

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND news

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Good golly, Miss Mollie



Left to right are Joan Robb, Derek Challis, Mary Sewell, Mandy Harper and Michele Leggott with the skull of Mollie the elephant.

Zoology, biology, history and poetry came together in a unique combination in the seminar and presentation “Mollie and friends – on the track of the Ohakune elephant”.

The well-attended seminar was held in the McGregor Room, part of what used to be the McGregor Biology Museum, in the Old Biology Building on 28 August.

Mollie the Elephant was one of a phalanx of performing elephants which toured New Zealand with Bullen’s Circus in the 1950s. The 13-year-old Mollie was famed for her ability to stand on her front legs and was often the star of the big ring.

But alas! – in 1957 in Ohakune, while being walked by elephant handlers, Mollie ate some poisonous tutu which was overhanging the road. She promptly died and her noisome carcass was soon buried. But not before it was decapitated and the skull removed to the University’s Zoology Department.

For years, the story of Mollie has fascinated the Edmond family – the children of famed writer Lauris Edmond – who were residents of Ohakune at the time and who recall going to Bullen’s Circus and later joining other children in having an improvised burial service for Mollie.

New Zealand’s poet laureate Associate-Professor Michele Leggott (English) introduced “Mollie and

Friends” at the seminar. She first gave the floor to former Associate Professor Joan Robb, who told the story of the McGregor Biology Museum and praised the late Professor William Roy McGregor as “the last of the Victorian-style naturalists”. Dr Mary Sewell and Mandy Harper (both from Biological Sciences) illustrated the architecture of the building itself, designed by Roy Lippincott in the 1930s.

Alumnus Martin Edmond gave his fragmentary childhood memories of Mollie and then his more detailed account of how he came to know that her skull resided in the University. His sister Frances Edmond read some of their mother’s evocative writings about Ohakune.

Then it was the turn of Derek Challis, assisted by Peter Jenkins. As a young technician in the Zoology Department, it was Derek who travelled to Ohakune and, with the help of a local farmer and his two-man cross-cut saw, decapitated Mollie’s carcass and retrieved the skull. To a fascinated audience, Derek delivered a detailed account of how the skull was de-greased, bleached and preserved.

After afternoon tea, the seminar ended with all proceeding to see Mollie’s great skull, about which Michele Leggott’s poetry students performed rites of memory. Martin Edmond’s latest book of poems *The Big O Revisited* was then launched.

Key events

Polls versus expectations

New Zealand is facing an election. After nine years in power, the Clark Government faces a new Opposition Leader who wasn’t part of past political battles, and the Government is dogged by bad opinion polls. Is the Government doomed, or are the opinion polls likely to narrow as the election approaches? In the 2008 Robert Chapman Lecture, presented by the Department of Political Studies, Antony Green, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation’s leading election commentator, will address this question by drawing parallels with the last Australian elections and with the experiences of John Howard. His lecture, entitled “Polls versus expectations – An Australian perspective on the New Zealand election”, will take place at the Maidment Theatre at 6.30pm on 22 September.

Graduating in spring

Around 2650 degrees and diplomas will be conferred in person and in absentia at six ceremonies at Spring Graduation on 23 and 25 September. On both days the street procession from the University to the Town Hall will set off at 10am from the intersection of Waterloo Quadrant and Princes Street, weather permitting. Speakers at the ceremonies include yacht designer Ron Holland, GP and poet Glenn Colquhoun, and CEO of the Royal Society of NZ, Dr Di McCarthy.

Blues Awards

At the Blues Awards dinner, in time-honoured tradition, students are rewarded for their prowess in sporting and cultural fields. This year’s dinner will be held at 6.30pm on 19 September in the Alumni Marquee at Old Government House. Tickets can be purchased for \$70 at Student Central or by email to bluesawards@ausa.org.nz

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From the Vice-Chancellor

The recent recommendation by Parliament's Education and Science Select Committee that the Education (Establishment of Universities of Technology) Amendment Bill not be passed is good news for New Zealand's university sector. Passage of the Bill would have resulted in the conversion of a number of institutes of technology and polytechnics (ITPs) into "universities of technology" – to the detriment of both vocational education in New Zealand (as ITPs sought to become "universities") and the international reputation of our research-led universities.

However, the failure of the Bill to proceed (which, it is to be hoped, will be the outcome of the Committee's recommendation) will not lessen calls for every part of Auckland, and many regional centres, to have their own university campuses. Already, the Government has decided to assist AUT in establishing a campus in Manukau, and there are regular calls for a university campus in West Auckland.

While it is possible to construct arguments that "local" campuses will increase accessibility to university education, the reality is that, given the current funding model, no New Zealand university will ever be able to operate a large number of comprehensive campuses in areas of modest population size. Yet the comprehensive nature of teaching and research is one of the foundations of the modern university, and a key element in our ability to develop in our graduates and researchers the kinds of multidisciplinary approaches that will be required to address the issues of the day.

