

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND news

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Celebrating the many faces of sustainability



"We will not fix today's problems with the same thinking that created them" – Environmental Science PhD student and senior tutor Marie McEntee.

"Winter always turns to spring – inner transformation and dialogue are the driving force for creating a sustainable future" – Law student and business graduate Angela Lien.

These were just some of the many words to inspire people at the launch of the Careers Services' Sustainability Role Models project on World Habitat Day – 5 October.

Guests gathered at the Fale Pasifika on Wynyard Street to celebrate those students, graduates and academic staff from across the University's faculties who have followed sustainability-related pathways. Posters of the sustainability role models were blessed during a powhiri at Waipapa Marae and then displayed in the Fale. The posters will be used across the University to promote sustainability-related education and careers.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon welcomed the sustainability role models and guests to the Fale before officially launching the project. He said the project provides fascinating insights into the values that underpin sustainability, and shows how education can help people contribute to sustainable societies.

Professor McCutcheon also made special

mention of the University's academic staff. "I'd like to thank our academic staff who continue to share their passion for sustainability... and acknowledge the invaluable motivation, encouragement and support that they provide to their students."

The University of Auckland's commitment to sustainability is laid out in its Charter, Strategic Plan and Environmental Policy. Professor McCutcheon said he was proud of the University's award-winning energy management programme that has, over the past three decades, reduced energy consumption by 41 percent per student and water consumption by 73 percent per student.

The University's recent sustainability initiatives include incorporating sustainable cities as a key research theme, partnering with the international UN-Habitat programme and signing up to the Universitas 21 Statement of Sustainability.

Universitas 21 is an international network of 21 research-led universities. The U21 statement recognises the critical role that universities have in creating a sustainable future. Current priorities include reducing resources, waste and emissions, and supporting excellence in sustainability-related teaching and research.

Professor McCutcheon said the University would continue to search for ways to reduce its environmental footprint.

Key events

Copyright expert

Professor Jane Ginsburg, an American authority on copyright who wants authors better protected and rewarded, is at the Law School as the Legal Research Foundation's Visiting Scholar for 2009.

On 21 October she will deliver a public lecture on "The author's place in the future of copyright" (6pm, Stone Lecture Theatre, 9 Eden Crescent, drinks and nibbles from 5.15pm).

She will consider how authors, long deprived of bargaining power are now, due to new technologies, also losing artistic control over their work.

Jane Ginsburg is Morton L. Janklow Professor of Literary and Artistic Property at the Columbia University Law School as well as directing its Kernochan Center for Law, Media and the Arts.

Spark prizegiving

Spark invites you to an exciting evening where the winner of the 2009 Spark \$100k Challenge and the Video Pitch Challenge will be announced.

Find out which idea will be awarded \$20,000 in seed capital as well as \$10,000 worth of business support and mentoring. Mingle and network with challenge entrants, business guests, students and staff over food and drinks on 22 October, 5.45pm, Level 1, Business School Foyer.

Teaching and learning showcase

All staff are invited to a two half-day Teaching and Learning Showcase to celebrate the achievement of some of our outstanding teachers. Keynote speakers include National Tertiary Excellence Award 2009 winners Paul Denny (Computer Science) and Dr Rachel Fewster (Statistics); University of Auckland Teaching Excellence Award 2009 winners; and Gina Wisker, Professor of Higher Education and Contemporary Literature at the University of Brighton (UK). This event will be held at the Engineering Building on 27 and 28 October. Register your attendance via Peoplesoft. Course Codes: TLSHOW (day 1), TLSHO2 (day 2). For more information contact Tessa Sillifant on ext 88356 or t.sillifant@auckland.ac.nz

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The recent announcement by Education Minister Anne Tolley that the Government will seek to reduce the size of Institute of Technology and Polytechnic (ITP) Councils, making them less representative and with stronger governance experience, reflects ongoing concerns about the viability of many ITPs. However, while it may assist in strengthening governance, the change will not address one of the major problems in our tertiary education sector, namely that we have too many small institutions.

Small public institutions tend to be at risk for a number of reasons: they are often unable to attract the same calibre of people in governance and management as larger organisations; they are typically less able to invest in the kinds of systems and infrastructure that larger organisations can justify investing in; and they are less able to withstand external pressures, partly because they lack scale and partly because their revenue streams may be less diversified than in larger organisations. Given that, across the tertiary sector, the policies of successive governments have consistently reduced income per student over the last 20 years, it is hardly surprising that an increasing number of institutions now find their viability threatened.

It is therefore interesting to reflect on the disparity in size between the university and ITP sectors. The 20 ITPs have an average annual revenue of \$45 million, the eight universities an average of \$330 million. Indeed with the exception of Lincoln (an unusually small university), even the largest of the ITPs is smaller than the smallest university. The three Auckland ITPs have total revenues of around \$250 million (a size, in revenue terms, approximating that of AUT or Canterbury Universities). At the extreme ends of the scale, the smallest polytechnic turns over about \$12 million annually – and The University of Auckland turns over that amount in less than a week. Furthermore, many of the small ITPs are located in regions which tend to be particularly adversely affected by recessionary conditions.

