

# THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

# news

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## Healthy students, healthy world



Neil Buller in Lecture Theatre B28

If you walk into the refurbished lecture theatres in the basement of the University Library, the first thing you will notice is the striking designs by renowned Māori artists, father and son, Fred and Brett Graham – both former members of staff of Elam School of Fine Arts.

These designs, though markedly different in each of the three lecture theatres, share a deep cultural resonance which places them unmistakably in this part of the world.

The three rooms represent three epochs, from prehistory in Lecture Theatre B28 – expressed in the form of a Māori spiral relief pattern called “Takarangi” (literally translated as “falling universe”) – to the ancient schools of Māori learning called “whare wānanga” in B15, and to the more recent period of European contact in B10. The intention is to reinforce to the students that they are a part of a long history of human endeavour and learning in Aotearoa.

Project Manager Neil Buller from Property Services is delighted with the appearance of the lecture theatres and the layers of cultural meaning carried in the designs.

However, he is also in a unique position to appreciate another positive aspect of the project, the degree to which the work has followed principles of sustainable design.

There are two faces to sustainable

refurbishments, Neil explains. One is recycling of original materials, thus reducing the amount of waste ending up in landfills. The other is the choice of new materials with a low environmental footprint – preferably locally produced or grown – which minimises the environmental impact in their manufacture, transportation and life cycle.

Though the contractors didn't quite meet our aim of landfill diversion of 70 to 80 percent of the materials, they did achieve a creditable 63 percent, with the material sent to a waste management company for sorting, while desk-tops, for example, were handed on to a local school. Timber panelling on the walls was left in place where possible and matched with new timber.

The new carpet tiles and chairs are 100 percent recyclable – including the structural plastic frames for the chairs, which can be stripped down and used again. Electrical products are without PVC (which is damaging to the environment) and desktops are of laminate over low-formaldehyde board. In addition the systems are chosen to save energy, with motion sensors that turn off lights and air-conditioning after pre-booked hours when no movement is detected.

The result, says Neil, are lecture theatres that are not just environmentally friendly but also good for the students' health, and a source of pride for those involved in the project.

## Key events

### Incredible Science

Incredible Science is a free, public, one-day festival on 5 July hosted by the Faculty of Science to introduce primary and intermediate-aged children to the excitement of science. Children can watch a chemistry magic show, learn how to survive an alien encounter, meet a robot, or learn how we test athletes' fitness. They can make their own computer animation, find out about dinosaurs, and discover the mathematics of origami. Admission is free, but adults must collect tickets for some shows. Visit [www.incrediblescience.co.nz](http://www.incrediblescience.co.nz) for a full programme.

### APRU presidents meet

Vice-Chancellors, Presidents and senior staff from 33 universities around the Pacific Rim will gather at the University from 30 June to 2 July for the 2010 Presidents' Meeting of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU). The programme will begin with a Mayor's reception in Auckland Town Hall and a welcome dinner at the Fale Pasifika. A full conference programme in the Engineering Building on the Thursday will feature prominent speakers such as Professor Zha Daojiong, Professor in International Studies from Peking University; Professor Thomas Fingar from the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies at Stanford University; the Rt Hon Mike Moore, next New Zealand Ambassador to the US; and Colin James, leading political journalist and analyst. On the Friday morning business meetings and an Open Presidents' Forum will take place at the Hilton Hotel.

### Oceanic conference

The University of Auckland and Victoria University of Wellington will jointly host the fourth Oceanic Conference in International Studies in Auckland from 30 June to 2 July. This is Oceania's largest International Relations (IR) and International Studies conference. All are welcome. For more information see [www.ocis.org.nz](http://www.ocis.org.nz)

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## From the Vice-Chancellor

One of the key objectives in the University's Strategic Plan is to be "better not bigger" – to focus on the quality of what we do, rather than on growth (particularly in student numbers).

That is a sensible strategy for an organisation that took 100 years to achieve 13,000 students but only another 20 years to treble that number!

And we are already making progress – the proportion of our commencing students with a Grade Point Equivalent greater than 5 is now 41 percent, up from 33 percent in 2006. But if we want to be even better, then we have to ensure that we bring into the University the very best students we can. In this regard, both accommodation and the quality of student life are critical.

The University of Auckland has a relative paucity of accommodation for students. Only 3.3 percent of our students live in university-owned or affiliated halls, compared to the national average 8.5 percent. This perhaps reflects our historical position as a monopoly provider of university education in this part of the country, a position that no longer exists, with two other universities operating campuses in the Auckland region and all the remainder actively recruiting students in our traditional catchment. The need for additional student accommodation has also been increased by the welcome growth in numbers of international students.

Our new hall of residence, to be constructed on the Elam sector and opened for the first semester 2012, will help address this issue by providing an additional 442 beds of fully catered student accommodation. At the same time, we are working hard to improve the quality of the extra-curricular life of our students. I have recently had the pleasure of attending the finals of the inter-faculty competitions in both cricket and basketball. These events, like the inaugural orientation concert in the marquee, are doing much to create the kind of campus life that students value. So too are events such as the Australasian debating tournament in July, with 100 teams coming from 46 universities.

Having had experience of the extraordinary spirit that exists on the campuses of many top United States universities, I applaud what has been achieved to date and hope that all members of the University – staff, alumni and friends as well as students – will make the effort to become involved in these activities.



## Honoured for service

**Three current University of Auckland staff members featured in the Queen's Birthday Honours announced on 7 June.**

Associate Professor Susan St John (Department of Economics) became a Companion of the Queen's Service Order for services to social policy.

