



CLEAN SWEEP AT PACIFIC AWARDS

Current and former University of Auckland students have scooped up all the major 2011 Prime Minister's Pacific Youth Awards.

Nadeen Papali'i, Mark Dewes, Brandon Jackson, Jessica Papali'i-Curtin and Joyce Toleafoa, all current students or alumni of the University, are recipients of the coveted awards recognising outstanding achievers from the New Zealand Pacific community.

They follow in the footsteps of fellow students and alumni Samuelu Si'ilata, Tammy Kingi-Fakaloa and J'aime Laurenson who won last year's inaugural awards.

Nadeen Papali'i, a masters student in Environmental Engineering, was awarded The University of Auckland-sponsored Leadership Award. "I'm really excited about this award," says the 22-year-old from Otara. "A lot of times, we let our circumstances hold us back, but I hope with this award I can inspire more Pacific

youth to really get out there and live their dreams. I'm focused on working in the water industry, firstly in Samoa, then anywhere there is a need. So I've set it in my heart to do my doctorate to get trained and get equipped."

The Leadership scholarship pays fees towards a programme of study at the University.

Mark Dewes, who graduated last year with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Elam, won the Weta Workshop-sponsored Creativity Award which provides a one-year paid internship at Weta Workshop in Wellington. "I've always wanted to work in the creative industry and even though I missed out on the award in 2010, I was not deterred by the setback. I knew I would have another opportunity this year so it just focused me even more," says Mark.

This year, three recipients have been jointly awarded the Cogita-sponsored Inspiration Award. Brandon Jackson and Joyce Toleafoa both studying in the Faculty of Education, the

former undertaking a Bachelor in Human Services degree and the latter a Bachelor of Education (Primary Teaching). Jessica Papali'i-Curtin is studying for a bachelors in Medicine and Surgery. Each received \$5000 towards overseas travel.

"The University of Auckland is committed to ensuring access and opportunities for Pacific communities," says Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stuart McCutcheon. "Many of our students are already making valuable contributions to their respective families and communities and it is heartening to see them publicly recognised in this way."

With 3,000 Pacific student enrolments and world-class academics teaching and researching across many Pacific-related disciplines, Auckland is New Zealand's leading Pacific university.

Pictured from left: Mark, Brandon, Joyce, Nadeen and Jessica

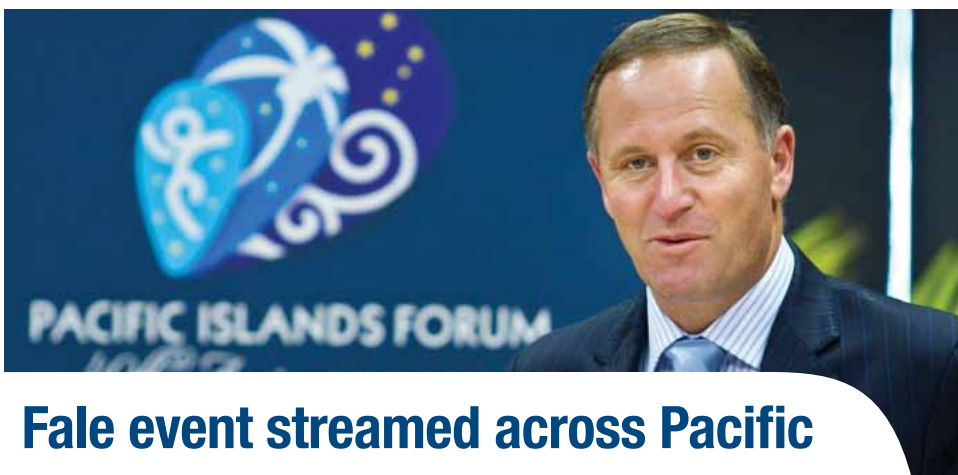


At a recent meeting of Universities New Zealand there was further discussion about the ongoing impact of the Canterbury earthquakes. Although the Canterbury institutions are working hard to recover from the immediate impacts of these unprecedented events, it is clear that there will be long-term consequences both for them and for the other New Zealand universities.

One area of uncertainty concerns the effects on student enrolment patterns. Thus far the effects seem to be limited, but they can be measured only by the behaviours of students already at the Canterbury institutions. It is much less clear what future students will do, but vital that the Canterbury universities be supported to maintain their student numbers and thus their revenue streams and financial strength. All the universities have agreed to work together to promote that outcome as our Canterbury colleagues move from recovery to rebuilding.

There will undoubtedly be a major impact on the cost of insuring our facilities. Just as happened after the 9/11 attacks in the USA, insurance premiums are expected to soar and to remain at high levels for an extended period of time as insurers recover their losses. In our own case we can expect an immediate increase in premiums of about \$2 million per annum. Given the constraints that government policy imposes on our revenues, it seems likely that we will simply have to absorb these costs. This will be no easy feat given current financial circumstances. A saving of \$2million per annum will require that we eliminate about 20 staffing positions (assuming an average \$100,000 cost per staff member). Alternatively, if we attempted to raise an additional \$2 million while holding costs, we would need to eliminate about 300 domestic student places and substitute for them an additional 300 international students.