This characteristic of universities was particularly brought home to me at Courses and Careers Day on 30 August. Here prospective students were able to see the full range of programmes offered by New Zealand's most comprehensive university, and to explore broad educational opportunities such as those offered by conjoint degrees. Particularly impressive was the willingness of large numbers of staff and senior students to give up a day in order to explain the vast range of opportunities available at the University to a large number of prospective students and their family members. Many of those students had been brought in to the University from around Auckland and further afield. I am grateful to the many members of the University community who work so hard to ensure that The University of Auckland remains accessible to students while pursuing its mission as a research-led university of national and international significance.



Thumbs-up from students

First-year students hold an increasingly positive view of the University, school principals from across Auckland have been told.

At their annual forum on campus, held on 19 August, they were given the results of the 2007 teaching and learning survey of first-year undergraduates.

"These refute some of the myths you hear about the University," said Schools Partnership Office Director, Ken Rapson.

Among the findings were:

- 97 percent of participants "generally agreed" their programme was "challenging and intellectually stimulating".
- For 94 percent, the overall teaching in their programme had been "excellent".
- 93 percent had made friends at University while 91 percent agreed that the University's social atmosphere was "enjoyable".
- Overall 95 percent were satisfied with their University of Auckland experience while 96 percent would recommend the University to others.

Student social and work areas had greatly improved, said Ken, inviting the principals to inspect Level O of their venue (the Owen G Glenn Building) as an example on their way out. "You will see students working co-operatively at tables as well as networking. There is always a healthy buzz of activity in these spaces."

The 47 principals attending heard from the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stuart McCutcheon, on

proposals for future campus development.

Starting with a revealing aerial photograph of the City Campus in 1965 from which few older buildings survive, he said it was "a useful reminder of how the campus has changed over the last 40 years. We are talking about changes that we might like to make over the next ten to 15 years and thinking more coherently about how the University ought to be organised."

There were also presentations from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor Raewyn Dalziel, on entry requirements for 2009 and from Associate Professor Simon Holdaway (Anthropology) on student field trips in western New South Wales and the Fayun area of Egypt where Neolithic people lived.

The Acting Dean of Education, Dr Graeme Aitken, spoke about teacher education initiatives and research in the faculty. Dealing with such issues as the integration of research, theory and practice, the graduating teacher standards, and the importance of longitudinal research data in education, he responded at length to points raised by the principals in last year's forum.

"We are committed to a more mutually beneficial relationship around the practicum and to strengthening communications with secondary schools," he said.

The principals were each given a copy of Nicholas Reid's *The University of Auckland: The First 125 Years* for their school libraries.

Thousands check out courses



Campbell Ellison from Orewa and Sarah Krieg from Warkworth are greeted by Student Ambassadors at Courses and Careers Day.

A chilly and sunless Saturday, blighted by drizzle for a start, curbed neither numbers at Courses and Careers Day nor the customary buzz.

Attendance was estimated to have increased over previous years to 7000 with many of the 150 lectures packed out.

The six-hour event, on 30 August, attracted prospective students and their families from across Auckland and from as far away as Whangarei and Tauranga. Many travelled to the City Campus courtesy of free buses which streamed into Princes

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Retrospective 1883-2008



DAY ONE – Monday 16th Sept.

3.30 pm: A rally of around 400 students led by the Education Action Group converges on the site of the fee-setting Council meeting in the Architecture building.

4.00 pm: After half an hour of chanting to the sound of a Cook Island drumming group, students claim a victory as University Vice-Chancellor Kit Carson defers the meeting to mid-October. The meeting was likely to have set the fee increase at 18%. Students depart, heading quickly for Registry.

4.08 pm: Students are barred from entering the Registry.

4.20 pm: A glass-panelled door is broken, and students gain entrance to a Registry office. The two staff members present refuse to unlock the internal door to let them through to the corridor.

4.35 pm: On the advice of the police, the main doors are opened and protestors flood into the Registry.

The Evening: The occupation makes both prime-time television news stations and all major radio stations. 150 students bed down for the night.

(story continued from page 2)

Street from 8.15am. Others flew in from around New Zealand and even overseas.

The focus was on courses on offer and the careers to which qualifications lead. Visitors could also tap into advice and information on entry, enrolment, student services and the array of first-year scholarships – and apply on the spot as many did. The following week saw a huge surge in applications.

“The feedback indicates that we turned on an outstanding day,” says Schools Partnership Office Director, Ken Rapson.

“The Student Ambassadors really stood out. They are our front-line and by their friendliness and helpfulness they show the University off in a good light.

DAY TWO – Tuesday 17th Sept.

7.00 am: Occupiers awake to a front page NZ Herald Article.

10.30 am: Paul Holmes arrives, the media circus gains momentum.

DAY THREE – Wednesday 18th Sept.

11.00 am: The planned meeting with the three University Council members lasts five minutes. A response to the Alternative Budget is handed to student negotiators, and promptly deemed “inadequate” in content.

1.00 pm: Around 500 students and staff rally at the Registry in support of the occupiers.

Extracts from “Students Occupy Registry Demanding No Fee Increase”, *Craccum*, 21-23 September 1996, p.9.

The official student occupation of the Registry Building from September 16-23 ended with both sides agreeing to collaborate on a joint working party to investigate the level of the 1997 fee.

The occupation occurred because students were concerned Council was about to approve a tuition fee rise of \$378 (18%).