She has long promoted public policy discussion on such issues as taxation, welfare, retirement policy, pensions, accident compensation, and income support for families. Susan is co-director of the University's Retirement Policy and Research Centre and economics advisor to Child Poverty Action Group Inc.

Associate Professor Phil Yock (Department of Physics) was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for services to astronomy.

He co-led a project with Japanese scientists to observe a rare supernova (exploding star) in the southern sky in the late 1980s. This led him to collaborate with other New Zealand universities as well as the Japanese on a groundbreaking quest to find extra-solar planets, black holes and other celestial "dark matter".

Dr Teuila Percival, a Clinical Senior Lecturer in the Department of Paediatrics, was made a Companion of the Queen's Service Order for

services to the Pacific Islands community.

Dr Richard Fenwick, formerly an Associate Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, was made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM) for services to engineering.

An ONZM also went to Ian Wedde, the University of Auckland/Creative New Zealand Writer-in-Residence at the Michael King Writers' Centre in 2009 and recipient of a Distinguished Alumni Award from the University in 2007. His honour was for services to art and literature.

Dr John Matthews, a former University Council member and a Fellow of The University of Auckland, was admitted as a Companion of the Queen's Service Order for services to medicine and the community.

Alison Paterson, who is involved in the governance of two Centres of Research Excellence based at the University, was made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit (CNZM) for services to business. She chairs the National Research Centre for Growth and Development and is on the board of directors of Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga.

## Advancing good ideas

**At a meeting held in the Arts Faculty for two purposes – to inform general staff about the University's Continuing Improvement Process (CIP) and to brainstorm on ways of reducing waste – a subject came up for discussion that is close to all our hearts.**

"What about the waste of human potential?" one of the participants asked. "Should we be considering that as well?"

The discussion that followed – about the best ways of using and sharing knowledge and skills both for the satisfaction of staff and for the benefit of the University – set Alison Salmon thinking.

Alison, who is School Assistant in European Languages and Literatures, had – at the same workshop – won the competition to name the faculty version of CIP, a system through which staff all over the University are invited to contribute suggestions about improving processes.

The winning name was strong, clear and simple: "Good Ideas Group". The system, administered by Wendy Chambers, a Group Manager in the faculty, provides for staff to fill out "Good Ideas" forms to suggest improvements. These are then taken through the University CIP process – or the originator is assisted to investigate them.

Alison's suggestion – one of nine that would eventually come out of that same workshop – was that regular meetings should be held by and for staff, to discuss what they do and share knowledge that might be helpful to others.

The General Staff Forum is now taking place in the faculty each month and has indeed proved helpful to staff, covering such topics as "shadowing opportunities within departments" (giving staff a chance to observe and learn from what others are doing); understanding the new room booking system; dealing with distressed or agitated

students; and supporting students with disabilities.

The suggestions for topics are made by staff on a spreadsheet in the shared drive. Participation is optional, with some discussions attracting more participants than others. For example the session on dealing with distressed students – which Lesley MacKay, Head of Counselling Services, agreed to facilitate – attracted between 30 and 40 staff.

"It's great to see people from other departments," says Alison. "I love people popping up out of the woodwork when you haven't seen them for a few months, and it's amazing to discover what they know that you don't."

Alison also appreciates that there is no hierarchy, with people at all levels coming to share what they know and to learn from others. "We're all working for the same purposes and often doing quite similar things in different ways."

Alison coordinates the topics, but is encouraging staff to own the forum and hopes that it will become a self-perpetuating system.

Wendy Chambers is very positive about the "Good Ideas" system which she says has already generated many constructive changes.

To find out more about the University's CIP, email [bpmo@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:bpmo@auckland.ac.nz)



# Fellows of interest



Professor Paul Donaldson

One of the University's outstanding members of staff has been selected as a Hood Fellow.

Professor Paul Donaldson, Head of the Department of Optometry and Vision Science, will attend the XIX Biennial Meeting of the International Society for Eye Research in Montreal, Canada; will visit leading North American schools of optometry; and will visit the laboratory of his research collaborator Professor Rick Mathias at State University of New York, Stony Brook.

Paul is a vision researcher with an international reputation in the molecular physiology of the lens cataract.

Among the line-up of incoming Hood Fellows who will this year enrich the academic experiences and international connections of students and staff at the University are an expert in comparative health systems, a specialist in positive psychology, a leading evolutionary theorist, an authority on neurogenesis, a leading international philosopher, an influential sociologist of education, and one of the world's foremost thinkers on sustainable development and ecological engineering.

In addition an eminent Shakespearean scholar will visit as the Alice Griffin Shakespeare Fellow.

Incoming fellows are:

- Gert P. Westert, Professor of Health Services Research at Tilburg University in the Netherlands, will be hosted by the Department of Health Systems. Professor Westert, an expert on the assessment of health care performance, will explore opportunities for research collaborations which compare recent reforms in the Netherlands and New Zealand.
- Professor Barbara Fredrickson from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, a specialist in the emerging field of positive psychology, will be hosted by the Departments of Psychology, Psychological Medicine and General Practice and Primary Health Care. Professor Fredrickson is a social psychologist whose main work relates to her "broaden-and-build" theory, which suggests that positive emotions lead to novel, expansive or exploratory behaviour which lead over time to the development of meaningful resources such as knowledge and social relationships.
- Distinguished Professor David Sloan Wilson from the State University of New York in

Binghamton will be hosted by the Department of Psychology, the Faculty of Arts and the Liggins Institute. Professor Wilson will give public and professional lectures on expanding evolutionary theory beyond the biological sciences, on multilevel selection theory, on human genetic and cultural evolution, or on religion from an evolutionary perspective.