Maintaining a large number of small institutions will be an ongoing financial drain on the Government, yet the country needs to have regionally distributed ITPs to support vocational education in local communities. Perhaps the time has come for Government to look not only at the governance of small institutions but at the formation of larger regional networks of ITPs under single governance and management structures.



Ecological collapse forcing radical change



László Sólyom, President of Hungary, at the University.

Pressing sustainability issues were to the fore when the Hungarian President visited the University recently.

His Excellency Mr László Sólyom, a noted lawyer with a passion for ecopolitics and environmental protection, delivered a blunt warning on the urgent “transformation” needed to avert looming ecological and economic disaster.

Some 250 staff, students and members of the public packed a lecture theatre in the Owen G Glenn Building for his public lecture on “Possible parallels: Profound changes facilitating democracy and sustainable ecology”.

The destruction of biodiversity, and the loading of the atmosphere with greenhouse gases and of our environment with nitrogen had reached an “extremely hazardous” point, said Mr Sólyom.

“We are on the verge of suddenly, drastically and irreversibly altering our natural conditions, the framework of human life. Reaching the critical point will cause a collapse like a house of cards.”

Such changes would “unquestionably upset the day-to-day lives of seven billion people”. Humankind could either “wait until its living space collapses” or “try to adapt to changes or avert preventable damage. This endeavour must be radical, speedy, and extend to all areas.”

Only the second scenario provided any possibility “to control and manage social processes, to achieve an orderly transformation which is peaceful and maintains elements of technological civilisation and the international order based on human rights”.

Seeking some parallels with the collapse of communism and the establishment of democracy in the countries of Central Europe Mr Sólyom said this had required “the total, fundamental alteration of highly complex systems.

“Similar changes are needed to manage the ecological crisis...the reshaping of societal and economic goals, the patterns of consumption, and ownership relations.” This required “deep-reaching

changes in people themselves.

“Managing the ecological crisis in a peaceful manner is...fundamental. We do not want to see war, revolution or huge uncontrollable waves of refugees.”

Hungary's change to multi-party democracy and a market economy had fundamentally expanded resources and liberty. Instead of greater freedom, however, sustainability required voluntary self-restraint and resource restriction.

Such change needed “an active and conscious elite that is determined, ready to take risks, and is courageous”. During the European regime change the elite had to “convince people to accept concepts such as protecting personal data and ending capital punishment, often with great difficulty. In a similar manner, the elite will have to convince society to accept restrictions on consumption and other measures taken in the interests of equality and justice.”

In responding to the ecological crisis, said Mr Sólyom, “we will not be able to continue as before because of the collapse in resources”.

On the other hand the advance of science, technology and the social sciences meant there was “now an alternative. The willingness of unsustainable industries to seek compromise has increased, and has found opportunities through green industry.

“What we have now is a combination of coercion and opportunity. However, as the coercion increases, opportunity for planned change declines.”

In ecological transformation “there must be a few principles that we cannot compromise. Some are technical – for example, reducing greenhouse gas emissions – or ideological such as biodiversity. Fairness is an indispensable umbrella condition.”

An ecological system could not be changed in isolation “because climate, biodiversity and unfairness are related to each other. However, there is a key component that must receive priority – climate change. Without that we will be unable to resolve the issues of biodiversity, poverty and migration.”

Four Spring ceremonies

Unseasonably chilly and unsettled weather could not spoil Spring Graduation on 6 October.

The morning procession from Old Government House grounds through the city dodged passing showers brought by a southwesterly front while the day grew sunnier if little warmer.

It was a long, arduous day for staff and Council members with four ceremonies in the Aotea Centre starting at 10.30am and finishing as late as 9.15pm.

Some 2515 students received a total of 2750 qualifications. There were 103 doctorates awarded, a record for Spring Graduation.



Chancellor Roger France personally conferred 1848 degrees and diplomas with the rest (902) bestowed "in absentia" on those not attending.

The Faculty of Business and Economics had the most graduates with 643 followed by Science (609), Arts (568) and Education (341). There were 205 in Medical and Health Sciences, 151 in Engineering, 88 in Law, 129 in Creative Arts and Industries, and 16 in Theology.

Speakers at the ceremonies were the Attorney-General, the Hon Chris Finlayson, the Acting Chief Executive of Te Papa Tongarewa, Michelle Hippolite, the Managing Director and CEO of Fisher & Paykel Healthcare, Mike Daniell, and the

CEO of Fletcher Building Ltd, Jonathan Ling.

The calamity visited on our Pacific island neighbours six days earlier was remembered by the Chancellor as each ceremony began.

"While graduation is a time for celebration we are all mindful that some of our graduands, and their families and friends, will have relatives in Samoa and Tonga, where the tsunami struck last week with devastating consequences and tragic loss of life," said Mr France. "On behalf of the University, I extend our condolences and sympathies: our thoughts are with you."