These may seem like radical solutions, but in fact they represent some of the very few opportunities we have to cope with the continuing erosion of our revenues and simultaneous imposition of unexpected costs. We have been predicting for some time that things were going to become very difficult financially for the University. That reality has now clearly arrived.



Fale event streamed across Pacific

A major set-piece event at the University's Fale Pasifika was watched across the Pacific as it happened.

New Zealand Prime Minister (pictured above), the Rt Hon John Key's address to help celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the Pacific Islands Forum was streamed live to 15 other member countries.

The event, organised by the Forum Secretariat in association with the University, drew 160 figures from across Auckland's Pacific communities who are prominent in politics, education, business, health, the church and other spheres. Also present was the Tongan Prime Minister, Lord Siale'ataongo Tu'ivakanō, and his wife Lopini Tu'ivakanō along with the Forum's Secretary-General, Tuiloma Neroni Slade.

John Key's lecture was the third in a series by Pacific leaders in the build-up to the Forum meeting in Auckland early next month.

He said the Forum had played a major role in developing a sense of Pacific regionalism. "The challenge now is to build on that idea of common purpose – the idea that brought Pacific leaders together back in 1971 – and harness it to build a brighter future for this whole region.

"Hence our proposed theme: 'converting potential into prosperity'. By potential, I mean the ability to build on the region's many

resources and assets."

Too often the potential of the Pacific was overlooked in the rush to identify problems, said Mr Key. "We need to focus a little more on what our part of the world has, rather than on what it does not.

"Our region is home to major sources of clean energy, such as sun and wind...Our region also has mineral and oil wealth...The Pacific Ocean holds a vast stock of fish and other marine resources..."

"Some Pacific nations have the ability to grow fruit, vegetable and oil crops...The two largest economies, Australia and New Zealand, have large primary industries that can offer seasonal employment to people from the smaller island countries."

In an increasingly crowded and built-upon world, the Pacific had a natural environment that was second to none, said Mr Key. "Above all, our region is home to the Pacific people, who, along with their rich and diverse cultures, are full of potential."

The event at the Fale, on 11 August, began with a ceremonial welcome to guests by a group from the Niuean Students' Association.

Making savvy scientists

Science and careers expo "Synapse" was recently held to showcase the economic and technological potential of New Zealand's life science sector, and to encourage savvy scientists being trained at the University to "make their mark on the world". The event was presented by student-led group Chiasma.

Keynote speaker Sir Ray Avery reminded attendees of the difference between information and knowledge, and encouraged them to use relevant understanding of science to be innovative. Dr Helen Anderson, previous CEO of MoRST (now part of the Ministry of Science and Innovation), mentioned the importance of "soft skills". Michael Daniell, CEO of Fisher and

Paykel Healthcare, shared the hope that New Zealand scientists can successfully become the best in the world in a focused field. This is what his company has done with its respiratory technology, which helps patients in acute care.

Besides communicating the trends and prospects in the bioscience sector, Synapse gave students and staff more opportunities to develop their scientific careers. These included the offerings and information from exhibiting companies such as Life Technologies, Comvita, NZBio, Plant and Food Research, Wolters Kluwer, MSI, and LanzaTech.

First law firm funding for chair



Leading law firm Chapman Tripp has pledged substantial funding over a five-year period to support the establishment of the Chapman Tripp Chair in Corporate and Commercial Law at the University's Faculty of Law.

The agreement between the University and Chapman Tripp is the first time that a New Zealand law firm has provided funding for a professorial chair.

"This is a major milestone for the Auckland Law School. The Chapman Tripp Chair in Corporate and Commercial Law will significantly advance the teaching and research carried out in these areas," says Dean of Law, Dr Andrew Stockley.

In July the Auckland Law School was ranked one of the top 20 law schools in the world in the prestigious QS World University Rankings. Andrew noted that Chapman Tripp's support of this new position will help ensure that Auckland remains a national and international leader in corporate and commercial law.

"The Faculty hosts the Research Centre for Business Law, publishes the *New Zealand Business Law Quarterly* and offers a wide range of corporate and commercial law papers in its undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. The Chapman Tripp Chair will further increase the profile of corporate and commercial law not only at the Auckland Law School but within the wider New Zealand business community."

Chapman Tripp's Managing Partner, Andrew Poole, says: "Chapman Tripp is committed to improving New Zealand's profile and performance on the world stage. We see this opportunity as a way to make a tangible difference in an area of law where new thinking and application can have a direct impact on business growth."

From left: Dr Andrew Stockley and Andrew Poole

New Research Director

Daniel Hikuroa, a world leader in the integration of indigenous knowledge and science, has been appointed Research Director of Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga.

For the past three years Dan has been the Community Earth Systems Science Programmes Manager at the University's Institute of Earth Science and Engineering. He has realised many community-based projects ranging from geothermal developments to industrial waste

site rehabilitation.