- Professor Fernando Nottebohm, Director of Rockefeller University's Field Research Centre for Ethology and Ecology in New York, will be a guest of the Department of Anatomy with Radiology. Professor Nottebohm, who has outstanding expertise in neural anatomy and auditory feedback mechanisms, was the first to demonstrate experimentally that neurogenesis actually occurred in a vertebrate (canary) brain and to show how the new neurons were incorporated into the song system.
- Professor Peter Goldie from the University of Manchester will be hosted by the Departments of Philosophy and Art History. Professor Goldie, who entered university as an undergraduate in 1990 after a 26-year career in business and completed his PhD in 1997 from Oxford, is now a leading scholar across a broad spread of areas including philosophy of emotion, philosophy of personality, moral philosophy and philosophy of art.
- Professor Michael Young from the University of London, one of the world's most influential sociologists of education, will be hosted by the Department of Critical Studies in Education. Professor Young has generated huge international interest with his 1971 seminal text *Knowledge and Control* and with his later writings since 2000.
- Professor Peter Head, Director of Arup in London, will be hosted by the Faculty of Engineering. Professor Head is an eminent civil and structural engineer who has now become a recognised world leader in sustainable development in cities. His knowledge and expertise will be invaluable in further developing the "Transforming Auckland" thematic research initiative (TRI), and while in Auckland he will deliver the international keynote address at a workshop to mark the inauguration of the faculty's Ecological Engineering Initiative.
- The Alice Griffin Shakespeare scholar is Tiffany Stern, Professor of Early Modern Drama from the University of Oxford, who will be hosted by the Department of English. Professor Stern is a leading historian of the English Renaissance Theatre who has transformed understanding of this field in a series of books and studies on such matters as the practice of rehearsals, the use of actors' parts, and the handling of written documents by theatre companies.

A cocktail party was held at the University on 23 June to celebrate the sixth anniversary of the Hood Fellowships. For a story on this function, check the staff intranet and read the next issue of *University News*.

## In brief...

### Seelye Fellowships

The University is calling for applications for Seelye Fellowships which are available to bring leading international visitors to the University.

This round of applications closes on 30 August, and visits may take place in late 2010 or 2011. Academic staff are encouraged to apply for these awards, each valued at up to \$30,000.

The Ralph and Eve Seelye Charitable Trust Fund was established in 2006 to help the University attract distinguished leaders in their field and to host internationally recognised experts for guest lectures and seminars. The trust provides one or more Visiting Fellowships/Lectureships across all faculties.

Further information and application forms can be found on [www.uoafoundation.org.nz/seelye.htm](http://www.uoafoundation.org.nz/seelye.htm) or for inquiries contact Pramilla DaSilva at External Relations on ext 88113 or email [pc.dasilva@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:pc.dasilva@auckland.ac.nz)

### Excellence in equity

Nominations are called for The University of Auckland Excellence in Equity Awards for 2010.

These awards are to encourage and reward outstanding efforts and achievements in supporting the organisation's equity objectives in the Strategic Plan, and to promote good practice and innovation in implementing equity.

Awards are presented bi-annually to individuals or teams in departments, faculties, service divisions, libraries, and other units, who demonstrate excellence in equity.

Visit the Equity website for nomination forms and more information on criteria for the awards. Nominations close 28 June.

### Teaching improvement

Applications are called for the 2010 round of Teaching Improvement Grants.

These grants (TIGs) are intended for projects which lie outside the normal scope of departmental budgets. The main intention is to stimulate innovations and provide exemplars in teaching and course delivery that might serve as useful models in the University.

All full-time and part-time members of the teaching staff are invited to apply. Proposals may be submitted by individual staff, groups of staff, or academic units. The total funding pool available is \$150,000 and the maximum given for any one grant is \$15,000. The money will be available for use throughout the 2011 academic year (rather than for a calendar year from the TIGs announcement, as has been past practice).

For further information, or to apply, see <http://web.auckland.ac.nz/uoaf/for/staff/teaching/excellence/>

Applications close 19 July. Queries to Kelly Chen, Vice-Chancellor's Office Support Services, [kelly.chen@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:kelly.chen@auckland.ac.nz) ext 87643.

# Research grant opens up new field



*Snejina Michailova taking a little time off from her research*

Beneath the rubble of a collapsed wall Professor Snejina Michailova (Management and International Business) discovered a major stepping stone that would lead her on the path to becoming a top researcher.

When she began her PhD at Copenhagen Business School in Denmark in 1994 it seemed her background in organisational change and its impact in post-Socialist organisations – gained during her undergraduate study – would not be of much use.

However as communism in Eastern Europe disintegrated, foreign investors began to take notice and Snejina's understanding of East

European organisational reality and Western theories became highly useful.

"All of a sudden my cross-cultural understanding was very relevant. The Berlin Wall came down and foreign businesses didn't know much about organisations in the East."

Snejina, who made the most of this and other opportunities to become a highly respected academic, remained on the staff of the Copenhagen Business School until 2006, when she accepted an appointment in the Department of Management and International Relations at The University of Auckland.

Snejina's growing area of interest, "knowledge sharing", had begun appearing as a theme in

management about 1999 and "knowledge governance" eventually emerged as a new focus for her research. At The University of Auckland she was able to further advance her research into this field with the help of the University's Faculty Research and Development Fund (FRDF).

Despite the success she has enjoyed so far, Snejina fully understands the difficulty in obtaining funding for research and getting the findings published. "Publishing today is more difficult than ever," she says. "The quality of submissions is rapidly improving, the competition among authors is fierce and the rejection rate

has increased dramatically."

