



## AN INTRICATE DANCE

“Research and teaching are partners in an intricate dance,” Dr Dawn Garbett (pictured), Associate Dean of Teaching and Learning at the Faculty of Education, told the inaugural gathering of The University of Auckland National Tertiary Teaching Award winners at the Gus Fisher Gallery on 18 October.

“Researching and teaching are locked in a dance where both need each other. Our teaching is research informed and evidence based. If research is Fred Astaire, teaching is Ginger Rogers. Research takes the lead but Ginger, wearing six inch heels dancing backwards, reminds us that teaching is complex and artful.”

Dawn, who won a National Tertiary Teaching Excellence award in 2008, was speaking at a celebration to mark a decade of teaching excellence at the University. “We are the number

one research-led university in New Zealand,” she told the gathering. “I would like to see us be the number one teaching university in New Zealand. Teaching is much more mercurial to measure than research but is so fundamentally important to our students and to our University.”

Every year since the National Tertiary Teaching Excellence awards were established in 2002, University staff members have won at least one award. This year was exceptional with all Auckland nominees – Rena Heap (Education), Ross MacDonald (Business and Economics), and Robin Kearns and Michael Walker (Science) – winning national awards.

Michael, our first award winner in the category for those teaching in a kaupapa Māori context, also received the Prime Minister’s Supreme Award for 2011. In total University of Auckland staff members have won 16 awards -

14 supreme excellence awards and two Prime Minister’s Supreme Awards.

“I commonly brag about this to new staff,” said the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stuart McCutcheon, “and I use it to illustrate the quality of teaching here... every year I pray it will continue so that my bragging rights are assured.

“Winners of these awards have made outstanding contributions to research, as well as to teaching, and have also played strong service and leadership roles,” said the Vice-Chancellor. “By showing that the country’s leading research university is also committed to excellent teaching, our record of success enhances our national and international reputation, and will make it easier for us to attract high quality undergraduate and graduate students.”



One of the great advantages of a comprehensive research university such as ours is the ability to put together teams from across a wide range of disciplines to address important challenges and opportunities. One very exciting example is our new Food and Health Programme, which draws on the expertise of over 150 academic staff from the faculties of Science, Engineering, Medical and Health Sciences and Business, together with the Liggins Institute and UniServices. This development responds not only to the Government's desire to grow New Zealand's food industry from its current \$25 billion earnings to \$40 billion by 2025, but also to the growing awareness of dietary-related health issues in many of our communities and to the need for enhanced regional development as exemplified by our commitment to the new Food Innovation Centre, soon to open in Manukau.

As well as being multidisciplinary, the programme is highly integrated. Thus research in food science and process engineering, addressing issues such as food properties, safety and added value, creates knowledge that will allow New Zealand's food and beverage business to grow while also ensuring the safety of the foods they produce. Meanwhile, research concerned with human health – ensuring a healthy start to life for our children, avoiding and treating non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, supporting elite athletic performance, and ensuring that we age with good health – supports both a healthier community and those food companies whose products will contribute to human health at all stages of the lifespan. At the same time, proposed new educational programmes – in Food Science and Nutrition, Food Safety, Food Process Engineering and Nutrition and Dietetics – will help develop the professional staff increasingly required by the food and beverage and health sectors. Lastly, the newly formed Joint Graduate School in Plant and Food Science, in partnership with the Crown Research Institute Plant & Food Research, will support the training of future researchers in the field.

Thus, while we are not a "land-based" university we are able to make a unique contribution to New Zealand's food industries, which remain the mainstay of our economy.

## Auckland graduate wins a Rhodes



**Auckland Arts and Law graduate Max Harris has won a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford University**

He and two other short-listed candidates (from Canterbury and Waikato Universities) were selected after interviews in Wellington.

Max, 23, who was capped BA/LLB(Hons) in September, majored in History and Political Studies in his Arts degree.

The fourth Rhodes Scholar from Auckland in four years, he will start at Oxford in October 2012, embarking on a Bachelor of Civil Law. He will follow this with an MPhil on a topic addressing the role of judges in modern democracies.

His career ambition is to become a leader in New Zealand law, contributing to constitutional

debate and developing a public interest law network, and "perhaps later in politics". Max wants to work to make this country a fairer place and "achieve improvements in the lives of people".