As Research Director of Ngā Pae, Dan will continue to investigate the enormous potential that integrating indigenous knowledge and science can yield, both theoretically and practically. He has recently completed a significant research project: "Restoring the mauri to Rotoitipaku (industrial waste site): Implementing Mātauranga in a scientific paradigm". The completion of another keystone

project, "Harvesting the fruits of Papatūānuku: A Kaitiaki approach to geothermal development", is imminent. Both are exciting in that they forge novel solutions and pathways that would not have been reached by either body of knowledge in isolation.

"I am excited by the opportunity that this role affords to realise the potential within our mātauranga (indigenous knowledge) which too often lies nascent within our people," says Dan.

Highlighted events

University opens up

The University opens its doors to prospective students and their families at Courses and Careers Day this Saturday 27 August (9am-3pm). Up to 8000 people are expected to converge on the City Campus to sample a huge choice of lectures, displays, tours and entertainment. They can tap into advice and information on entry, enrolment, student services and first-year scholarships—and apply on the spot for 2012. Halls of residence will be open for tours. Staff not directly involved are welcome to come and check out faculties and disciplines which interest them — and enjoy the food and fun. The detailed programme is at www.coursesandcareers.auckland.ac.nz Brigitte Hannett in Marketing (ext 85219, b.hannett@auckland.ac.nz) is co-ordinating the event.

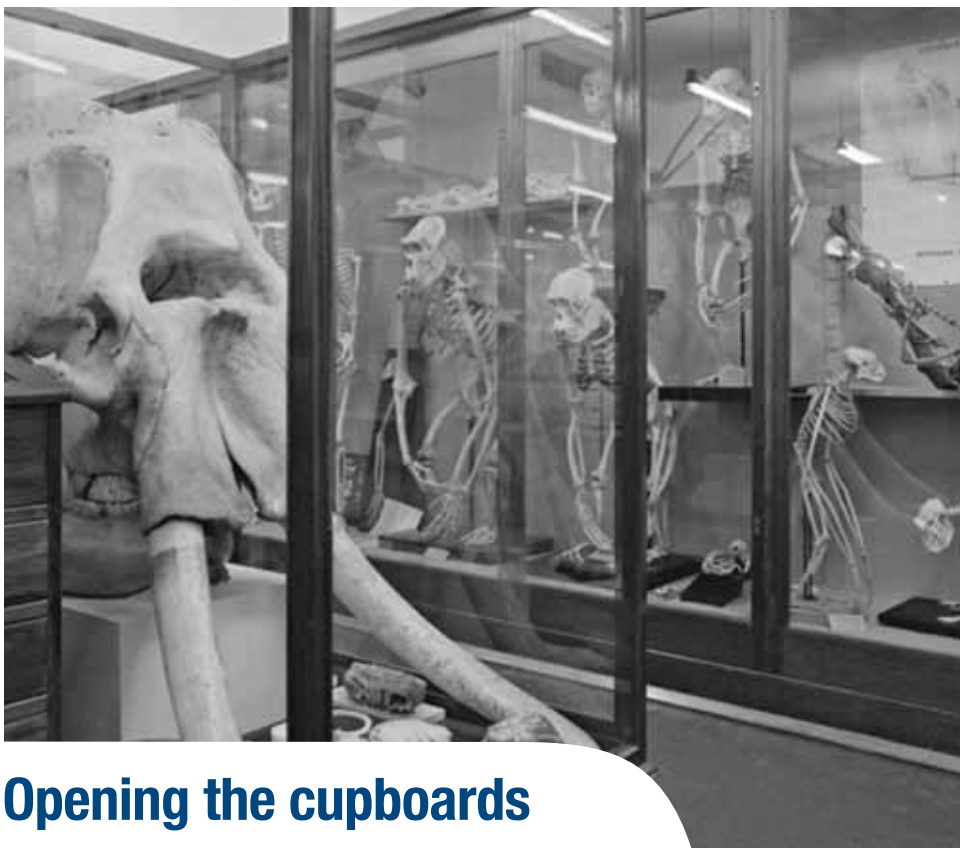
Mediation workshop

The School of Graduate Studies is hosting an interactive workshop for supervisors of postgraduate students on dealing with challenging behaviours in research. The two-hour workshop, which will be presented by Barbara McCulloch, University Mediator, in conjunction with the Dean of Graduate Studies, will consider the conflicts which arise in the context of postgraduate research, the dynamics which contribute to conflict, and some tools for dealing with them. Monday 12 September 2011, 2-4 pm, City Campus. Supervisors who would like to attend should RSVP to k.crewther@auckland.ac.nz. The workshop is limited to 50 places.