She was therefore grateful for the \$30,000 FRDF grant. Within the field of "knowledge sharing", an academic area that had yet to be developed in the Faculty of Business and Economics, Snejina was examining the hypothesis that governance mechanisms have impact on and can be designed to foster optimal knowledge-sharing, with the aim of contributing to the emerging "knowledge movement" in business management.

Her intention was to use her project as a platform for strengthening her research programme and attracting students to work on related subjects.

Throughout the research Snejina, with her co-researcher Kenneth Husted, Professor of Innovation and Research in the Business School, has had three articles and three book chapters published or accepted for publication. The two investigators have also conducted two research seminars and presented three competitive papers at international academic conferences. In addition Snejina co-edited a book published by Oxford University Press on knowledge governance.

"Knowledge governance is relatively new and I am proud that I'm among the scholars who have got this established as a distinctive issue in the management literature. I am not only looking at my citations, I am also greatly satisfied when executives call me up because of my research."

"I was glad of the FRDF funding which allowed me to financially support some of my key research activities and in this way enhance the further development of my research career."

FRDF is taken from the University's annual budget, including funding derived from the Performance Based Research Fund (PBRF) to promote development of the research careers of its staff.

## New Start reaches Northland



*Karla Rungarunga and Julie Chaplin*

The University's bridging programme that helps prepare adults for degree-level study has been successful in empowering a group of Northlanders to study teaching.

As a result of successfully completing the New Start programme at Tai Tokerau Campus in late 2009, 16 adult students are studying the Bachelor of Education (Teaching) Primary in Whangarei, with some also choosing to learn to teach te reo Māori in the Huarahi Māori specialisation.

The aim of New Start, offered by the Centre for

Continuing Education, is to provide a supportive environment to assist adults in developing the knowledge and skills required for successful study at university. For some it may be many years since they left school, while others may not have gained university entrance or may need to build their confidence and develop knowledge of academic study skills.

Mother of two Julie Chaplin completed the programme and is now studying teaching in 2010. Out of the classroom for over 20 years she says it was "daunting" going back to study, but that the course really built her confidence.

"New Start is great for people like me who have been away from school for a long time because I now have the techniques to write and research essays. I can't emphasise enough how beneficial it was for me."

Taught by Academic Director Heather Peters and staff from the Tai Tokerau Campus on seven consecutive Saturdays, New Start covered essential skills like academic essay writing, referencing, proof reading, exam techniques, library, and ICT skills. Students were able to hone these skills in three

essay assignments and gained experience in sitting an exam in a final two-hour test.

"Many travelled from outlying areas of Northland to attend classes, and the course generated real enthusiasm among the students," says Heather.

Karla Rungarunga also found New Start an ideal way to kick-start a teaching career after returning to the North from extensive travel overseas.

"Teaching was something I'd always thought about doing but I'd been away travelling. New Start seemed ideal because I hadn't studied for so long, and I was a little nervous – so I found it really helpful," she says.

A new intake of New Start in Whangarei will commence in September 2010.

For more information about the New Start programme call the Centre for Continuing Education on 0800 864 266.

# New professors

These two stories form part of a series in which University News invites new professors to introduce themselves to readers. In this issue we feature Professor Merryn Gott (Health Sciences) and Professor Fred Seymour (Psychology).

## Professor Merryn Gott (Health Sciences)



I moved from the UK in November 2009 to join the School of Nursing as Professor of Health Sciences and Director of Research.

My childhood was split between rural Wales and the suburbs of London, but I moved to Sheffield Medical School to do my PhD and ended up spending 15 years in the City of Steel and the

Full Monty. I did my first degree, in geography, at the University of Oxford and am often asked how a geographer ended up doing health research. My typical response is that it's not all about maps (which is fortunate as my husband claims I still can't read one!).

Whilst in the UK I developed a programme of research exploring palliative and end of life care for older people. This interest stemmed from having conducted research in gerontology (health and social care of older people) and palliative care. What struck me as incredible (and worrying) is that there is very little overlap between the two disciplines. Models of successful ageing continue to inform research within gerontology, whilst palliative care research has typically been concerned with the needs of (predominantly middle aged) people with cancer.

Together with colleagues in the UK, I collated the international research evidence regarding end

of life care for older people, concluding that older people are the "disadvantaged dying". Given that most of us hope to experience later life, improving care for older people, including during the last phase of life, must surely be a priority. I've had some success in changing practice and policy in the UK and am very pleased to now be turning my attention to the situation in New Zealand.

My new role also involves helping build research capacity within the School of Nursing and it's been great to work with new colleagues to this end. Our new writing group is one of many exciting innovations we are working on within the School.

I didn't come to New Zealand alone, but brought my husband and our three-year-old twins. My children are now enrolled in kindy, eschewing shoes and developing a New Zealand "twang". We are all having a great time exploring New Zealand and particularly enjoyed escaping a snowy English winter for a glorious Auckland summer!

## Professor Fred Seymour (Psychology)



After an early career as a psychologist practitioner working with children, adolescents and their families I was appointed to a senior lectureship in clinical psychology in the Department of Psychology in 1988.

From 2005 I have served as Head of Department. With the appointment to Professor in Clinical Psychology I will return to a leadership role within the clinical psychology programme at Tāmaki campus.

My major research interests are in child abuse, parent separation and in particular its effects on children, adolescent suicidal behaviour, and behavioural problems in children and adolescents. My research over the last decade has focused particularly on children and the law, including children as participants in decision-making about living arrangements after their parents' separation and children's involvement as witnesses in criminal trial processes.