"I have become particularly interested in the persistent marginalisation of certain vulnerable groups such as indigenous peoples, and the mechanisms available – such as human rights – to redress that marginalisation."

His family is from Wellington and he spent his early years in London, New York and Beijing. He began his secondary schooling in Indonesia where his parents were working. This was followed by 18 months at Wellington College where he was Dux in 2005.

At The University of Auckland he was active in debating and public speaking, becoming president of the Debating Society and captaining the NZ Universities Debating team. In 2009 he was placed 22nd best speaker in the World Universities Debating Championships.

Mooting is also Max's forte. He won mooring competitions at Auckland and national level, and this year was ranked 21st best speaker in the world at the Philip C. Jessup International Law Mooting Competition in Washington DC.

*Photo: Max is a former Editor-in-Chief of the Auckland University Law Review*

## First Scroll of Honour recipient



**Alumna Heidi Mardon has become the University's first recipient of its Scroll of Honour, a new award that acknowledges the outstanding work that some of the University's alumni do in the field of urban sustainability.**

Heidi, who graduated from the University with a Masters in Environmental Education and a Bachelor of Architecture, is the founder and National Director for The EnviroSchools Foundation. The award was presented by Cameron Sinclair, CEO of Architecture for Humanity, who is the Artist in Residence for the National Institute of Creative Arts and Industries.

It was presented as part of the week-long celebrations across campus for World Habitat Day – a day the University celebrates, as a partner of UN-Habitat, the United Nations Agency for Human Settlements.

"I feel very happy that so many people who took big risks and worked really hard are being honoured by this award. It acknowledges that education can come out of the classroom and become part of the workings of the real world and that through EnviroSchools we're contributing to a more healthy, sustainable human settlement and producing the next generation of leaders," said Heidi.

The EnviroSchools Foundation is a non-profit education-oriented scheme that started as a small seed-funded project in three primary schools in Hamilton and is now reaching over 200,000 students. It develops innovative programmes and tools for use in primary schools and early childhood education centres, within Māori immersion contexts and for youth and community-oriented programmes.

*Photo: Award recipient Heidi Mardon with Cameron Sinclair, CEO for Architecture for Humanity*

## Saving time and money on recruitment



James Brown and Sinead Johnston from the new University Recruitment Service expect to save the University significant spend each year.

The service provides a full end-to-end recruitment capability for General Staff roles. Recruiting managers interested in filling permanent full time roles are encouraged to get in touch with Sinead or James before contacting an external agency.

“We will provide all aspects of recruitment from advertising, candidate attraction,

networking, short listing, social media and interview techniques,” Sinead says. “We will also reduce recruitment costs and the associated productivity costs of time to hire and the cost of the wrong hire.”

James confirms: “Our best practice methods will increase candidate attraction, engagement and care. The productivity gains of centralising this function will significantly benefit the hiring manager, department budgets and University operating costs.”

Sinead has over five years of recruitment experience. She is a fully accredited DDI (Development Dimensions International) Targeted Selection Behavioural Interviewer and she is experienced in providing interview coaching and outplacement services. Sinead’s experience spans across the recruitment of support to senior management level roles across all functional areas.

James brings almost five years recruitment experience gained both in agency environments and most recently in-house with Air New Zealand. He is experienced in the recruitment of project management, engineering and technical professionals. James also has a keen interest in international recruitment campaigns, global candidate attraction strategies, campaign sites and web-based candidate management systems.

Before the University Recruitment Service was established earlier this year, the University spent several million dollars with external agencies that charge significantly higher rates. All successful assignments by the new Recruitment Service will be charged upon completion at nine percent of base salary, which is clearly lower than the current agency rates.

For further information visit:

[www.bit.ly/recservice](http://www.bit.ly/recservice)

## Tax expert joins Business School



Being passionate about tax policy and the potential for further reform to the tax base are reasonably rare qualities! But they are what excite newly appointed Associate Professor of Commercial Law, Peter Vial.

Peter is a keen advocate for sound tax policy settings that develop in response to changes in economic conditions and in the country’s social profile. He has written journal articles on the sustainability of our tax system and the Tax Working Group’s recommendations to Government – as well as on more technical tax issues such as the associated persons rules and the use of a money interest regime.

