June. Floor Zero, Business School. Host: Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga, The National Institute of Research Excellence for Maori Development and Advancement. Queries to indigenious-conference@auckland.ac.nz Visit www.indigenious-peace-conference-2008.ac.nz

MONDAY 9 JUNE

Department of Philosophy seminar
Trenton Merricks, Virginia: *Truth and freedom*. 3-5pm Rm 202, Fisher Bldg, 18 Waterloo Quadrant.

WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE

Decision making at The University of Auckland

9-11am Council Rm, Level 2, ClockTower, 22 Princes St. Information session for staff. Bookings and queries to ext 89630 or b.hoskin@auckland.ac.nz

Evaluating your supervision
Barbara Grant and guests. 3.30-5pm Level 5, CAD Seminar Rm, 76 Symonds St. The seminar will feature short presentations from Richard Le Heron (Geography), Mike Corballis (Psychology) and John Hosking (Computer Science), the three UoA Excellence in Research Supervision awardees. Followed by drinks and nibbles. Register at cadreception@auckland.ac.nz

Centre for Lacanian Analysis seminar

Dr Eluned Summers-Bremner: *Obstacles of enjoyment: Ian McEwan's Amsterdam*. 5.15-7pm Rm WS114, Level 1, WS Bldg, AUT, 24 St Paul St. Queries to la.holmes@auckland.ac.nz

THURSDAY 12 JUNE

Getting the most for your General Staff Development Review
10am-12noon Rm 336, Level 3, Bldg 810, 1-11 Short St. Information on the development review process and how to best prepare for your review. Bookings and queries to ext 89630 or b.hoskin@auckland.ac.nz

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

FRIDAY 13 JUNE

Book launch and exhibition opening
5.30pm Gus Fisher Gallery. *Everything Talks* by Sam Sampson, published by AUP and *Zero* by Sam Sampson and artist Peter Madden. Email gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz

SATURDAY 14 JUNE

Exhibition talk
1pm Gus Fisher Gallery. Peter Madden and Sam Sampson discuss the work in their show *Zero*.

TUESDAY 17 JUNE

Public Policy Group seminar
Dr Ian Hassell, Institute of Public Policy, AUT: *Is the hitting about to stop? Children's slow rise toward citizenship*. 1-2pm Upstairs Dining Rm, OGH. Queries to l.humpage@auckland.ac.nz

Women Returning to Work project seminar
Heather McDonald, Dept of Labour: *Flexible work, and breastfeeding legislation*. 1-2pm FGW Suite, OGH. Chaired by Trudie McNaughton PVC (EO). Women Returning to Work project (A joint project conducted by UoA and the Association of University Staff), invites staff to attend the above session which will provide information on new employment provisions for women returning to work, parents, grandparents and carers. You are welcome to bring your own lunch. Coffee, cake, fruit and juice will be provided. RSVP to Margaret Freeman by Friday 13 June for catering purposes: ms.freeman@auckland.ac.nz

THURSDAY 19 JUNE

Effectively leading and managing meetings
9am-4pm Rm 336, Level 3, Bldg 810, 1-11 Short St. A workshop for staff responsible for facilitating meetings, taking minutes or establishing agendas. Bookings and queries to ext 89630 or b.hoskin@auckland.ac.nz

Teaching and learning workshop for academic staff

Matiu Ratima (facilitator) with guests Kim Dirks (Audiology), Andrew Luxton-Reilly (CS) and members of the 'Success for All' project: *Engaging students in the classroom: Teaching to the back of the room*. 10am-12noon CAD Seminar Rm, 5th Floor, 76 Symonds St. Register to cadreception@auckland.ac.nz

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

Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

Devonport house, fully-furnished, private garden, from July 2008 to January 2009 (flexible). Walking distance to beaches, shops, and ferry to city. Two bdrm, two lounges, study, central heating. Ideal for sabbatical visitor. N/s. \$600 pw (neg), includes free local phone calls. Contact r.raine@auckland.ac.nz

Devonport house, fully-furnished three-bdrmed house perched in a quiet spot on the edge of a sports reserve and has a heated outdoor spa pool in the trees and a small swimming pool. Available early August to late November 2008. We might also be able to leave a car for your use. Weekly rental (power and phone included but without the car): \$500 pw. Contact Barbara on bm.grant@auckland.ac.nz

Freemans Bay townhouse, newly renovated: dble room for rent, with deck, ensuite and study area. Owner, based on Waiheke, stays in house approx 1-2 nights per week. Large, well-equipped kitchen/living area, small courtyard garden with inner-city views, quiet street, close to CBD and Ponsonby Rd. Suit academic single or couple. Phone (09) 372-3161 or (021) 175-2218.