In my own and my students' research I work closely with service providers in an attempt to maximise translation of research results into action. I have helped develop New Zealand's first

multi-agency centre combining child abuse investigation and prevention services in the one setting in order to improve co-ordination and response in service delivery. I also developed a programme for separating parents, "Children in the middle", primarily as a prevention strategy to reduce the impact of divorce on the well-being of children. The Department for Courts adopted the programme for delivery throughout New Zealand.

My involvement with the profession of psychology includes a term as President of the New Zealand Psychological Society, convening the working party that conducted a major review of the code of ethics for psychologists. Currently I am a member and deputy chair of the Psychologists Board.

# Psychology careers: finding out the facts

On 20 May University Careers Services, in partnership with the Department of Psychology and the Faculty of Science, conducted a careers information event for Psychology students.

This featured an employer panel chaired by Associate Professor Niki Harre (Psychology), who discussed industry trends, skill sets and requirements, internship opportunities and other employment-related topics with representatives from four organisations – Counties Manukau DHB, Refugee Migrant Services, Royal NZ Navy and Le Va Pacific Island Mental Health.

The information given by panel members was extremely valuable for the more than 300 undergraduate and postgraduate Psychology students, who also had the opportunity to ask their

own questions from the floor.

The event then moved on to a more informal expo-style format, where students interacted with a broad range of employers face to face. Around 20 employers were there to discuss options such as volunteering, internships, graduate programmes and summer work.

Students also asked broad questions about the best ways to prepare themselves for the world of work in this area, as well as challenges and day-to-day activities in the industry.

Other successful events with the same format have been held this semester for the School of Environment, Chemistry/Physics and Biosciences. In August, University Careers Services and the Faculty of Science will hold careers events for

Computer Science/Mathematics/Statistics (on 5 August) and Sport and Exercise Science (also in August on a date to be arranged).

Feedback from students was very positive: "Interesting and inspiring ..."; "sooo helpful"; "speakers were great"; "finding out exactly what degrees were helpful and for which organisation was really good"; "made a degree in psychology more realistic"; "the people representing the organisations were clearly both passionate about and well-suited to their positions".

## The Invention of New Zealand Art



*The Invention of New Zealand: Art and National Identity, 1930-1970* is a long-awaited study of nationalism in twentieth-century New Zealand art written by one of our most brilliant and original

art historians and published by Auckland University Press.

Dr Francis Pound, an honorary research fellow and former senior lecturer in Art History at the University, in this volume brings to light the profusion, cohesion and intimacy of the nationalist movement and its imaginary life.

From the 1930s onwards, artists, writers and critics such as Toss Woollaston, Allen Curnow, Colin McCahon, Rita Angus, A.R.D. Fairburn, Doris Lusk and Monte Holcroft deployed art, literature and theory in the construction of a national identity, the search for the essence of New Zealand and the invention of a specifically New Zealand high culture.

Francis Pound ponders, decodes, memorialises and celebrates this project from its starting moment when painters and poets became newly self-conscious about New Zealand art. He argues that in the early 1970s the framework was largely dismantled and the discourse abandoned by a new generation of artists and critics, such as Richard Killeen, Ian Scott and Petar Vuletic.

Over ten fascinating chapters, Francis Pound

covers the Nationalists' major concerns, their problems with antecedents, the formulation of their canon and their various co-optation, adoption and rejection of regionalism, cubism, modernism and primitivism in their quest for invention. *The Invention of New Zealand* is a well-illustrated and engagingly written narrative by one of our most brilliant and original art historians.

Francis Pound's published work has made a considerable contribution to New Zealand art history and culture and includes the groundbreaking *Frames on the Land: Early Landscape Painting in New Zealand (1983)* and *The Space Between: Pakeha Use of Māori Motifs in Modernist New Zealand Art (1994)*.

## South-West of Eden



"I said many times I would not write autobiography – partly because it might signal, either to my inner self, or to others, a 'signing off' as a writer; and partly because I did not want to mark off areas that were fact in my life from those that might yet

be invented. Fiction likes to move, disguised and without a passport, back and forth across that border, and prefers it should be unmarked and without check-points."

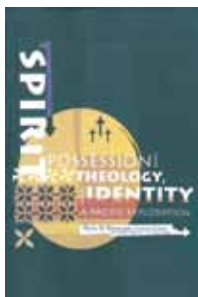
These are the words of renowned writer C.K. Stead, a former professor in the English Department, who has earned an illustrious international reputation as a poet, literary critic and novelist.

Happily for his readers, C.K. Stead has changed his mind. In *South-West of Eden*, a coming-of age memoir published by Auckland University Press, he writes of a life "lived by history" – running wild in Cornwall Park, joining the Labour Party aged seven, discovering poetry in a third-form English class and enjoying a newly married *annus mirabilis* in a flat on Takapuna Beach down the road from Frank Sargeson and Janet Frame.

An Aucklander to the core – "Most things of real significance in my life and the life of my family had happened somewhere in sight of the summit of Mt Eden" – C.K. Stead here turns his home town into a land of myth and symbol: portage for ancient waka, wasp-waist of the fish of Maui, site of a Pakeha-planned and never built coast-to-coast canal and of the harbour-to-harbour ghost-tram, no longer running except in the head of an elderly writer, late in the night, remembering at his laptop.

In a virtuoso performance, C.K. Stead wonderfully illuminates 23 years of his time and his place.

## Spirit Possession: Theology and Identity



"Spirit possession is a way of viewing or describing the world. It finds different expressions in different ages."