This was the second graduation for 2009; in late April and early May there were 11 ceremonies over three days.



From left: Peter, Jayne, Sam and Katharine Huggard.

Tamaki trio

Three academic staff from the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences were capped PhD. All are based at the Tamaki Campus in the School of Population Health.

Dr Bridget Kool, Research Fellow in the School of Population Health (on right), investigated the role of alcohol in unintentional falls at home among young and middle-aged adults.

Her colleague Dr Sue Wells, a senior lecturer in the Section of Epidemiology and Biostatistics (on left), looked into the potential of computerised decision support to improve the assessment and management of cardiovascular disease in general practice.

Dr Sue Crengle, a senior lecturer in Te Kupenga Hauora Māori (at centre), did her thesis on "The management of children's asthma in primary care: Are there ethnic differences in care?"

Doctorates in the family

University of Auckland connections abounded when the Huggard family from Titirangi came together on graduation day.

Pride of place went to Peter Huggard and his daughter Katharine, both graduating with doctorates.

Peter, Director of the Goodfellow Unit in the Department of General Practice and Primary Health Care, was capped EdD at ceremony two. His thesis looked at "Managing compassion fatigue: Implications for medical education".

At the next ceremony Katharine was on stage to receive her DClinPsych. She had submitted a thesis on "Psychological screening in adolescents with Type 1 Diabetes".

Remarkably Dr Robyn Dixon (School of Nursing) supervised each of them at different times: Peter for his doctorate and Katharine for her MA.

Four days later the family celebrated again

when Peter led Katharine up the aisle at her wedding service in St Matthew-in-the-City. The Rev Jenny Harrison, a close family friend, who officiated, holds a Master of Theology degree from The University of Auckland, while the three bridesmaids were also Auckland graduates (in Arts, Medical and Health Sciences, Law/Arts).

Peter's wife Jayne Huggard, a Senior Tutor in Nursing who also works as a counsellor at the Mercy Hospice Auckland, graduated Master of Health Science (in Palliative Care) back in May.

Katharine's brother Sam, a student politician in the late 1990s - he was AUSA Vice-President and NZUSA President - has a BA from Auckland. In April, he was awarded a graduate diploma in not for profit management by Unitec.

With four graduations in the space of a few months "it's been quite a year", said Jayne.

story continues from page 2

Mr Sólyom, who has inaugurated a "Network of Green Presidents", answered questions from the floor after his lecture for more than 15 minutes.

During his three hours on campus on 25 September he was given a presentation by the Vice-Chancellor which highlighted research at the University into sustainability and its environmental policy. He also viewed environmental research displays.

Welcoming Mr Sólyom to a lunch at the Fale Pasifika, the Chancellor, Roger France, said the President was recognised for his commitment to the promotion of environmental sustainability, human dignity and the rights of future generations. "Your passion and knowledge have been recognised not only by the people of Hungary but throughout the international community."

Mr France noted that University of Auckland

researchers are engaged in finding solutions to indigenous habitat degradation, pollution and waste management, creation of sustainable land use practices, and maintenance of high quality fresh and coastal waters. They are also addressing levels of harmful gases, recovery of the ozone layer, and issues of environmental law.

The full text of Mr Sólyom's lecture is at <http://tinyurl.com/yguhghj>



Māori authors' challenge

Contemporary fiction by Māori women authors was the subject of a PhD thesis in English by transplanted American, Dr Ann Pistacchi.

She examined the work of Patricia Grace, Paula Morris and Kelly Ana Mora in terms of Māori cultural "survival" and its challenge to traditional Western modes of novel form and style. She demonstrated how each woman's approach to writing survival fiction is largely driven by her personal history and whakapapa.

Ann gained her BA at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. She embarked on an MA in English at Auckland in 2003 and, after graduating the following year with first class honours, began her doctoral Witi studies. Her supervisors were Professor Ihimaera Smiler Ihimaera, Dr Mark Amsler and Dr Te Tuhi Robust.

Ann is now teaching, applying for postdoctoral fellowships and enjoying spending time with her six-month-old son Zack.



Dean and Rachelle Singleton returned briefly from Oxford University to graduate one after the other with PhDs in Molecular Medicine.

The married couple did their theses on different aspects of anti-cancer drug development at the Auckland Cancer Society Research Centre.

Dean investigated ways of utilising a tumour tropic virus to express prodrug activating enzymes within the tumour. His findings give valuable insights into the mechanisms of "armed" gene therapy systems for cancer treatment.

Rachelle examined the molecular mechanism of a novel anti-cancer drug known as PR-104. Her work showed that PR-104 becomes activated in the hypoxic (low oxygen) environment that occurs within tumours and kills these cells by crosslinking their DNA.

Both now hold research positions at Oxford, Dean with the Department of Molecular Oncology and Rachelle with the Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics.



Among staff graduating PhD were Dr Greg Oates in Mathematics Education and Dr Sarah Henderson in Information Systems.