Literary transformations

The School of Asian Studies 2011 Seminar Series gets underway with Dr Lawrence Marceau examining the sixth story in Japanese author Ueda Akinari's narrative collection, *Ugetsu monogatari (Tales of the Rain and the Moon, 1776)*, "Kibitsu no kama" ("The Kibitsu Cauldron"). "I present evidence to connect this and other episodes in 'Kibitsu' with a heretofore unidentified story from the collection *Shokoku hyaku monogatari (One Hundred Tales from the Provinces, 1677)*," says Lawrence. "I suggest that a comparison of common motifs from these two stories can provide insight into Akinari's narrative technique, and into popular Japanese attitudes toward the fantastic."

Thursday 25 August at 3pm, Arts 2, Room 501 (Patrick Hanan Room) 18 Symonds Street. Contact asianstudies@auckland.ac.nz



Opening the cupboards

Findings from a U21 Scholarship were one of the factors behind a project to document the many and varied cultural collections of the University.

Last year Andrew Clifford, Curator at the Centre for NZ Art Research and Discovery at the

Gus Fisher Gallery, studied museum collections at universities including Edinburgh, Glasgow, Singapore and Melbourne. In particular he explored the initiatives around special collections and museums which have generated interest and support in the wider community.

Now with the help of a Vice-Chancellor's Strategic Development Fund Andrew has teamed up with Elizabeth Nichol, Records Management Programme Manager at Alfred Nathan House and Jane Wild, Library Manager for NICAI and Special Collections, to document the scope and scale of the University's collections. "Library, archival, scientific, artistic and museum collections reflect and illustrate the diversity and strength of the University's research and collecting traditions," says Elizabeth. The team is about to recruit a half-time project worker for a year to survey and document the collections developed by the University and develop some ideas for future co-ordinated promotion and stewardship. They have already enlisted Karen Jennings from Biological Sciences to join the steering group to represent the interests of the McGregor Museum which includes historical artifacts and biological specimens. Aspects of the built environment, including architectural details, will form part of the survey along with the various collections including computer history and Chinese furniture. If you are involved in the care of unique collections, whether they are in book, rock or any other format, the steering group would be keen to include you in the audit process.

Please email Elizabeth Nichol e.nichol@auckland.ac.nz for further information.

Photo: Elephant skulls from the McGregor Collection

From Prague



"Photographic perception...must become semi-automatic and instantaneous [like] playing... on the keyboard."

Those words epitomise the ethos and practice of Frank Hofmann – photographer, writer, musician and artist – whose interdisciplinary explorations are on display in an exhibition opening at the Gus

Fisher Gallery, 5.30pm, 26 August.

Frank Hofmann (1916-1989) was born in Prague and arrived in New Zealand in 1940 as a refugee from Nazi-invaded Czechoslovakia. A respected commercial photographer based first in Christchurch and then in Auckland, Frank Hofmann was also an art photographer with strong links to music, writing, architecture and visual arts.

The exhibition *From Prague to Auckland: The photography of Frank Hofmann (1916-89)* makes clear that Hofmann was particularly skilled at using the camera not just as a recording instrument but as a creative tool. His subjects ranged from people and portraits to landscapes, buildings and domestic objects; they were pictured through Hofmann's compelling use of light and shadow, patterning and texture, angle and composition.

According to exhibition curator Associate Professor of Art History Leonard Bell, Hofmann "believed that a good knowledge of the various arts was necessary to understand and practise any one kind of artistic activity, whether photography, visual arts, architecture, literature or music".

When he wasn't behind the lens, Hofmann was honing his own raft of interdisciplinary skills: he was an accomplished violinist, who in the early 1940s joined the newly formed Auckland String Players (which evolved into the Symphonia of Auckland and then Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra). He also published prolifically, writing for specialist and amateur photographers in a wide range of periodicals and newspapers. And through his close friendship with modernist architect Vernon Brown, Hofmann photographed the interiors and exteriors of many houses and buildings in some of his most acclaimed works.

"Frank Hofmann was one of the best photographers of his generation in New Zealand. He is particularly important for introducing interwar European modernist ideas about, and practices in, photography to this country," says Associate Professor Bell, who has written extensively on the works and careers of exiled, refugee, migrant and travelling artists, photographers and architects.

Picture: Reversal Design, 1952

Improving nutrition and physical activity



Poor nutrition and lack of physical activity increase the risk of developing diseases such as type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, arthritis and a range of cancers, even injury.

The mission of the Nutrition and Physical Activity (NPA) research group at the University's Clinical Trials Research Unit (CTRU) is to reduce these health hazards. It studies what lies behind poor diets and inactivity, and puts forward policies to improve nutrition, increase physical activity and prevent obesity.

The group is one of eight recipients of the University's International Research Team Development Awards (IRTDAs) which aim to build international relationships and attract international funding.

At the recent International Society for Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity (ISBNPA) annual meeting in Melbourne, the NPA group networked with more than 700 international counterparts. The meeting, the first held in the southern hemisphere, demonstrated not only the increasing importance of diet and

exercise internationally but the excellent research being carried out globally.