The University was caught in a difficult position. On the one hand, it has itself been critical of the impact of government policies which have seen state funding of universities dwindling. Professor Carson estimates that the University of Auckland has absorbed around \$112 million as a result of falling government funding between 1992 and 1995. “We have experienced reduced subsidies from the government and have had to absorb additional costs such as inflation, compliance costs, increases in salaries and an unfunded load of students,” he said during the press conference that marked the end of the occupation. On the other hand, students were demanding a nil fee increase, in the belief that the University could subsidise such a measure by abandoning its \$5 million surplus.

Extracts from “Registry Occupation”, *University of Auckland News*, 26, 8, 1996, p.2.

“Another feature of the day was the outstanding lectures across all faculties. Visitors commented very positively about the inspiring presentations and range of ‘hands on’ activities.”

Visitors who were surveyed gave the day an overall rating of 4.3 on a scale of 1 (disappointing) to 5 (excellent). The friendliness of staff and students earned an overall rating of 4.7.

Visitors from out of Auckland – 27 percent of the total – doubled from last year while the proportion of parents attending more than quadrupled.

Ken paid special tribute to Lisa Healy, who managed the event, and her assistant Danielle Dunn, both recent recruits to Communications and Marketing. “They did a fabulous job and the day ran remarkably smoothly.”

... in brief

Keep up with news on the staff intranet

Many staff have chosen to have the staff intranet as their home page, so they can stay up to date every day with news and notices for staff. It is very simple to do this.

If you are using the Mozilla Firefox browser:

- go to the intranet front page by clicking the “staff” option at the left of the University website’s front page, or by following this link: www.auckland.ac.nz/uoq/for/staff/home.cfm
- choose tools from the menu at the top, and then select “options”
- in the options menu (under the “Main” tab), click the “Use current page” button in the “Startup” box.
- Click OK and it will be set to go.

If you are using the Internet Explorer browser:

- go to the page by clicking the “staff” option at the left of the University website’s front page or by following this link: www.auckland.ac.nz/uoq/for/staff/home.cfm
- choose tools from the menu at the top, and then select “options”
- in the options menu (under the “General” tab), click the “Use current page” button
- Click OK and it will be set to go.

Note that you will need to type your UPI number and password when you first enter the staff intranet home page. However, if you click “Remember me” and then confirm this, you will not have to enter your UPI and password again for about a month.

Women to watch

Auckland Graduate Women will launch the “Women to watch” seminar series with guest speaker Professor Jane Harding, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), an international authority in fetal physiology research. The aim is to recognise successful and emerging women, to inspire women, to encourage networking and discussion, and to offer mentorship to younger women. The lecture will be held at the Graham Hill Lecture Theatre, Level 12, Auckland Hospital, at 5pm on 15 September, with drinks and nibbles to follow. RSVP by 12 September to Jane Bellamy, phone 529 2062 or email janebellamy@xtra.co.nz

Request for proposals

Proposals are invited for the ICEHOUSE-University of Auckland School of Business collaborative research funds. Up to \$10,000 will be awarded to masters or PhD students and/or faculty members of the Business School to assist and further their research on small and medium-sized enterprises and start-ups in New Zealand. Applications are due on 31 October. For further information contact Julia Brannigan, j.brannigan@theicehouse.co.nz

Call for nominations

The annual NZVCC Working Effectively in the University Sector Course provides general staff with a unique and challenging opportunity to further their understanding of the role of tertiary institutions in our society, develop their current professional skills, and network with staff from other New Zealand universities. The 2008 course will be held at Lincoln University from 17 to 21 November.

Over the years a number of our general staff have attended, returning with very positive comments: "I think these are terrific courses. Full-on hard work but with a bit of fun thrown in."

As there is only a small number of places allocated to each university, nominations will be gathered and participants selected through an internal selection process. The HR Staff and Organisational Development Unit (SODU) is calling for nominations of general staff from throughout the University who would benefit from attending.

Nominations must reach SODU by 30 September. Visit www.auckland.ac.nz/sodu to access nomination forms and further information about the 2008 course including nomination criteria, course content and costs. Please direct any queries to Jemimah Wilson je.wilson@auckland.ac.nz or ext 85070.

Women in Leadership

Applications are now open for the Women in Leadership Programme, which aims to provide opportunities for women to develop their leadership skills. Specific objectives include increasing the numbers of women in senior positions, enhancing recruitment and retention of women in non-traditional areas, fostering training, mentoring and career development for academic and general staff women.

In 2006 the programme received the EEO Trust Manaaki Tangata Innovation award.

The core programme consists of an off-campus overnight introductory retreat in February, mentoring by a senior academic or general staff person and a full day workshop in June. A supplementary workshop programme designed around the identified development goals of participants is offered throughout the year.

All interested women are invited to apply but priority will be given to general staff women at Level 4-7 and academic women who are considering applying for promotion in the next two years. These are likely to be at Lecturer 6-7, Senior Lecturer 4-5 or Senior Tutor 3-4 and 6-7.

Visit www.auckland.ac.nz/sodu and click on the Leadership Programmes link to access further information and the application form or contact the Programme Manager, Mary Ann Crick, ext 86379 or ma.crick@auckland.ac.nz

The closing date for applications is 31 October.