House for rent, 20 July-20 November 2008. Te Atatu Peninsula. We will be on sabbatical. Modern three-bdrm, two-bthrm home with indoor garage and good backyard. Fully-furnished and possibility of car. \$275 pw. Phone Mike O'Sullivan on 373-7599 ext 87907 or (021) 365-761 or email michael.osullivan@auckland.ac.nz

Murrays Bay, 27B Seaton Rd. Clean, modern, private house, three bdrms, one bthrm, two off street car parks, 500 metres to Murrays Bay beach, walking-distance to Murrays Bay Primary and Intermediate and Rangitoto College. French doors off one bdrm and the living room. Great outdoor entertaining area. Wardrobe organisers in each bdrm. Furnished or unfurnished. \$500 pw. Available June 14, 2008. Phone Jackie on (021) 121-3956.

Refurbished Art Deco apartment, in central city close to The University of Auckland. One of only nine apartments in a secure complex. Two dble bdrms, lounge and separate dining with a secure car park. Unfurnished but could be semi-furnished. Available now. \$500 pw. Contact owner on (021) 421-148.

Remuera, minutes to Parnell, Newmarket, University and hospital. Spacious fully-furnished bedsitter, separate kitchen, plenty of storage. Sunny, quiet garden setting, OSP. Suitable single person, n/s. \$200 pw + power and water. Phone (09) 524-8543.

Room available in Grey Lynn villa with English-speaking family. Furnished or unfurnished, close to buses, shops, cafes and parks. We are happy to provide English conversation sessions for a language student. Phone 376-8008 or email petalproductions@ww.co.nz

Three Kings, charming cottage, two bdrms + study. Semi-furnished. Garden and carport. \$375 pw + utilities. Available long-term from 13 July. Contact Sophie on ext 87345 or (09) 623-8271 or email s.tomlinson@auckland.ac.nz

Unfurnished house to rent on beach, Point Chevalier. 15-minutes to central Auckland. Available 13 July 2008. Four bdrms, study, kids rumpus area, garage, large gardens leading to furnished bach on beach, pool, great sea views. \$1400 NZ dollars pw. Phone (027) 370-7779 or email sjwhitelaw@gmail.com

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

House rental, furnished, for academic couple on sabbatical with two children. December 2008 to July 2009. Prefer inner suburbs. Email jwilkin@rutgers.edu Would consider possible house-swap with our house in Princeton, New Jersey, USA.

House-sitter available, from 01 Sept 2008. Responsible, mature, single male. Self-employed designer, n/s, quiet-living, seeking house-sitting positions in greater Auckland area. Take holidays knowing your house and garden are looked after, your cats are well cared for, and there's a reliable contact at your home while you're away. Refs available. Please email stephen.woodman@gmail.com

I am visiting Auckland with my family (including girls age 3 and 6) for two months, 16 July to 10 September. We are looking for a house to rent, preferably furnished, with convenient access to downtown Auckland and to Massey University (Albany) by public transport. Would prefer two-three bdrms, but don't mind squeezing into something smaller. Please contact Chris at CTVisMe@gmail.com

Reliable house-sitter available. 51-year-old woman - former high school teacher. Happy to feed pets, mow lawn and weed garden. Contact Sandra on (021) 439-696.

PROPERTY FOR SALE

Karekare. Ten acres of prime native bush, Lot 10 DP54016, behind Lone Kauri Road properties. North-facing building site, nice walk to beach. Rare opportunity. Priced to sell, \$390,000 reduced from \$450,000. Contact R White, phone (09) 410-4817, email r.white@auckland.ac.nz.

MISCELLANEOUS

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

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

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