Following this event, the NPA group co-chaired a satellite meeting of ISBNPA in Queenstown on the theme "Beyond 2011: Improving nutrition and physical activity". The meeting shared information on innovative approaches to improve the promotion and measurement of physical activity and nutrition. Themes included novel population approaches to challenges such as nutrition and sustainability of food resources; upstream strategies to improve nutrition and physical activity behaviours; emerging technologies in population physical activity measurement; and interdisciplinary research.

The NPA group shared research ideas and expertise with international colleagues. Two from China, Professor Jun Ma and Associate Professor Haijun Wang from the Institute of Child and Adolescent Health of Peking University, Beijing, have collaborated with the NPA group since 2008. Both are widely regarded as leaders in novel research approaches to improving population health.

Their work, however, is relatively unknown here. "Meeting with our New Zealand colleagues allowed us to further our collaboration, particularly a funding application to the Chinese Medical Board to undertake joint NZ-China research on childhood obesity prevention," said Professor Jun Ma.

Photo from left: Jun Ma, Haijun Wang.

Limiting spinal cord injury

New Zealand's first Spinal Cord Injury Research Unit, dedicated to gaining a better understanding of the causes of disability following injury and to develop new treatments, was launched at the University recently.

The major role of the Research Unit, based in the Centre for Brain Research and supported by a donation of \$500,000 from the CatWalk Spinal Cord Injury Trust, will be to establish expertise and maintain spinal injury models that can be accessed by researchers from throughout New Zealand working on spinal cord injury and repair. The unit will help to further develop, grow and maintain an ongoing research programme both in New Zealand and abroad.

In addition, with the funding provided by the CatWalk Trust, the Unit will play a key role educating students in spinal injury research, clinical awareness and practice, and train upcoming young neuroscientists with summer research projects and mentoring programmes.

Current spinal cord research by Dr Simon O'Carroll, Professor Louise Nicholson and Professor Colin Green at the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences has discovered one of the critical changes that takes place after spinal cord injury is an increase in the number of communicating channels between nerve cells.

These channels spread the damage from the site of injury to areas that would otherwise not be affected. The team has developed and tested small molecules called mimetic peptides, which function to close these channels. Using models of spinal cord injury they have shown that delivery of this peptide early after an injury prevents inflammation, protects nerve cells from death and leads to improved locomotion.

While this research is still ongoing it is an exciting breakthrough. If, using the peptide, doctors can prevent the spread of damage early it will mean that people who suffer an injury will not have the same degree of disability or possibly no disability at all.

University Research Offices conference

In August the University hosted the annual University Research Offices conference. This is traditionally attended by research management staff from the eight New Zealand universities. It is an opportunity for staff to meet and share best practice with colleagues working in similar functional areas. For the first time this year, we ran a two-day conference. Day one comprised the usual functional area workshops. A highlight was the panel discussion between representatives of the universities and the Health Research Council, the Royal Society and MSI. The topic was "how the university sector would like to see the science and innovation funding system develop". Day two was opened up to research professionals from a range of research institutions and we were fortunate to host a number of local and international presenters, who ran sessions on topics such as research facilitation, internationalisation, Māori research and innovation, research integrity, impact assessment, performance measurement, contracting and intellectual property, and electronic research management. Copies of presentations can be accessed at: www.nzconferences.org.nz/UROC/index.html

Introduction to research

After a successful first workshop held in February, Introduction to research at The University of Auckland will run again on 7 September. This workshop enables staff to gain an overview of the University's research management structure and to meet key support staff and build valuable networks. The focus is on how the University can help researchers achieve their objectives. It includes an introductory session on the place of research, forums on research career development led by the faculties' Associate Deans (Research), as well as discussion and information sessions on key topics.

For queries and registrations please contact Mariana Suarez m.suarez@auckland.ac.nz
See: www.staff.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/introduction-to-research-at-the-university-of-auckland-1

Healthy living

The U21 workshop for Early Career Researcher Development will be held at the University of Birmingham: 13-15 December 2011. The focus of the workshop is healthy living, more specifically "how to improve human health and wellbeing, particularly given the increase in lifespan without a concomitant increase in health span". The University is able to put forward two nominees and three reserve nominees, and is keen to support staff to attend.

For further information contact: Robyn Hill, robyn.hill@auckland.ac.nz



The iconic upturned boat form of the Fale Pasifika is a landmark on campus. Designed by Ivan Mercep of Jasmax Architects at a cost of \$6 million in 2004, the Fale has won several architectural awards. Collaboration with architectural theorist Albert Refiti ensured that Pasifika artists were involved in its construction adding layers of cultural meaning.

Traditional Tongan lashings in brown and black coconut coir from Fiji by Filipe Tohi conceal steel plates and bolts at the main intersections of the roof structure on the interior. Outside the building, the work of Tongan artist, Tumoi Kaloni, forms a high archway entrance to the malae or greeting area, which is paved with a grid of tiles with applied arrows by Tania Euruatua Short to form a work entitled *Accidental and Deliberate Voyages in the South Pacific*. Described as a cartographically inspired pattern, this treatment of the malae's surface was intended to evoke the presence of the ocean connecting Pacific peoples.