Greg is a Senior Tutor in the Department of Mathematics and long-time Head of Grafton Hall. His thesis was on "Integrated technology in the undergraduate mathematics curriculum: A

case study of computer algebra systems".

Sarah, a Lecturer in the Department of Information Systems and Operations Management, had "How do people manage their documents? An empirical investigation into personal document management practices among knowledge workers" as her thesis topic.

Dog shares limelight

BA graduate Amy Hogan and her mobility dog Bonnie (on left) generated warm applause when they came on stage at capping.

Amy, who has cerebral palsy and uses a power chair, says Bonnie was "indispensable" to her academic success. "She does all the things I find hard like picking up items I drop on the floor and hitting the elevator button."

Bonnie, a labradoodle, was decked out in a

pink-lined Arts hood and a specially devised trencher.

Amy also paid tribute to Rebekah Williams and the other "awesome staff" at Disabilities Services. "They bend over backwards to try and help you."

She took four years to complete her degree, majoring in Psychology and History, and is now working at the Cerebral Palsy Society of NZ as a researcher.

New student management system in making



Steve Alexander (right) from Project Focus hearing feedback from Year 12 student Kevin Sun from Avondale College on his experience as a first-time enrollee.

Work is well in hand to improve the enrolment and admission experience for students.

The latest version of PeopleSoft Campus Solutions is due to replace nDeva in August 2010.

Key service delivery improvements include the ability to differentiate between prospective students, first-time enrollers and current and returning students, and the provision of tailored services. The enhanced technology will provide access to a variety of service channels.

Elspeet Garvey, from Project Focus, says faculty student centres will have better access to information, be able to provide more information to students for general inquiries, increase the range of services initiated at the faculty, and perform more end to end transactions for the student.

"Academic Services and other specialist areas like Auckland International and the School of Graduate Studies will focus on providing central governance and specialist support with excellent internal communication practices. First-line student inquiry management will be via

self-service channels, the Call Centre, and faculty or central student information centres."

Elspeet says Project Focus aims to design and implement a service delivery model which is effective and makes the best use of resources. It will also redesign University processes to ensure the best fit between the service delivery model and system functionality and to meet good practice standards.

The project has now completed a successful design phase with more than 54 process workshops held. These were well attended by representatives from faculties, Auckland International, the School of Graduate Studies, Call and Student Information centres and other service providers. The new processes developed in these workshops are being used to inform the design of the upgraded system and have been key to the development of a new student service delivery model.

Elspeet appreciates staff's willingness to get involved and the generosity shown.

"The ongoing level of engagement from the University has been exceptional; there is full representation at all levels of the project for which we are very grateful. This ensures we build the best system, processes and service delivery model possible."

The team is currently conducting usability testing with students and school leavers on self-service. "Early feedback indicates that the new system will provide a significantly better enrolment and admissions experience."

Further information including copies of the business case, the service delivery conceptual model and regular updates are available online at <http://tinyurl.com/ybs6rpe>

Auckland still in top 100

The University of Auckland continues to be among the top 100 universities in the world, according to the latest world university rankings published by the Times Higher Education.

In 2009, the University's position has increased to 61st from 65th in 2008.

In three subject rankings, the University was placed in the top 50 in the world: Arts and Humanities 42nd; Life Sciences and Biomedicine 40th; and Social Sciences 37th. It was also placed 55th in Engineering and IT, and 83rd in Natural Sciences.

Furthermore, in the important rankings assigned by academic peers and employers, the University was ranked 38th and 40th respectively.

The rankings are based on peer and recruiter review, the proportions of international staff and international students, the ratio of staff to students, and citations per staff member.

"This University has a strategy focused on achieving excellence rather than simply getting

larger," said the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stuart McCutcheon. "These latest rankings reflect our standing among our international peers, and also highlight the many teaching and research achievements of our staff and the esteem in which they are held.

"While we recognise that these rankings do fluctuate year to year, nonetheless it is an incredible achievement, particularly given that New Zealand invests less per student or per staff member in its universities than any other western country.

"Clearly our education system delivers value for money and an internationally-respected university that ranks amongst the very best in the world."

The University of Auckland was the only New Zealand university to be placed in the top 100 in the Times Higher Education - QS World University Rankings.

Two other New Zealand universities are ranked in the top 200. These are: University of Canterbury 188 and University of Otago 125.

Pacific disasters need leadership, patience

A few years ago I was reading emails from a friend in Kingston who was describing her preparations as Hurricane Ivan advanced towards Jamaica. It was growing in strength by the hour. Despite great care learnt from the experience of living in a hurricane- or cyclone-prone tropical location, the natural power of Ivan devastated homes, livelihoods and over 130 people lost their lives. In the Caribbean, like the Pacific, to some extent the unexpected was expected. However, preparing to handle the devastation and loss in the aftermath requires great effort, courage and patience.