Whānau across the oceans

Currently based at the Mira Szász Research Centre, sponsored by Starpath and involved in activities also with Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga, is Malia Villegas from Fife, Washington, a 2008 Fulbright US Graduate Student.

At The University of Auckland Malia is studying policy and research for improving education of indigenous peoples, towards her PhD in education from Harvard University. She wrote of some of her experiences in the *Fulbright Quarterly*. An abbreviated version is published here:

"I am an island girl through and through, having grown up in various Pacific island communities in Hawai'i, Alaska, and Guam....

"I travelled here to learn about the Māori higher education initiative, specifically the inspirational success of the effort to graduate 500 Māori PhDs in five years – which the Māori have achieved and exceeded since 2002. In Alaska, we just graduated our 21st Alaska Native with a doctorate, so we have a great deal to learn from the Māori about the value of a PhD and their vision for the type of scholars that will support the well-being of Māori people and communities.

"Since arriving here in January, I have found a home amongst a community of Māori scholars across the country who have diverse sets of expertise, various research interests, and a commitment to education that has motivated me to continue to identify new expressions of Indigeneity in my own research.

"I have attended my first hui with other indigenous doctoral students, joined in at the annual National Māori Excellence Awards where newly minted doctorates are acknowledged and celebrated, and participated in the launch of the first indigenous graduate school at Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangī!

"These Māori doctorates are setting a new tone for what it means to be a scholar as they work to

be deeply community-based, nationally active, and globally influential while developing Kaupapa Māori theory that has made available epistemological and methodological tools that are distinctly Māori.

"There is so much to be learned from this Māori movement about developing other theoretical tools from indigenous ways of knowing, about community celebrations of educational success, and about the creation of tribal universities that I must admit my head is spinning most days!

"During my time here, I have come to recognise the great possibility that exists in the sharing of knowledge between Māori and Alaska Native peoples. Specifically, there are insights we have gained about land rights through the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act for economic development and for stewarding our precious resources that might be of use to iwi leaders.

Additionally, our Alaska Federation of Natives convention where regional and village delegates convene to set political priorities might serve as a model of political organisation for Māori political mobilisation.

"To begin to facilitate this relationship, I have signed on as a volunteer for Dr Pita Sharples' re-election campaign. I hope to facilitate a relationship between the Māori Party and the Alaska Federation of Natives that could offer insight about national political mobilisation on our end and insight from Māori as to the possibility of having our own political party of elected officials in Alaska...

"And while I already know I will return home with a richer appreciation of my own family, culture, and country, I am now more deeply committed to the promise of what can be created across communities, nations, and oceans.

"Quyanaa (with great thanks and appreciation) to the tangata whenua and to my Aotearoa whānau; I can't wait to host you in Alaska!"



Malia Villegas at The University of Auckland.

Big step for technology



Professor Mark Cannell (at front left), Dr John Matthews (Chair, School of Medicine Foundation) and David Flood (Microscopy Business Group Divisional Manager from Carl Zeiss Australia).

The School of Medical Sciences recently celebrated the arrival and installation of the new Zeiss LSM 710 confocal microscope in the Biomedical Imaging Research Unit with a launch party.

The Zeiss LSM 710 was released from Carl Zeiss early in 2008 and provides a big step forward in technology and sensitivity. The system installed at The University of Auckland is the first in the Southern Hemisphere and one of the first in the world. It provides a very stable platform for intervention, perfusion and precise measurement of intracellular signalling events such as calcium with high temporal and spatial resolution. The new system takes advantage of recent advances in spectral imaging, also known as emission fingerprinting, to enable multi-channel imaging of several molecular labels simultaneously, enabling investigation of complex interactions between cellular structures and processes, in 3D and over time.

The purchase of the new equipment was made possible through the generous funding support

provided by the School of Medicine Foundation. Dr John Matthews, Chair of the School of Medicine Foundation, was given a personal tour of the facility when he came to the faculty to attend the launch event.

The formal proceedings were opened by Associate Professor Alistair Young, Director of the BIRU, who was followed by Professor John Fraser, Head of the School of Medical Sciences. David Flood, the Microscopy Business Group Divisional Manager from Carl Zeiss Australia, then explained how Zeiss saw their research support and investment role. Carl Zeiss Australia was a co-sponsor of the event.

In addition to staff members from all over the University, there were also visitors from the University of Otago, HortResearch and Fonterra, some of whom had travelled especially to see the new system in action.

Workshops for research groups were also held throughout the week with the assistance of Dr Stephan Kuppig, a confocal applications specialist from Carl Zeiss MicroImaging in Germany.

Jones awards bestowed in style

Sir Robert Jones bestowed his eponymous Philosophy Awards with all the humour and style that have come to characterise the colourful businessman and benefactor.

This year, former Prime Minister Michael Moore and the Rt Hon Jonathon Hunt joined Sir Robert for the evening celebration in Old Government House.

The awards, established in 2004, are given annually to five undergraduate students majoring in Philosophy, who have completed their first semester of Stage One. The three-year scholarships are each worth \$2000 per year.

Sir Robert said he has long been praised for finding the right people to work in, and run, his business interests.