The aerial view conjured by this careful schema is further enhanced by the presence of seven birds crafted in stainless steel plate that soar overhead on six-metre high poles: rare examples of objects made by the late artist and curator Jim Vivieaere. Entitled *Beacons*, these avian manifestations were initially intended to sway in the wind, and have mirrored surfaces which would render them invisible by day, then lit up at night using fibre optic cables. However, the budget of \$62,000 did not allow for special effects, and ultimately the artist reconciled himself to painting the bird shapes with

the plumage colours of *Fregata ariel*, or Lesser Frigatebird which is closely associated with the Pacific.

The flight silhouette of the frigate bird is singular, with the largest wingspan to bodyweight ratio of any seabird. Such long, thin wings, combined with a tapering forked or scissor-like tale and the bird's strong hooked bill make this bird a distinctive presence in Pacific skies. Vivieaere chose the bird for its cultural and spiritual dimensions as well as its ability to conjure notions of movement, migration and ocean. These "beacons" represent each of the seven major Pacific Island communities living in Aotearoa, and their placement on the malae is dictated by the geographical relationship that the islands of Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, Niue, Tokelau, Tuvalu and the Cook Islands have to each other in the Pacific Ocean.

Born in Waipawa to Rarotongan parents, Jim Vivieaere attended medical school in Dunedin before beginning study at the University of

Canterbury's School of Fine Arts in 1972. A visit to Noosa Heads connected him with a Tahitian family in 1981 and precipitated an exploration of his Polynesian heritage which developed into curatorial work around definitions of "Pacific Islandness". As a Mōet & Chandon artist-in-residence in Avizes, France in 1993 he formulated his groundbreaking exhibition *Bottled Ocean* which opened at City Gallery, Wellington in 1994. Radical both in its installation and its deployment of artists using new media, it has yet to be surpassed as an exploration of contemporary art by Pasifika artists in Aotearoa. His own multimedia work includes a video installation as part of Le Folauga at Auckland Museum in 2007 and makes reference to Belgian surrealist Rene Magritte's 1928-29 work, *The Treachery of Images* which was a painting of a pipe with the text "This is not a pipe".

Vivieaere's work was called *This is not an ocean, this is a rented house/this is not a hand, this is a library/this is not the sky, this is a grandfather clock/this is not a child, this is a mirror poetically evoking issues of Polynesian identity*. It shows a young child diving into calm water and swimming away clumsily as the sound of the ocean builds tension in the background.

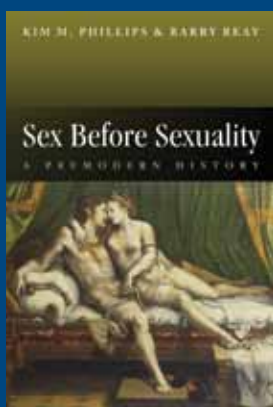
Over five hundred mourners gathered at the Fale Pasifika to farewell Jim Vivieaere on 12 June 2011, standing beneath his *Beacons* at the service's end. A tribute exhibition, *This is not a vitrine, this is an ocean* curated by Leafa Wilson opened on 1 August at Waikato Museum Te Whare Taonga o Waikato in Hamilton and will continue until December 2011.

Linda Tyler

Director, Centre for New Zealand Art Research and Discovery

Pictured: Jim Vivieaere (1947-2011) Beacons, 2004, stainless steel

Books



Sex before Sexuality: A Premodern History by Dr Kim M. Phillips and Professor Barry Reay (History) published by Polity Press is a study of medieval to early modern sexuality examining the changing meanings, languages and practices of western sex. This volume aims to contribute to contemporary historical theory through paying attention to the particularity of premodern sexual cultures. Sexuality in modern western culture is central to identity but the tendency to define by sexuality does not apply to the premodern past. Before the "invention" of sexuality, erotic acts and

desires were comprehended as species of sin, expressions of idealised love, courtship, and marriage, or components of intimacies between men or women, not as out-workings of an innermost self.

This book is the first study to combine the medieval and early modern to rethink this time of sex before sexuality, where same-sex and opposite-sex desire and eroticism bore but faint traces of what moderns came to call heterosexuality, homosexuality, lesbianism, and pornography.

What's on

THURSDAY 25 AUGUST

Dept of Classics and Ancient History seminar

Assoc Prof Han Baltussen, Dept of Classics, University of Adelaide: *Ancient consolation and grief work: The case of Cicero's philosophica*. 10am-12noon Rm 204, Biology Lecture Theatre, 3 Symonds St.

Combining Parenting and a Career at UoA Network seminar

Jean Rockel, Senior Lecturer, School of Teaching, Learning and Development, Faculty of Education, UoA: *What does quality infant-toddler care and education look like?* 1-2pm FGW Rm OGH. Register with Margaret Freeman, ms.freeman@auckland.ac.nz or ext 87855.

Dept of Classics and Ancient History seminar

Prof Douglas Olson, Dept of Classical and Near Eastern Studies, University of Minnesota: *Lysistrata's conspiracy and the politics of 412/411 BC*. 2-4pm Rm 348, Design Theatre, Conference Centre.