These are the words of Elaine Wainwright, Professor of Theology at the University, in her introduction to *Spirit Possession - Theology and Identity: A Pacific Exploration*.

Commissioned by the George Sainsbury Foundation and published by ATF (Australian

Theological Foundation) Press, the book is the work of 11 past and present faculty members and two postgraduate students of the School of Theology, and comprises essays that in some way explore the reality of spirit possession in Oceania today. Elaine Wainwright is General Editor, with Dr Philip Culbertson and Dr Susan Smith as co-editors.

Authors were chosen because of their particular research, teaching or ministry competencies, which explains the division of the book into three sections.

The first draws on the experiences of those engaged in pastoral ministry with people who believe they are possessed, or on those whose particular research interests lie in the relationship

of faith, culture and praxis. Essays in the second section examine the function and place of spirit language in the biblical texts, while the last section's focus is somewhat broader, addressing some of the historical responses to spirit possession, and the emerging bodies of study on the concepts of good and bad spirits and their impact on the human condition.

The George Sainsbury Foundation was set up in 1989 "for research into the treatment of spirit possession as it relates to mental illness for the benefit of those persons suffering from such sickness".

## Walls to Kick and Hills to Sing From



The rats are back and they're plaguing the ship. Who will be the hero of the time? Who will rescue us from this plague?

*Walls to Kick and Hills to Sing From: A comedy with interruptions*, published by Auckland University

Press, is a theatrical assemblage of language and form, arranged in six acts.

In ballads, dialogues, choruses and songs, with topics from biking narrow Polish roads to storyboarding a nationalistic film, Associate Professor Murray Edmond (Department of English) presents a collection that is "alerting", playful and subversive.

A consummate director, Murray balances his dramatic, mock-dramatic and narrative pieces with intense lyric poems, of which the superb, postcard-

like "Narrow Roads to the East" sequence is a highlight.

Both a diverse miscellany and a well-structured variety show, *Walls to Kick* takes the reader into the complex sites where language and experience meet.

Murray is a poet, playwright, dramaturge, theatre director, editor and critic. He has published four books of poetry with AUP, most recently *Fool Moon* (2004), a finalist in the Montana New Zealand Book Awards.



The daughter of a realist painter, Jude Rae was enrolled in art classes at the Julian Ashton Art School in Sydney at the age of 11 years.

Despite the school being located in The Rocks, near the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Julian Ashton approach to art education is traditional, with strong emphasis on drawing skills. Introduced to the work of the Old Masters there, Jude Rae went on to study for a degree in Art History at Sydney University which she completed in 1981. Soon after, she returned to painting, working in a style influenced by the artists of the Northern European Renaissance and seventeenth century French still life painting, as well as by the French philosopher Maurice Merleau-Ponty's ideas about the phenomenology of perception.

After receiving the Australia Council Residency in Paris and working in London in 1989 she came to New Zealand, founding the arts organisation, South Island Art Projects (which became The Physics Room) in Christchurch, and completing an MA in painting at the University of Canterbury in 1992. She exhibited her work in dealer galleries in

Auckland and Christchurch, establishing a reputation for carefully considered, meditative paintings of drapery and other objects, and was included in many curated exhibitions in public art museums.

Returning to Australia in 2003, she broadened her focus on still life or "object painting" to include portraiture, winning the prestigious Portia Geach Memorial Award in 2005, Australia's most prestigious award for female artists. The

same year a series of her small "interiors", portraits of friends with their eyes closed, were included in an exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery of Australia in Canberra. The same institution also commissioned her to paint the distinguished scientist Frank Fenner which was her first commissioned portrait of a male subject.

She won the Portia Geach prize for a second time in 2008 with *Self Portrait 2008 (The Year My Husband Left)*, a full-length image of herself in which she stands alone in her studio, holding her paintbrushes, with her dog Tilly at her feet. The artist limits herself to one commissioned portrait a year, and has remarked: "Portraiture is both fascinating and daunting precisely because it lies at the juncture of the subjective and objective impulses in my practice. When a person sits for a portrait, the painter sees them as both subject and object. Negotiating a resolution to this duality is very complicated and subtle."

Jude Rae was recommended to the Business School to paint a commemorative portrait of businessman and benefactor Owen Glenn. An

immigrant to New Zealand, Glenn arrived at the age of 12 years, and attended Mount Roskill Grammar School for three years before leaving to begin his career in logistics with Tasman Empire Airways Limited (TEAL). Between 1969 and 1975 he established McGregor Swire Air Services (MSAS), a highly successful pioneer in the field of full-service freight forwarding, for the Ocean and Swire groups. Then in 1978 he formed Direct Container Line (DCL) which became the United States' second-largest importer of goods. Three years later, he set up NACA Logistics, now one of the world's largest freight-forwarding conglomerations, and in 1989 he was honoured as a United States Entrepreneur of the Year.

Now he is the Chair of OTS Logistics Group, an integrated global transport conglomerate, and lives in Europe but still regards himself as a New Zealander. In 2005, he donated \$7.5 million to the new Business School to be built at The University of Auckland. This was a landmark philanthropic donation in New Zealand education in recognition of which The University of Auckland named the Owen G. Glenn Building. Jude Rae has amalgamated separate studies of this building, designed by Australian Richard Francis-Jones of the Sydney practice FJMT, with a portrait of Owen Glenn made from life studies made over four sittings in the saloon of his yacht.

Owen Glenn was made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the New Year Honours List for 2008. Controversy followed soon after, with speculation about political appointments proceeding from his donations to the Labour Party. In September of that year, Owen Glenn returned to New Zealand to give evidence to Parliament's Privileges Committee against the New Zealand First Party in relation to undeclared donations to the party's leader, Winston Peters.