"I am always asked, 'Where do you find these people?' I tell them, 'Go to the humanities!' And to anyone who thinks studying philosophy is wet I say, 'It's not wet. You are all too young to know what you are going to do yet, so this is how you start to figure it out.'"

Both Dean of Arts, Professor John Morrow, and Head of Philosophy, Dr Tim Dare, thanked Sir Robert for his generous scholarships. Tim said the scholarships, awarded at the beginning of studies, give students "just the right kind of support at just the right time".

This year's recipients are Imogene Paterson, Rhys Thompson, Joanna Woollams, Keith Ruddell and Madeleine Collier.

Viewpoint

Road tolls – they must be about choice

So what is road tolling about?

In simple terms it's about reducing road congestion. Congestion arises when there is not enough supply to meet demand of this public good, and in Auckland it's all about the morning and evening peaks. In theory at least, if we could shift demand in the peaks there would be less congestion, and as a society we could all benefit.

One method of shifting the peaks is to price roads using a toll for each vehicle which uses the resource. The major roads in Auckland all carry a mixture of traffic from commercial trips, commuter vehicles and passenger transport.

To reduce the volume of commuter drivers tolling can be a successful strategy when there is choice, but the alternative choice has to be a reasonable one. In theory as prices (tolls) rise some existing users will adopt alternatives. They might choose an alternative route, use public transport where available, or shift travel time to avoid the toll. Another method of reducing congestion might be to promote car pooling or increase the supply of public transport or reduce its cost.

Road pricing was first introduced in a comprehensive way in 1975 when Singapore implemented the very first tolling system. At the same time improvements were made to public transport and car ownership rules were revised.

Systems which now operate in Rome and London are zonal systems with complete coverage. If a zonal system were introduced to Auckland it may well kill the CBD and not be appropriate. Parking charges at present are more efficient.

So do I favour road tolling?

It is one of several demand management tools and can only be successful if other reasonable alternatives are available. One would also have to ask how many roads this could apply to in the Auckland situation – not that many I suspect. Will it reduce congestion? Overseas experience has shown it can – but there are always other costs and benefits and there must be reasonable choice.

Bevan Clement
Senior Research Associate
Transportation Research Centre

Pacific celebration

Celebrate the success of our Pacific graduates at the Pacific Graduation dinner to be held in the Fale Pasifika, 20 Wynyard Street, on 26 September from 6.30pm till late. The cost at \$35 per person includes a buffet dinner and live band. Tickets may be purchased from Marilyn Gabriel, Centre for Pacific Studies, 373 7599 ext 85893 or m.gabriel@auckland.ac.nz

Pragmatics scholar joins staff



Professor Yan Huang at The University of Auckland.

When Yan Huang was 17 years old he was sent, by order of the government, to go work in the fields near Nanjing in China.

It was 1973 when China was in the turmoil of the Cultural Revolution and Yan, a high school graduate, had to forfeit his dream of higher education in order to spend the next four years as a farm labourer.

Such an inauspicious start only heightens the level of success Yan now enjoys. Professor of Linguistics at The University of Auckland, he is regarded as one of the leading thinkers in theoretical linguistics, in particular pragmatics – the study of language in communication – and its interfaces with semantics, syntax and cognition. He is the author of several highly respected monographs and books, including the most recent, bestselling academic text, *Pragmatics* (Oxford University Press, 2007).

Long agenda on short leave

When most members of staff take short leave, they undertake necessary study, research and publication. When Associate Professor Uwe Grodd (School of Music) takes short leave, he undertakes the work of a lifetime.

Uwe is back from his first-semester short leave, for which the University awarded him the standard grant-in-aid.

While on leave, he acted as conductor, flautist, editor and teacher.

As conductor, he conducted the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra for the world premier recording of Volume 4 of the Complete Works for Piano and Orchestra of Ferdinand Ries, the early nineteenth century Viennese composer. For the last four years, Uwe Grodd has been systematically recording the complete works of Ries with distinguished orchestras in Britain, Sweden and New Zealand. The pianist for the series is the Vienna-based Christopher Hinterhuber.

Uwe also conducted the Manukau City

These impressive accolades begin to make sense when the intellectual pedigree of Yan's family is revealed. His great grandfather was one of China's last imperial scholars of the Qing Dynasty; his grandfather graduated from Columbia University in New York; and one of his aunts was a well-known novelist and feminist writer in the 1930s and 1940s whose work and life are the subject of numerous biographies, books, TV programmes and even doctoral dissertations.

Yan himself was the first arts and humanities student from mainland China to win a full scholarship from Cambridge University to undertake a PhD. He has a PhD and a DPhil from Oxford University. As one of the first groups of students to enter university after China's nationwide university entrance examination was restored in 1977, he started publishing in

Symphony Orchestra in a performance with soloists Hayley Westenra and Shaun Dixon.

As flautist, Uwe was able to research, practise and perform on the flute. "Meaningful and lengthy practice time is an essential part of being a musician," he comments.