Dept of Political Studies/Society for Legal and Social Philosophy public lecture

Prof Elizabeth McLeay, Victoria University of Wellington: *Towards the Referendum: The virtues and vices of MMP*. 3pm Decima Glenn Rm 260-310, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. Commentary: Dr Stephen Winter, UoA.

NZ Asia Institute seminar

Prof Satoshi Watanabe, Hitotsubashi University, Japan: *Tax reforms in Japan*. 4-5pm Rm 321, Level 3, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. Visit www.nzai.auckland.ac.nz

Faculty of Law/International Law Association (NZ Branch)/NZ Institute of International Affairs seminar

Penelope Ridings, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade: *NZ and the World Trade Organisation dispute settlement: A level playing field?* 6pm Northey Lecture Theatre, Faculty of Law. Chaired by Dr Caroline Foster, Faculty of Law. RSVP to Piers or Raewyn on 379 5026 or email piers@wwandd.co.nz or raewyn@wwandd.co.nz

Student jazz combo concert

6.30pm Kenneth Myers Centre, 74 Shortland St. A series of jazz performance concerts featuring students of the School of Music. Free. Bookings not required.

Japanese film screening

Summer Wars. 7.30pm B15, General Library Bldg, Alfred St. Director: Mamoru Hosoda, 2009, 115 minutes, PG, animation. Queries to pr@cgj.org.nz

FRIDAY 26 AUGUST

Generative metaphors for teaching

10am-12noon CAD Seminar Rm, 5th Floor, 76 Symonds St. Generative metaphors for teaching can provide insight and guidance on important aspects of our teaching. Learn how to use creative and reflective strategies to invoke metaphors for your

teaching. Unfold their meaning using a conceptual framework and visualisation tools, to support planning and decisions about your approaches to teaching and learning. Enrol at www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops or phone CAD reception at ext 88140.

Lunchtime concert

Featuring School of Music flute and piano students. 1.05-1.55pm Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds St. Free.

SATURDAY 27 AUGUST

Courses and Careers Day

9am-3pm City Campus. Come to our open day and find out how to make your mark on the world! Visit www.coursesandcareers.auckland.ac.nz

MONDAY 29 AUGUST

Tertiary education policy debate

7pm Engineering Lecture Theatre 439, 20 Symonds St. A debate on education policy from National and Labour Party perspectives. Presented by The University of Auckland Society.

Queries and RSVP to society@auckland.ac.nz Visit www.society.auckland.ac.nz

TUESDAY 30 AUGUST

Consortium for Health in Ageing seminars

2.30-3.30pm Function Hall 730-220, Population Health, Tāmaki Innovation Campus.
1) Prof Martin Connolly: *Residential aged care: The under-resourced, de facto hospice for New Zealand's older people?*
2) Joanna Broad: *Where people die.*
3) Dr Michal Boyd: *The role of specialist nurses in gerontology in the community.*

WEDNESDAY 31 AUGUST

University teaching and learning: An intensive three-day course

9am-4.30pm, 31 Aug-2 Sept. Day 1, Waipapa Marae, 16 Wynyard St; day 2, OGH; day 3, CAD, Level 5, 76 Symonds St.

Mandatory for all new-to-teaching academic staff, this intensive programme gives an overview of key concepts and strategies involved in University teaching and learning. Enrol at www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops or phone CAD reception at ext 88140 for assistance.

Research essentials seminar series

Jonathon Monk, UniServices: *Commercialising research*. 12noon Case Rm 2 (260-057) Level 0, Owen G Glenn Bldg. Queries to m.suarez@auckland.ac.nz

THURSDAY 1 SEPTEMBER

Engineer her future

6.30-8.30pm 20 Symonds St. The Faculty of Engineering invites Year 12 girls and their parents/guardians to an evening demonstrating how engineers totally transform the world we live in. Women engineers at the Faculty

of Engineering will show how their work makes a difference to our futures. Queries to i.tribo@auckland.ac.nz

FRIDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

Asia Savvy: 2011 NZ Asia Conference

9am-1.30pm Decima Glenn Rm, Level 3, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. Runs until 3 September. This student-led conference aims to bring together current undergraduate and postgraduate Asia-savvy university students, providing an excellent forum for networking. RSVP to www.asia-savvy.com/registrationform/tabid/2883/default.aspx Queries to info@asia-savvy.com

SATURDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

Hope Foundation healthy older people symposium

Accommodation and care options for older people in retirement. 9am-1pm Tāmaki Innovation Campus (entry through gate 1, Morrin Road). Cost: \$50 per person/\$75 per couple. Visit our website www.hopefoundation.org.nz for registration options.

TUESDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

Introducing learning journals into your courses

2-4pm CAD Seminar Rm, 5th Floor, 76 Symonds St.

Use learning journals to help students clarify their thinking and strengthen their writing. Enrol at www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops or phone CAD reception at ext 88140.