Physical and emotional effort is required to restore the lived environment to habitable, safe and comforting conditions. Emotional and spiritual courage is vital to cope with the realities of loss and despair. And patience is essential to endure the passages of time that pass before decisions about the future can be made.

These personal qualities ebb and flow in everyone involved. Ensuring there is an overall sense of coping, however, is the task of leaders. Some leaders are those who guide households, villages, churches, schools, and countries. But some leaders are not so immediately obvious which is why quality of patience becomes so important.

Ultimately leadership in the reconstruction of places devastated by extreme natural events must reside with those who live there. Any sense of obligation or compulsion to help from a distance needs to be constantly moderated by patience. As we saw the week before last in the Eastern Pacific, the power of a tsunami - never around long enough to be named like cyclones and hurricanes - wrought devastation to life and livelihoods with little warning. Its forceful swiftness transformed a beautiful blue sea crashing playfully on the reef into an angry tide with tank-like properties and then, almost as swiftly returned to its playful ways.

We cannot avoid the sea in the Pacific. Last year I was a passenger on a board a small motorboat crossing magnificent coral reefs along the northern coast of Papua New Guinea; another year it was on the deck of a crowded copra boat travelling to the stunning northern Cook Island; and another time it was paddling the lagoons of Apia harbour. We didn't have cell phones or satellite technology but confidence in the captain we did have. Good leadership during and after disasters is central to life in the Pacific. For those of us who care but whose life and livelihood is here rather than there, at this time patience is the quality we need to nurture the most.

Dr Yvonne Underhill-Sem, Director, Centre for Development Studies

Linking researchers with participants



Jamie and Jude Mannion at last year's Spark prizewinning ceremony with Business School Dean, Professor Greg Whittred (left).

The major obstacle Jamie Mannion faced when completing his Master of Science at The University of Auckland was the hassle of finding participants for his research thesis on lower back pain. But this frustration gave him an idea.

He realised that New Zealand had a high number of researchers needing to find participants for studies, and even more people willing to take part in studies – but no one had come up with a way of effectively bringing them together.

Indeed, while an estimated 200,000 New Zealanders happily join studies each year, many studies are abandoned or fail to produce meaningful results because of the sheer cost and

difficulty of recruiting participants.

Jamie, with his mother Jude, worked the idea up on the kitchen table and entered it into The University of Auckland's SPARK challenge, winning the top prize in the 2008 40K Challenge.

After months spent meeting researchers, ethics committees and some of the largest research institutions in the country, thumbs up was given for the launch of www.getparticipants.com

"New Zealand has some of the world's best scientists. Right now we are testing world leading therapies in Parkinson's disease, cancer, brain injury recovery and epigenetics," Jamie Mannion said.

"But our research community is held back, losing time and money on every trial, because there is just no efficient recruitment method available, even though lots of people would be happy to help if they just knew about the study.

"Getparticipants.com will give researchers powerful new ways to link up with the right people and therefore be able to get on with their studies faster."

Internationally, 75 percent of clinical trials fail to meet patient enrolment deadlines – with New Zealand rates estimated the same.

Jamie said this amounted to a handbrake on research, and added hugely to costs in economic terms and delays in studying innovative therapies and treatments.

In New Zealand alone, an estimated 4000 health or general population studies are conducted every year.

"By participating in research people are often very pleased to contribute something tangible to finding better treatments, particularly for diseases that may have affected them or their families. But up to now it has been too hard for them to know what studies are available for them to participate in," he said. "Getparticipants.com will change that."

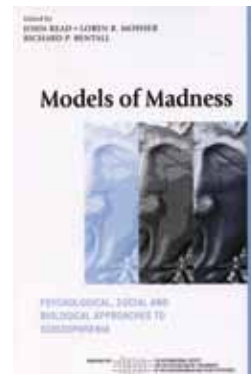
The service bridges the gap between the research community and the general public. Researchers load their study onto the getparticipants.com website, the general public register their areas of interest, and the virtual handshake occurs next.

This online community will feature charities that fund research, and encourage participants to donate any remuneration to them, effectively enabling anyone to feel they are doing their bit in a way that's relevant to them and their family.

"We are focused on connecting the right participants, at the right time, with minimum cost to the research community," Jamie said.

And Getparticipants.com will be providing its services for free to student researchers this year; a promise Jamie made to himself when he first had the idea while struggling with finding participants for his own research thesis.

Books



Four copies of the cover in a small row: Chinese, Swedish, Spanish, English.

Models of Madness in translation

Associate Professor John Read (Psychology) has been invited to Kunming University in December to give a series of lectures to mental health researchers and clinicians, to launch the Chinese translation of *Models of Madness: Psychological, Social and Biological Approaches to Schizophrenia*.

Models of Madness was published in English in 2004. Besides contributing to 12 of the 24 chapters, John Read is the coordinating editor, along with prominent international psychosis researchers Professors Loren Moshier (USA) and Richard Bentall (UK).