With pianist Matteo Napoli, he recorded for Naxos Records four works by Ferdinand Ries for flute and piano. He performed at the "Flute Meeting 08" in Larissa, Greece. In Germany he teamed up with organist Dr John Wells to perform in the Schlangenbader Abendmusik. For Sky TV's Arts Channel he performed and recorded Claude Debussy's solo flute work *Syrinx*. He also formed a duo with Christopher Hinterhuber. They have already performed for the School of Music, and are arranging concerts in New Zealand and Europe and recording dates with Naxos.

As editor, Uwe undertook the exacting work of editing Johann Baptist Vanhal's quintet in B flat major for flute, twin violins, viola and bass. This

academic journals in China when he was a second-year undergraduate.

He moved to Auckland from Reading University, where he was professor of theoretical linguistics (he also taught linguistics at Cambridge and Oxford universities). Although he acknowledges New Zealand is geographically isolated from other academic centres of excellence, he says there are more important reasons for his decision to relocate to the other side of the world.

"The University of Auckland is one of the top 50 universities in the world and its Faculty of Arts earns particular respect internationally. Plus, New Zealand has stunning natural beauty, Auckland is a very nice city to live in, and the people are friendly, warm and welcoming. This was a quality of life move as well as a quality of work move," says Yan, whose family will join him from Oxford next year.

Dean of Arts Professor John Morrow says Yan's focus on theoretical linguistics "adds another dimension to a department which has existing strengths in applied and sociolinguistics".

Perhaps surprisingly, Yan's first love was not language but mathematics. When he was in the countryside, he even taught mathematics as a replacement teacher at high schools. He says theoretical linguistics allows him to explore both passions.

"I was relatively good at maths but I studied English as an undergraduate at Nanjing University. At that time, in the early 1980s, I decided to focus on linguistics rather than literature because it is apolitical and because I am also interested in the meaning and structure, and the richness and diversity, of languages."

In one monograph he has used data drawn from more than 550 of the world's languages. Currently he is working on another monograph and writing the world's first dictionary of pragmatics, to be published by Oxford University Press.

"Fundamentally, I believe that whatever you do, you do your best."

involved a careful comparison between copies held in Copenhagen and Regensburg. Vanhal has been an ongoing interest for Uwe, as has Ferdinand Ries, some of whose works he also edited on this leave.

Finally, as teacher, Uwe conducted seminars at the "Flute Meeting" in Larissa, as well as conducting a large flute ensemble of his own arrangement "Flute Salad". In collaboration with Fred Peter, he developed and has since published an article on breathing technique for flautists and he took part in a conference in Wurzburg on flute teaching.

While on leave, his most innovative teaching experience was using internet-based video conferencing equipment, in Dusseldorf, to teach his class in the School of Music in Auckland.

In one semester's leave, Uwe has, as he put it simply in his leave report "achieved all objectives as outlined in the application and final itinerary for leave". This seems an understatement for a prodigious round of work.

From the collection

Printmaker, jade carver, photographer, painter, moko designer and expert performer of Balinese dance, Theo Schoon was an incandescent presence in the mid-twentieth century New Zealand art world.

Expression of his commitment to art frequently got him into trouble. He was dismissed from the employ of Avondale Mental Hospital in 1949 for giving art materials to a patient, and was evicted from his flat in Sydney for painting when he should have been gardening. Two weeks' detention in Mt Eden followed his 1957 letter to then Prime Minister Walter Nash in which he explained that he would no longer contribute income tax since he believed that real artists like himself should be exempt.

Born in Java during World War One, Theo Schoon was of Dutch stock. He returned to his parents' native Holland for his secondary schooling, and then trained at the renowned Rotterdam Fine Art Academy until 1935 before rejoining his family in Indonesia where he worked in advertising and publicity.

With the outbreak of World War Two in 1939, his parents emigrated to Christchurch where Theo enrolled at Canterbury College School of Art. In Christchurch, he impressed artists Rita Angus, Leo Bensemann and Gordon Walters with his eclectic knowledge of modern media and experimental art processes. Fascinated by Ngai Tahu rock art, in 1946 he badgered Roger Duff into applying to the Department of Internal Affairs for a grant so that

he could travel around South Canterbury and North Otago documenting the designs for two years. The superficial similarity between rock art and modernist abstraction made the drawings appealing not just to Schoon but to other artists interested in forging a new art out of visual elements which were unique to New Zealand.

Publishing his findings in an article entitled "New Zealand's Oldest Art Galleries", Schoon explained that the rock drawings were the "exclusive precinct of the Tohungas of New Zealand, and the drawings...part of their magic practices". He believed that the drawings he had visited had been produced to ward off evil, and tapped this potency by using them as inspiration for his own art. Invited to exhibit with Ruth Coyle and Dennis Knight Turner at the Auckland Art Gallery in 1959 in an exhibition entitled "Three Cave Artists", Schoon produced a range of paintings.

Fellow immigrant Dutch gallery owner and printmaker Kees Hos asked him to contribute work to the group exhibition which inaugurated New Vision Gallery in Auckland in 1965, and Schoon produced this relief print with the title *Manaia Mania B 1965*. It blends his earlier study of rock art with the psychedelic colours of Op art and the beat of the swinging sixties. Schoon has titled his print knowing that the manaia figure signified spiritual guardianship over air, water or land in Māori culture, and has simplified the usual three fingered-and-toed creature into its constituent parts of serpentine line, head, eye, mouth and hand.