Linda Tyler

*Jude Rae, Portrait of Owen Glenn, 2009, Oil on canvas 2400x1800 mm, University of Auckland Art Collection.*

## CCE prepares for 25th opera tour



Image courtesy of Opera Australia

The great majority of international short courses designed and delivered by the Centre for Continuing Education (CCE) are for groups of students, academics or business people coming from overseas and studying at The University of Auckland. The exception is the opera tours the Centre has been running since 1990.

In October this year the Centre's 25th tour will depart, for the 20th time to Sydney. There has also been one tour to Melbourne (during Sydney's Olympic year) and four to Europe.

During the past 20 years opera lovers from around the country have been heading overseas to enjoy lectures, performances, and the opportunity to spend time with others who share their interest and passion. Leading the tours since the very beginning has been Emeritus Professor Nicholas Tarling, at the time Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Chairman of the Deans Committee.

It was at first, according to Nicholas, rather experimental. "We tried various things over the first few years. However the core was and has remained the talks in the morning and the performances in the evening. The talks got more substantial over time, and we took to supplying

libretti for study purposes. On these tours, unlike many tours, members have a common interest, and that makes for coherence and interchange. Generally we have enjoyed what is now a rare experience in the world, opera presented by a company, largely cast from its members, and so having human and dramatic qualities as well as musical."

Lynn Lander, Acting Director of CCE, says, "Community education, in its many forms, is central to what CCE does. The opera tours are an excellent and enduring example of such education. The fact that a great many of the participants return year after year is testament to the format, personnel, and content on offer."

For information on this year's tour to Sydney, contact the Centre for Continuing Education on 0800 864 266, or email [conted@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:conted@auckland.ac.nz)

# Adventures in Venice



Natalie Bell

The Department of Art History is delighted to announce that three of its students have been selected for the 2010 Internship Programme at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice.

The internships are two months in duration and participating students – as many as 30 a month – are drawn from around the world.

The three selected students – Natalie Bell, Linda Yang and Sandra Cammell – will assist in the daily operation of the museum four days a week, and will take part in discussions and seminars conducted by fellow interns, staff and visiting professionals.

**The interns:** Natalie Bell is currently working towards her PhD in Art History. She is investigating “non-marriage” portraits of women in the Italian Renaissance, specifically portraits of platonic lovers, mistresses and courtesans. She also tutors for the Department of Art History and for the University’s Centre for Continuing Education.

Natalie has a wide-ranging interest in Italian culture and language, and is currently completing an Italian archival and paleography course run by the Medici Archive.

Linda Yang has recently completed her BA (Hons) in Art History. She has tutored for the department and has begun her masters degree in 2010. She has always had an interest in Italian art and culture.

Sandra Cammell has just completed her MA thesis in Art History, which focused on temporary art in public space and audience engagement. Sandra has never been to Italy before and plans to immerse herself in the Peggy Guggenheim Collection and the Italian Renaissance art that she has studied.

## What's on

### SATURDAY 26 JUNE

**Exploded view: Children's workshop**  
1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. \$10. A young person's print-making workshop, led by artist Nuala Gregory. Places strictly limited, years 11-13 only, bookings essential. Email [s.korohina@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:s.korohina@auckland.ac.nz)

### SUNDAY 27 JUNE

**Matariki workshop**  
Whirimako Black: *Taonga pūoro and traditional Māori song*. 5-6pm Music Theatre, 6 Symonds St. Free. Registration essential. Ph 923 7707 or email [concerts@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:concerts@auckland.ac.nz)

### TUESDAY 29 JUNE

**PASW (SPSS) introduction workshop**  
1-4pm CAD, Level 4, 76 Symonds St. Enrol at [www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops](http://www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops) or phone 373 7599 ext 88140 with queries.  
**School of Critical Studies in Education seminar**  
Prof Richard Tinning: *Reflections on critical education studies at Deakin University 1977-1999*. 4.30pm Rm N356, N block, Faculty of Education, 60 Epsom Ave, Epsom. Please RSVP to [s.davis@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:s.davis@auckland.ac.nz)

### WEDNESDAY 30 JUNE

**Oceanic Conference on International Studies IV (OCIS)**  
Until 2 July. OCIS builds on the successful legacy of OCIS III in Canberra, Melbourne and Brisbane bringing Oceania's largest International Relations (IR) and International Studies conferences across the Tasman for the first time. All are welcome. For more information see [www.ocis.org.nz](http://www.ocis.org.nz)  
**Department of Statistics seminar**  
Dr Catherine Macken, Los Alamos National Laboratory: *Finding needles in a haystack: Identification of significant molecular changes in influenza viruses*. 11am-12noon Statistics Seminar Rm 222, Science Centre.  
**Centre for Laccanian Analysis seminar**  
Jeanne Schroder, Professor of Law, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law,

New York: *Right does not exist*. 6.15-7.30pm Rm WS101, level 1, WS Bldg, AUT, 24 St Paul St. Visit [www.lacan.org.nz](http://www.lacan.org.nz)

### THURSDAY 1 JULY

**Auckland Australs 2010**  
Until 7 July. The Australasian Intervarsity Debating Championships (Australs) is the world's second-largest debating tournament, and is renowned for confronting the most challenging issues in global and regional policy. During the eight preliminary rounds, over 100 teams will compete. Visit [www.australs2010.com](http://www.australs2010.com)  
**Auckland branch of Society for Legal and Social Philosophy seminar**  
Dr Karen Lee, Shue Yan University, Hong Kong. *Equality, dignity, and the disagreement on same-sex marriage*. 6pm Small Lecture Theatre, Bldg 803, School of Law, Eden Crescent. Queries to [pj.evans@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:pj.evans@auckland.ac.nz)

### FRIDAY 2 JULY

**White collar crime and serious fraud conference**  
9am-5pm Fale Pasifika, 20 Wynyard St. Hosted by the New Zealand Governance Centre. For further information email [nzgovernance@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:nzgovernance@auckland.ac.nz)  
**Department of Economics seminar**  
Dr Pedro Gomis-Porqueras, Australian National University: *A search-theoretic model of money, capital and international trade: Implications for exchange rate dynamics*. 3-4.30pm Rm 6115, Level 6, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. Queries to Matthew Ryan on 373 7599 ext 85254.