The book, which has sold over 10,000 copies, summarises the research demonstrating that the

heightened sensitivity, unusual experiences, distress and confusion that are currently labelled "schizophrenic" are not symptoms of a medical illness. It concludes that the notion that "mental illness is an illness like any other", promulgated by biological psychiatry and the pharmaceutical industry, is not supported by research and is extremely damaging to those with this most stigmatising of psychiatric labels.

The 22 multidisciplinary researchers and clinicians, from six countries, who contributed to the book argue that the "medical model" of schizophrenia has been responsible for unwarranted pessimism about the chances of "recovery", and has ignored what is actually going on in these people's lives, in their families, and in the societies in which they live.

The documented psycho-social causes of

hallucinations and delusions include poverty, urban living, early loss of parents, war trauma, rape, and racism. John Read's research on the causal role of child abuse is also included. His findings, which initially caused some controversy, have since been replicated in six other countries and led to his being invited to London in 2008 to lead the first training session for psychiatrists on how to implement the new National Health Service policy that all users of mental health services must be asked about childhood trauma.

A Swedish translation was published in 2005. A Spanish translation was launched in 2006 at a forum at the Department of Health, Barcelona. The 2008 Russian translation was launched at seminars John gave in Moscow and St Petersburg. A second edition of the English version will be published next year.

Compelled to begin this contemporary history painting when war broke out in the Middle East in July 2006, Jude Rae also used this painting's scale as an opportunity to explore a new, more liquid, painting technique. Israel was retaliating against a Hezbollah missile attack on border settlements by launching air strikes and artillery attacks on Lebanon, extensively damaging infrastructure and killing over a thousand civilians, and wounding many more. Jude Rae had arrived in France to take up the Moya Dyring Memorial Fellowship at the Cité Internationale des Artes directly from Dunedin where she had been painting large architectural interiors as the artist-in-residence there. She was planning to make similar studies in Paris, but coverage of the July war in the French media was extensive, and, absorbed by the imagery, she began to make drawings and watercolours of the conflict from the internet coverage.

Exhibiting the drawings in New Zealand on her return, over a year passed before she returned to one particular image which showed men standing on a hill overlooking Beirut airport, watching it burn. Body language evident in these figures compelled her, seeming to express the resignation and impotence of civilians everywhere in the face of military destruction. There was no credit for the image, so she has recreated the photographer as the figure on the left in her painting who holds up his mobile phone to capture the moment. Despite this and other obvious contemporary aspects of the original photograph, it had an atmosphere loaded with art history associations for her. In particular, it recalled the work of German Romantic Caspar David Friedrich whose quintessential painting shows a lonely figure gazing into the sunset, but also evoked the pageantry of Albrecht Altdorfer's *Battle of Alexander at Issus* (1529).

Jude Rae finally began to paint this large canvas early in 2009 in her studio in Canberra after returning from Madrid where she had been



Jude Rae (b.1956), July 2006 2009, Oil and acrylic on linen. 2700 x 1950mm.

studying the paintings of Diego Velázquez at the Prado Museum. There she had encountered American painter Cy Twombly's freely scribbled and calligraphic Lepanto cycle, first exhibited at the 2001 Venice Biennale, in the new section of the Prado alongside a Velázquez portrait.

Twombly's inspiration was the Battle of Lepanto, a famous conflict between the Papal alliance and Ottoman forces which took place off the coast of Spain in 1571. Whereas Velázquez had portrayed one of Phillip IV's buffoons in the guise of the commander of the victorious Papal fleet, Don Juan of Austria, Twombly had made this story of fire and fight into a huge twelve painting cycle. Ghostly boats drift across his giant canvases, the series beginning and ending with a conflagration. Using subtle tonal and chromatic variations in fluid colours, Twombly's paint is

applied in vertical "runs" and impasto smears as both a direct and metaphorical reference to water, blood, smoke and reflection.

Despite previously working with realism, in a very different tradition to Twombly, Jude Rae decided to emulate his flow of paint, trying for the same pooling and bleeding of colour and tone in order to break open the dominance of pictorial illusion in her large-scale paintings.

July 2006 is an excursion into this territory, where the vertical runs of the acrylic paint create an energetic tension between the surface of the painting and the space depicted. Appropriately enough, this could also be understood as evoking the technological genesis of the screen image, which originates with the passage of data through the atmosphere.

Linda Tyler

Landscapes on show



Landscape painter and alumna Lynn Baird is exhibiting ten of her works at Old Government House until 30 October.

Entitled "Driving with Bill" the paintings reflect her strong, characteristically figurative approach to landscape.

"My works are never a literal recording of a particular place," says Lynn in her catalogue. "They may end up being evocative of an area, because it is the 'feel' for a particular place that I am often trying to capture."

She says she needs to experience the landscapes she paints and uses images from her catalogue of digital photographs as an aid to selecting elements she can use to construct a work.