Art



Theo Schoon Manaia Mania B 1965. University of Auckland Art collection.

Later commentators have criticised Schoon for his appropriation of Māori motifs, but he believed that the salvation of Māori art lay in its assimilation into a Western artistic tradition, where new patterns were made from customary Māori ingredients.

Linda Tyler

Cardinal



Just published by Pindar Publishing, *The Life and Work of Reginald John Delargey, Cardinal* is the latest work by University of Auckland alumnus Dr Nicholas Reid, who currently lectures in church history for the School of Theology.

Nicholas has a growing reputation as a cultural historian. His published works so far include the first book-length study of the New Zealand cinema *A Decade of New Zealand Film*, published in the 1980s, and *The University of Auckland: The First 125 Years*, published by Auckland University Press earlier this year. In between came *The Bishop's Paper*, a history of the Catholic church press in New Zealand, and *James Michael Liston: A Life*, published by Victoria University Press, a biography of the formidable archbishop known to generations of Aucklanders. The Liston biography was developed from his doctoral thesis in history.

Nicholas says the biography of Delargey, two years in the making, presented different problems from the biography of Liston, although both are

detailed accounts of churchmen, drawing on extensive archival research.

"Liston died a very old man, over 30 years ago," says Nicholas. "It was hard to reconstruct his youth and young manhood, as there are no longer any living witnesses to them. By contrast, Delargey was a comparatively young man when he died, and I was able to interview over 60 people who knew him personally and professionally. But while it was relatively easy to make historical judgments on Liston, who belonged to an earlier age, it was harder to do so with Delargey. His church and his world were essentially the ones we still have."

Nicholas says he sees Delargey as representing the Catholic Church at a time of major change and adjustment, illustrated by his attendance at all of the Second Vatican Council. He has deliberately made this a major feature of his book.

Corrosion

A book edited by two leading researchers in the Faculty of Engineering is giving new insights into high temperature corrosion.

Engineers are constantly striving to understand and prevent this type of corrosion, a phenomenon that occurs in components such as gas turbines, jet engines and industrial plants, which operate in very high temperatures.

Developments in high-temperature corrosion and protection of materials, edited by Professor

Books

Wei Gao (Chemical and Materials Engineering) and Dr Zhengwei Li, examines the latest developments in the understanding of high temperature corrosion processes and protective oxide scales and coatings.

This book is a valuable reference tool for engineers who develop heat resistant materials, mechanical engineers who design and maintain high temperature equipment and plant, and research scientists and students who study high temperature corrosion and protection of materials.

The book invited contributions by the world's leading scientists in high temperature corrosion, and features five chapters written by Wei Gao and Zhengwei Li. Wei is a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand. He and Zhengwei have been heavily involved in research into high temperature oxidation and corrosion theories, testing, and development of



protection techniques and coatings for industrial applications.

The book is published by CRC (US), Woodhead Publisher (UK), and the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining (IOM, UK).

What's on

FRIDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

An introduction to university teaching and learning 9.15am-5.30pm Level 5, CAD, 76 Symonds St.

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering Year 4 research project "conference day" 9am-3.30pm Level 4, School of Engineering, 20 Symonds St. Until 12 September. Final-year students present seminars, representing 86 research projects, distributed over 13 categories. All welcome.

SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

Exhibition talk
By Assoc-Prof Laurence Simmons, Dept of Film, Television and Media Studies, UoA: 1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Queries to gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz

MONDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

"Women to watch" series launch
5pm Graham Hill Lecture Theatre, Level 12, Auckland Hospital.
Professor Jane Harding, an international authority in foetal physiology research and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) will be our guest speaker for this event. Drinks and nibbles will follow with an opportunity for interaction and discussion. RSVP to Jane Bellamy, phone 529-2062 or email janebellamy@xtra.co.nz

TUESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

Communique '08
Megan Rule, founding director, South Pacific Architecture: *Ground work*. 12-1pm Level 3 exhibition studio, School of Architecture and Planning, Bldg 421. Queries to Kathy Waghorn, ext 89150 or k.waghorn@auckland.ac.nz

Inaugural lecture
Prof Pradeep Bansal, Mechanical Engineering: *Conquering the thermal energy mountain: A vision for the future*. 1pm Conference Centre, 22 Symonds St.

Bioengineering research seminar
David Smith, Professor of Environmental and Biomedical Engineering, University of Melbourne: *Predicting premature birth; and Understanding oxygen transport in the kidney*. 4-5pm Rm 421 W-301, ALR5, Architecture.

Auckland Museum Institute 2008 GSNZ Hochstetter Lecture
Dr Vern Manville, GNS Science, Wairakei Research Centre: *Learning from lahars: New insights from the March and September flows at Ruapehu*. 7.30pm Auditorium, Auckland War Memorial Museum, Auckland Domain, Grafton. Donation on entry.

WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

Department of Psychology seminar
Dr Myron Friesen, Dept of Psychology, University of Canterbury: *Early*

parenthood in NZ: Intergenerational changes, risk factors, and contemporary living standards. 2.15pm HSB 604, 10 Symonds St. Queries to Nickola Overall, ext 89120 or n.overall@auckland.ac.nz

General Staff Managers' Forum
4-5pm, Federation Rm, OGH. To keep managers informed of upcoming University events and recent decisions. Bookings and queries to ext 85070 or je.wilson@auckland.ac.nz

THURSDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

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

Inaugural Lecture
Prof Mark Gahegan, Geography, Geology and Environmental Science: *Knowledge keeps no better than fish: Something must be done about it*. 1pm Conference Centre, 22 Symonds St.

Centre for Development Studies guest seminar
Dr Udoy Saikia: *Endangered gender in matrilineal society: The paradox of high fertility in Khasi tribe in Northeast India*. 1-2pm HSB 901, 10 Symonds St. Queries to m.birnie@auckland.ac.nz

FRIDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering Year 4 research project "exhibition day"
1-4pm Levels 1, 2, 3 and Ground floor, Science Centre (Bldg 301), 38 Princes St. Students will demonstrate projects to members of the engineering profession and general public.

Blues Awards Dinner
6.30pm Marquee, OGH. Tickets can be purchased at Student Central or by email to bluesawards@ausa.org.nz \$70. Dinner and drinks provided. Rewarding students in both the sporting and cultural fields. Presented by the UoA and the Auckland University Students' Association.

SATURDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

Exhibition talk
Assoc-Prof Annie Goldson, 1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Queries to gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz

MONDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

Dept of Political Studies presents 2008 Robert Chapman Lecture
Antony Green: *Polls versus expectations: Howard's end in Australia and are there lessons for New Zealand?* 6.30pm Maidment Theatre, 8 Alfred St.

TUESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

Communique '08
Dr Nicholas Rowe: *Making The Secret World*. 12-1pm Level 3 exhibition studio, School of Architecture and Planning, Bldg 421. Queries to ext 89150 or k.waghorn@auckland.ac.nz

Bioengineering research seminar

Dr Richard Clarke, Dept of Engineering Science: *Viscous flow through a curved pipe: A model for arterial blood flow*. 4-5pm Rm 421 W-301, ALR5, Architecture.

Public lecture
Jane Davies, CEO Manchester Science Park: *Science parks: Economic catalysts for city growth*. 6-7pm Regus Chancery, Plaza level, AXA Building, 41 Queen St. Queries to economic.dev.info@aucklandcity.govt.nz

Auckland Museum Institute lecture
Dr Stuart Hanchet, NIWA, Nelson: *The NZ IPY-CAML voyage to the Ross Sea, Antarctica*. 7pm Auditorium, Auckland War Memorial Museum, Auckland Domain, Grafton. \$10/\$5 members. To book phone 306-7048.

THURSDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

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

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.

Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

Available now: Very tidy, clean, spacious and convenience two big double-bedroom units x 2 located in the Auckland City (Eden Hall), five minutes walking distance to University. 1 x furnished, very suitable for professional people. \$450 to \$520 pw. Please ring Megan on (09) 523-5880.

Flatmate wanted: Sandringham. Pleasant, friendly, n/s, 20s-30s to rent small room in lovely sunny two-bdrm unit. Fully-furnished except bedroom. Close to shops and buses. Osp. No pets. \$165 pw + exps. Phone Jem on (021) 171-5120.

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

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

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. Available short or

long-term. Phone 376-8008 or email petalproductions@ww.co.nz

Short-term summer rental from 15 December 2008 for up to five weeks. Art Deco home in Point Chevalier, Auckland. Location is fabulous, walk to the beach! Three bedrooms. Fully-furnished and rent reduced to \$450 pw if you are cat lovers and would enjoy two happy pets. Phone (021) 158-9467 or email carynb@xtra.co.nz

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

Furnished family house wanted for two adults and three children (6,4 and 2 years old) from 20 January to 19 June 2009 within approx 30-minute commute on either bike/walk/public transport of The University of Auckland, preferably with a small section. Happy to carry out house-sitting duties. Husband is on a sabbatical from the UK. Please contact Catherine Clayton via email at r.h.clayton@sheffield.ac.uk

Three-bedroom house wanted to rent long-term. Willing to pay up to \$450 pw or a bit more for a really comfortable place. Four reliable adults and one baby with excellent references. Contact Hannah on 373-7599 ext 88669 or h.edwards@auckland.ac.nz

MISCELLANEOUS

Applying for permanent residency? Avoid delays and problems. Keep your application on track with an easy-to-follow action plan tailored to your situation. For a free no-obligation quote contact Glenys at GVL Faculty Migration & Settlement. Email glenys@gvl.co.nz Ph (027) 476-8771 or view www.gvl.co.nz

Builder available. Renovations, additions, decks, bathrooms and general building work. Qualified builder. PPM Builders. Call Paul Martin on 577-4553 or (021) 505-674.

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

Using web to reduce back pain. The Department of Sport and Exercise Science is looking for volunteers with low back pain to test a new web-based exercise programme. Volunteers for the study should have had low back pain for at least three months, had no treatment in the last six weeks and be aged 18-65 Contact Jen Schicker on 373-7599 ext 88559 or (027) 511-1150 or email jenschicker@hotmail.com

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).