Peter has spent the last 12-and-a-half years

working at PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) as a director in the tax team responsible for the firm’s submissions to the Finance and Expenditure Committee and Inland Revenue and for PwC’s tax publications, technical training and some media commentary. Prior to that Peter worked for the New Zealand Trade Development Board, which included a three-year posting as New Zealand’s Trade Commissioner to Germany and two short stints in South Korea.

## Highlighted events

### Parenting Primary children

This event is part of the “Combining parenting and a career at The University of Auckland” network which includes regular research-informed seminars and networking opportunities for parents and those considering becoming parents.

Dr Louise Keown, Senior Lecturer from the Faculty of Education, will discuss key changes in children’s social and behavioural development and parenting issues in middle childhood. Her presentation will look at the influence of mother-child and father-child relationships and optimal parenting practices for fostering children’s positive development. Dr Keown researches parenting and atypical behavioural development and is also a member of the Triple P Research Group who conduct family intervention research aimed at preventing behavioural and emotional problems in children. Thursday 24 November, 1-2.30pm, Federation of University Women’s Room (Old Government House). To register email [n.mcgrinder@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:n.mcgrinder@auckland.ac.nz).

### For Canterbury alumni and staff

Canterbury-based alumni and friends are being invited to a networking event on 16 November and a special invitation is being extended also to University staff members who are currently working in Christchurch to assist with the recovery effort.

This is a free event and is intended as a relaxed and enjoyable evening for professional and social networking. The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stuart McCutcheon, will give a brief update on the University’s recent developments and attending with him will be the Dean of Engineering, Professor Michael Davies. Wednesday, 16 November, 6.00pm – 8.30pm at Hinton’s Estate Vineyard Restaurant, 750a Wairakei Road. To register see [www.alumni.auckland.ac.nz/rsvp](http://www.alumni.auckland.ac.nz/rsvp) and RSVP by 11 November. For queries email Rebecca Brown, [rr.brown@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:rr.brown@auckland.ac.nz) ext 83566 DDI (09) 923 3566

### Elam art show

The University’s annual Elam Graduate Show, 26-27 November, 10am- 5pm at 20 Whitaker Place, 5 Symonds Street (Elam B) and 25a Princes Street (George Fraser Gallery), is a must-see event for anyone interested in the next generation of artists and creative thinkers. A visual arts extravaganza featuring work by more than 120 graduating students. Take this chance to view their individual achievements and gain an insight into the challenges and rewards of earning a degree from Elam. Visit [www.creative.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.creative.auckland.ac.nz)

## In defence of the open society



Distinguished Professor of English Brian Boyd has won a Marsden grant to write the first biography of philosopher Sir Karl Popper (1902-1994).

Popper, who grew up in Vienna, has been hailed as one of the greatest philosophers of the twentieth century. A year before Hitler's annexation of Austria in 1938, Popper, who was of Jewish origin, escaped to New Zealand, where he spent nine years of his life. He became a lecturer at Canterbury University, and it was there where he wrote what may be the most important book of political philosophy of the century: *The Open Society and Its Enemies*.

The two volumes of the *The Open Society and Its Enemies* offer a critique of historicism and a defence of the liberal democratic open society. It was rated by historian Michael King as perhaps the most important book ever written in New Zealand. Its impact on both the world of action and ideas was immense, for instance, politicians

and journalists in Germany have attributed the crucial crack which led to the fall of the Berlin Wall, to the power of Popper's demonstration of the necessity of free criticism for social flourishing.

After his stay in New Zealand, Popper moved to England in 1946 where he was appointed Professor of Logic and Scientific Method at the University of London. He died at the age of 92 in 1994, as a British citizen and knighted by the Queen. Owing to his numerous works, which he continued publishing after his retirement, he was widely

acclaimed as the foremost philosopher of science and one of the most powerful thinkers of our time. Popper's ideas have influenced an extraordinary array of thinkers: from anthropologists, art historians, biologists and economists to mathematicians, physicists, planners and psychologists.