What's on

SATURDAY 17 OCTOBER

An afternoon of events for Architecture Week

12-3pm Gus Fisher Gallery, Shortland St.
12pm - The NZIA Auckland Branch Awards jury, convened by Mario Madayag, review this year's awards.
1pm - HOME New Zealand editor Jeremy Hansen, photographer Patrick Reynolds, and architect Jeremy Salmond discuss and show images of the homes in their new book, *Villa*.
2pm - John Walsh, editor of *Architecture NZ* magazine, in conversation with leading local architects on unfolding developments in the field of urban housing. Full details at www.architectureweek.co.nz/

MONDAY 19 OCTOBER

Women to Watch seminar

Prof Margaret Brimble, Department of Chemistry, Member NZOM, L'Oreal-UNESCO Women in Science Laureate 2007. 5pm Graham Hill Lecture Theatre, Level 12, Auckland Hospital Support Bldg, Park Rd, Grafton (take lifts at bank C). RSVP by 16 October to janebellamy@xtra.co.nz

Department of Classics and Ancient History seminar

Prof Eliezer Oren, Canada Chair in Near Eastern Archaeology, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev: *Egypt and Asia during the New Kingdom: A view from the Ways-of-Horus in the Sinai Desert*. 6.30pm OGGB4, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd.

TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER

School of Music research seminar

Julie Jackson-Tretchikoff: *Auckland Music Theatre Inc: The first ninety years*. 1-2pm Music Theatre, School of Music.

Bioengineering research seminar

Thushari Dissanayake, UoA: *What becomes of the broken hearted*. 4-5pm Fifth floor Seminar Rm, 70 Symonds St.

WEDNESDAY 21 OCTOBER

Dept of Computer Science seminar

Dr Helen Sword, CAD: *Writing computer science*. 12noon CS Seminar Rm 279, Bldg 303S.

Department of Psychology seminar

Prof Christie Yoshinaga-Itano, University of Colorado, Boulder, Denver and the Marion Downs Hearing Center: *Sensitive periods in the development of language and communication*. 4pm HSB 604, 10 Symonds St. Queries to Suzanne C Purdy, ext 82073 or sc.purdy@auckland.ac.nz

Public lecture

Prof Jane Ginsburg, Legal Research Foundation's Visiting Scholar for 2009: *The author's place in the future of copyright*. 6pm Stone Lecture Theatre, Faculty of Law, 9 Eden Cres. RSVP to ext 85971 or lawreception@auckland.ac.nz

Faculty of Arts seminar

Ian Wedde, UoA Creative NZ Writer-in-Residence at the Michael King Centre:

Does poetry matter? 6.30pm OGGB3, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd.

THURSDAY 22 OCTOBER

Department of History seminar

Bruce Ralston, Library Services Manager, Auckland Museum: *(Under)exposure in the Domain*. 4pm Room 59, History Dept, 7 Wynyard St. Queries to Linda Bryder, email l.bryder@auckland.ac.nz

Spark prizegiving

Spark invites you to an exciting evening where the winner of the 2009 Spark \$100k Challenge and the Video Pitch Challenge. 5.45pm Foyer, Level 1, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. Visit www.spark.auckland.ac.nz

FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER

Legal Research Foundation conference

Modern challenges to the rule of law. 8.30am-5pm Hyatt Regency, Princes St. Chaired by the Rt Hon Sir Peter Blanchard. Cost \$435/\$395. Queries to barbara@legalresearch.org.nz Visit www.legalresearch.org.nz

TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER

Teaching and learning showcase

12.30-4.30pm Rm 401.401, 403.401-403.403, School of Engineering. At this popular annual event, academic staff are invited to share significant teaching ideas and developments with their colleagues. Tune out those PBRF blues and join us in a celebration of innovative teaching! Please enrol through (code TLSHOW) Peoplesoft HR or call CAD reception at ext 88140.

WEDNESDAY 28 OCTOBER

Teaching and learning showcase

12.30-4.30pm Rm 401.401, 403.401-403.403, School of Engineering. Please enrol through (code TLSHO2) Peoplesoft HR or call CAD reception at ext 88140.

Political Studies Dept/Bruce Jesson 2009 Lecture

Robert Wade, Professor of Political Economy, London School of Economics: *How to stop the money men from taking over the world (or, when will we face another September 2008)?* 6.30pm Maidment Theatre, 8 Alfred St. The bar will open at 5.30pm.

THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER

Dept of Political Studies seminar

Prof John Hattie, Faculty of Education and Lynda Reid, Principal, St Cuthbert's College: *Big challenges for a small nation: Setting the 2010 agenda - Big issues in the future of schooling in NZ*. 12.30-2pm FGW Rm, Upstairs, OGH. Chaired by Michael Mintrom, Department of Political Studies. Visit www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/mpp

Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

Apartments for rent. Call us for your rental requirements; we can offer city apartments furnished/unfurnished all sizes and prices; great rental deals for long-term leases; call Chris or Mandy on 09 303 0601 at City Sales or email rentals@citysales.co.nz or log on to www.citysales.co.nz/rentals

Freemans Bay, flatmate wanted for dbl room with study, ensuite and deck, in quiet central location. Recently renovated terrace house, near supermarket and Ponsonby Rd. \$250 pw inclusive of phone, water, power. Phone 372 3361 or (021) 175 2218.