### SATURDAY 3 JULY

**Exhibition talk**  
*My El Jay*. 1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Personal histories from those who worked for Gus Fisher and El Jay. Attendees are invited to wear their Ultra Suede or other garments from the House of El Jay to this event.

### MONDAY 5 JULY

**Incredible Science**  
9.30am- 3.30pm Faculty of Science. Visit the Incredible Science website for more information, including a full programme: [www.incrediblescience.co.nz](http://www.incrediblescience.co.nz)

### TUESDAY 6 JULY

**Word long documents workshop**  
9am-12noon, CAD, Level 4, 76 Symonds St. Enrol at [www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops](http://www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops) or phone 373 7599 ext 88140 with queries.

## Classifieds

### ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

**Apartments for rent.** Call us for your rental requirements; we offer city apartments furnished/unfurnished, all sizes and prices; great rental deals for long-term leases; call Shirlene Brebner on 09 303 0601 at City Sales or email [rentals@citysales.co.nz](mailto:rentals@citysales.co.nz) or log on to [www.citysales.co.nz/rentals](http://www.citysales.co.nz/rentals)  
**Flatmate wanted in Glenfield.** Three-bdrm house with two bthrms. Sunny house with good views, nice landlord, good neighbours. Has a garden and a patio area. Three existing flatmates: professionals in their 20s, one couple, one single person. Warm sunny single room with wardrobe. Enough space for dble bed and some furniture. Would suit one person. Close to bus stops, Glenfield mall, motorway on-ramps, universities. One OSP space available. Smoking outside only. No pets. \$130 pw + expenses (\$15-\$20 pw). Needs to be paying rent by Tuesday 6 July, but can move in ASAP. Please contact (027) 319 7749 or [ben.scrivener@gmail.com](mailto:ben.scrivener@gmail.com) for further details.  
**Freeman's Bay,** furnished dble room, suit female. Share sunny townhouse with one other and pets. Busy but quiet lifestyle. Bus (one stage) or walk 15 minutes to city. Good location with supermarket close. \$220 pw includes Broadband, power, gas. Short-term ok. Phone or txt Carolyn on 0274 784 145, or email [walker.cd@xtra.co.nz](mailto:walker.cd@xtra.co.nz)  
**Lovely three-bedroom Westmere house for rent,** 5 September 2010 to Dec/Jan 2011. Return dates flexible. Fully furnished, including wireless, washer, drier, dishwasher and a highly sociable and much-loved cat. With bath and shower. Big back yard, with storage shed and OSP. Walking distance from shops, parks, zoo and Auckland's best butcher. Ideal for visiting academics. Rent negotiable. Must love cats! Email [aotearose@gmail.com](mailto:aotearose@gmail.com)

### Northcote Point apartment for rent.

One bedroom in quiet, secure complex with own carpark and shared pool. Open plan living flowing to private garden. Great location - close walk to ferry, cafés and cinema. Unfurnished, long-term rental. \$310 pw. Phone Claire on (021) 025 95817 or email [c.speedy@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:c.speedy@auckland.ac.nz).  
**One-bdrm apartment** available from mid-July in The Auckland, Rutland St, City, just behind the Public Library. Fully furnished, immaculate, everything included. North facing, sunny and warm. No smokers. \$300 pw. Contact Bryan on 480 5857.  
**Warm Ponsonby home** available to rent for the month of July. Character bungalow with two bdrms, two living rooms, central heating, with private sunny deck. A two-minute walk to Ponsonby Rd; fully furnished with linen, crockery etc provided. \$400 pw + power. Phone Trudi on (021) 135 5092.

### MISCELLANEOUS

**Books for sale.** Psychology, sociology, education and ancient history. Contact Dorothy on (09) 579 7543 or [Dorothy.James@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Dorothy.James@xtra.co.nz)  
**Carpenter/builder available.** Over 30 years experience. Lots of renovations and historic places. References. Phone Chris on 270 0745 or (027) 293 2279.  
**Sweet Moments, cake shop.** Celebrate your sweet moments with cakes, cupcakes, cookies and biscuits. All preparations are made by NZ qualified pastry chef at council-registered kitchen. We can bake to suit your taste, theme, budget and for all age groups. We can also make sweets for your morning tea or parties. Please place an order three days in advance and we will deliver it to you at the City Campus and some areas of Auckland city (no delivery charges). Please visit [www.cakesforsweetmoments.co.nz](http://www.cakesforsweetmoments.co.nz) or contact Vibha (09) 8359464 or (021) 114 0868.  
**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. Contact Karen on [Karen.embleton@mondotravel.co.nz](mailto:Karen.embleton@mondotravel.co.nz) or 940 0064 (wk) or (021) 188 7781.

For a full list of The University of Auckland events see: [www.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/home/events](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/home/events)

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