Bioengineering PhD exit seminar

Nancy Liu, ABI/Dept of Optometry: *The paths within...the ocular lens*. 4-5pm Ground Floor Seminar Rm G010, UniServices House, 70 Symonds St.

WEDNESDAY 7 SEPTEMBER

Introduction to research at The University of Auckland

9am-3pm Case Rm 2 (260-057) Owen G Glenn Bldg.

This workshop enables staff to gain an overview of the University's research management structure and to meet key support staff and build valuable networks.

Queries and registrations to m.suarez@auckland.ac.nz

Inaugural lecture

Prof Charles Royal, Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga (The National Institute of Research Excellence for Maori Development and Advancement): *The gift of indigenuity*. 6.30pm Studio 1, Kenneth Myer Centre, 74 Shortland St. By new professors at UoA.

THURSDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

Korean symposium

1-3.30pm J1 Lecture Theatre, J Block, Gate 3, 74 Epsom Ave, Epsom. Presented by the School of Counselling, Human Services and Social Work with the Korean Community Wellness Society (KCWS). RSVP to hj.park@auckland.ac.nz by 6 September. Free.

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Home educator/nanny share wanted for two-year-old boy around Westmere and/or surrounding areas. From January 2012. Must have current references. Email amberwrite@hotmail.com

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AUCKLAND HOUSING IN CRISIS

It is heartening to see that housing is signalled as a major issue in *Auckland Unleashed*, the discussion document that will help draft the *Auckland Plan*. This is a significant step forward for Auckland and marks recognition by the new Council that housing is a critical issue.

There is no doubt that Auckland City faces a housing crisis we must urgently address. According to recent research by the Centre for Housing Research, Aotearoa New Zealand (CHRANZ) the challenges of housing affordability for both owner-occupiers and renters are becoming evident through a decreasing home ownership rate, the growth of the intermediate housing market (IHM) and increasing pressures in the private rental market. They also impact the quality of life for children.

Auckland's population demographics and housing stock underline the seriousness of our city's housing challenges: Auckland's 1.3 million residents are projected to grow to 1.8 million people by 2026 and, with a young and ethnically diverse population structure, the city has the highest proportion of the New Zealand population living in crowded conditions. Pacific, Māori and Asian ethnic groups are the most affected.

Despite the growing need for more quality housing, most of Auckland's housing is in low density, non-mixed use neighbourhoods. In addition, many of our city's higher-density dwellings constructed in the 1990s are either plagued by or tarnished by the shadow of leaky building syndrome. Culturally, too, the image of apartment blocks or cheek-by-jowl housing flies

in the face of New Zealanders' long-held dream of a quarter-acre paradise. That there is a strong resistance to medium density housing comes as little surprise.

But if left as it is, the situation can only worsen. Forecasts show that Auckland will continue to experience significant housing demand growth, with an additional 169,530 dwellings required between 2006 and 2026. The demand for rental accommodation will increase at a significantly faster rate (63.3 percent) than demand for owner occupied dwellings (26.2 percent) over this period¹.

The decline of home ownership in the Intermediate Housing Market (the group identified as "can work, can't buy") is greatest for the 20- to 40-year age group, a vital cohort that is being locked out of future home ownership. It is sobering to note that Auckland's IHM is forecast to grow by 85 percent between 2009 and 2026 to total 142,480 households.

Such challenges add to pressures in the private rental market, where almost half of private renters in June 2009 were experiencing financial housing stress – defined as households spending more than 30 percent of their total gross income on housing costs. These financial demands can put very real constraints on expenditure on essential household items like food, heating and health services.

Thus, housing plays a critical role in the overall health and wellbeing of children and on their transition to productive and independent adulthood. However, children's housing in Auckland and wider New Zealand is compromised on several fronts: many live in

unaffordable, crowded housing with insecure tenure in dwellings that are unsafe, cold, damp and expensive to heat. In 2006, 318,330 children lived in rental accommodation in New Zealand. Almost 78 percent of these children are in the private rental market where the housing tends to be older than owner-occupied dwellings and landlords have been reluctant to take up subsidies to retrofit their rental stock.

The Auckland housing market is increasingly failing to meet the needs of its residents. This holds serious implications for population and economic growth in the region and the efforts to make Auckland a liveable, globally competitive city. What is needed is the development of a coordinated strategic approach to housing that draws together the public and private sectors and to which everyone commits. This challenge cannot be left to the Auckland Council alone.

The Auckland Plan provides a chance to address housing in a much more coherent way than ever previously achieved. It represents a major test for the concept of the spatial plan. Failure by the various public and private parties to commit to a strategy will result in failure with serious implications – in short, we will simply muddle along as we always do and respond in ad hoc ways to crises of the moment. Given what we are facing, we cannot afford to ignore the evidence.

Professor Jenny Dixon, Dean of the National Institute of Creative Arts and Industries.

¹Darroch Ltd. (2010) *Auckland Region Housing Market Assessment* Wellington: Centre for Housing Research Aotearoa New Zealand