Fully furnished one bedroom apartment available for rent in the popular Statesman building (1 Parliament St, Auckland). Central location, minutes' walk to University of Auckland, Foodtown and CBD. Includes use of on-site gym, outdoor heated swimming pool and spa pool facilities. \$380 pw. Available from 26 November 2009. Contact Shona Kydd on 027 430 9419.

Grafton: Large one-bdrm flat, tastefully-renovated, sunny, north-facing, fridge, washing machine, alarm and security, OSP, gas hot water, very handy to Auckland Hospital and School of Medicine (only minutes walk away). Water rates included. Available from 31 October. \$360 pw. Phone Bill on 379 6541 or (027) 596 6596.

Grey Lynn: One-bdrm studio flat available for rent. \$230 pw. This is a rare find! Self-contained downstairs flat, in a family home. Tucked in between Richmond Rd Community Centre and Grey Lynn Park, it's convenient to West Lynn shops, Ponsonby Rd and the city. Opens out onto small, sunny garden and would suit single or quiet couple. Interested? Email tashchristie@ihug.co.nz

Grey Lynn, non-smoking flatmate wanted to share with one other and dog from now till end Feb 2010. Large room, 1930s bungalow with outlook, sunny deck, close to Grey Lynn Foodtown, shops, buses into city (1 stage). \$180 pw plus expenses. Phone 027 4826615. **Stylish pied a terre** featuring in up and coming House and Garden magazine, furnished, quiet, north-facing deck, onto trees, birdsong, parking space, six minutes to train, suit female, no pets or smokers. \$290 pw including fortnightly cleaner, Mount Albert. Phone (021) 173 8467.

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

House-sitter. Honest, reliable male n/s academic looking to house-sit in central suburb. Short or long-term. Available immediately. Please contact (021) 702 971.

Wanted: short-term rental (ideally, 3-4 weeks, one-bdrm flat OK) for older male researcher (with PhD), wanting to stay in Auckland anytime from November 2009 to mid-2010. Non-smoker, work references. Would consider a house swap (I have a two-bdrm flat in Wellington). Contact aw2@actrix.gen.nz or phone (04) 385 4419.

MISCELLANEOUS

Auckland Choral presents 'Amadeus'. Haydn - *Inसानae et Vanae Curae*; Mozart - *Coronation Mass*; Hummel - *Missa Solemnis* with Patricia Wright, Kate Spence, Derek Hill and Stephen Bennett, conducted by Uwe Grodd. *Pipers Sinfonia*. 31 October, 7.30pm, Holy Trinity Cathedral, Parnell. Book at www.ticketmaster.com

Does your faculty or department have a discarded overhead projector? Is the bulb still functioning? We need a new bulb for our very-much-used overhead projector. Please contact Lynda at Symonds St Early Childhood Centre, ext 88377 or l.florian@auckland.ac.nz, if you can help.

Donor needed for University staffer. Can you help? We are a loving married couple who have been trying to have a baby for some years, both naturally and with assistance. Our only chance now to have the child we really want is through egg donation. Would you consider making that special gift? If you are a healthy n/s, aged 37 or younger, and have preferably completed your own family, please contact Angela or Toni (in confidence) at Fertility Associates Shore on phone (09) 925 5962 or email them on fas@fertilityassociates.co.nz, quoting Beam of Joy.

For a limited time: \$20 hearing tests available for children aged from six months to five years. Phone 373 8791, Hearing and Tinnitus Clinic, Tamaki Campus for an appointment.

Free! First physiotherapy treatment. Conveniently located level 3, 210 Khyber Pass Rd, Grafton. Phone 09 379 5767 for an appointment or visit www.instituteofsport.co.nz

Psychoanalysis. A range of problems may lead you to consider therapy, such as depression, anxiety, phobia, and trauma. As a psychoanalyst I work with adults and children. If you wish to discuss your situation and the possibility of therapy for yourself or your child, please contact Dr Lucille Holmes on 021 298 2951 or la.holmes@auckland.ac.nz Student rates are negotiable.

Research Cooperative. <http://cooperative.ning.com>, an international NPO and network for research students, researchers, science writers, technical communicators, illustrators, editors, proofreaders, translators, and publishers. Contact researchcooperative@gmail.com

Te Wahi Ora: A retreat for women at Piha. Do you need to break? For over a decade, women have been enjoying Te Wahi Ora's hospitality. We supply all bedding, linen, plus delicious breakfast, lunch and dinner. For more information visit www.tewahiora.co.nz

Travel. I have 12 years experience in booking all aspects of personal travel for university staff and lecturers. I pride myself in ensuring that your travel plans are sourced at the lowest possible costs and are tailor-made to your requirements. For more information contact Karen on Karen.emberton@mandotravel.co.nz or phone 940 0064 (wk) or (021) 188 7781.