Brian Boyd has been a member of the Department of English for more than 30 years. He has published on American, Brazilian, English, Greek, New Zealand and Russian literature. His two main areas are, among other interests, the novelist Vladimir Nabokov and literature, evolution and cognition, or, more generally, literature and science. In the late 1990s Brian travelled to 16 countries to investigate archives and locations and interviewed over 90 Popper associates from politicians (like former German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt) to philosophers (like Isaiah Berlin).

Brian is the author of the two-volume

biography (1990, 1991) about the Russian-American novelist Vladimir Nabokov. This has been translated into many languages and credited with launching a Nabokov revival. Brian seeks to ensure the Popper biography has a similar impact.

"Why do I want to be the first to write Popper's life?" Brian asks. "As in my biography of Vladimir Nabokov, I want to put before the widest possible audience creative and intellectual work that matters, that can make a difference to the way we see things, and that, despite all the acclaim it has won, has not been appreciated at the level it deserves. Many think they know Popper, but they know him only at second hand. I want to show why those who know his work at first hand value him so much. No one who knew him seems to have forgotten the intensity of his presence. I want readers of the biography too to come under the spell of 'the last legendary philosophical figure of the twentieth century'", Brian stresses.

Brian's proposal, *Karl Popper: A Life*, received \$687,000 from the Marsden Fund, which was established by the Government in 1994 to fund excellent fundamental research. All Marsden projects are funded for three years.

The Faculty of Arts has won a significant share of the 2011 Marsden Funding. Six research teams led by Arts were successful in their bids, winning a total of \$3.5 million. They were among 19 projects at The University of Auckland selected for the extremely competitive funding.

Alexander Paizanos

## Bronze age feeder donated



A 4000-year-old baby feeder which turned up in a garage sale in Palmerston North has been donated to the Department of Classics and Ancient History.

Classics Associate Professor Anne Mackay says the Bronze Age ceramic bowl, originating from Cyprus, has immense educational value.

"We think a mother probably used it for weaning her baby to goat or sheep milk. It holds

the same amount as a modern baby bottle and the thumb of a woman's hand would go conveniently through the handle," says Anne.

The globe-shaped, red ceramic feeder is intact. Its thin spout may have been covered with a cloth or cow teat to facilitate sucking. Although once an everyday household item, only a handful of similar vessels have been uncovered in Cyprus.

The piece surfaced in Palmerston North in 1998 as a donation to a charity garage-sale. It wasn't sold, and in 2011 the garage-sale organiser, Heather Mansell, sought an expert opinion on the unusual item from Massey University.

Realising the significance of the rare piece, it was destined to join the University of Canterbury's Cypriot collection as Massey did not hold a collection of original antiquities. However earthquake damage to Canterbury University has meant it has now been donated to Auckland's secure collection.

"It is now the oldest item in our collection. It doesn't have great monetary value but it adds incredible value from a teaching perspective. It's an object that everybody can identify with because similar containers are still used today. When students hold something that a mother put her hands on all those years ago it connects them to the ancient world."

The feeder is made of clay and is incised with a double zig-zag motif. It was likely buried with a dead infant as quite a few antiquities are discovered in ancient graves, although an old exhibition label found inside the bowl suggests that it has been in a private collection for a long time.

Anne and Dr Gina Salapata from Massey University have co-authored a paper on the ancient feeding cup, titled "Bowl for a Dead Infant?" to appear in the journal *Prudentia*.



## Andrew Pullan retires

Professor Andrew Pullan has retired from the Department of Engineering Science.

Andrew holds a BSc (Hons) degree in Mathematics from The University of Auckland. He completed a PhD in the Department of Engineering Science in 1988 under the supervision of Professor Ian Collins. In 1989 (at age 24) Andrew joined the Department of Engineering Science as a lecturer on a term appointment, after a short stint as a financial analyst at Winstones/Fletcher Challenge.

Andrew became a prolific researcher with research interests on the mathematical modelling of biomedical structures including the electrical function of the heart, skeletal and smooth muscle with a major specific focus on the gastrointestinal system in recent years. He describes his very productive research group as "being like family to him". In 2010 Andrew and his team were responsible for two patents, 13 journal articles and 24 conferences papers/presentations. Andrew has many strong international linkages including an adjunct position in the Department of Surgery at Vanderbilt University, and visiting appointments at Oxford, University of California, The University of Utah and Duke University.

The impact and importance of Andrew's work was recognised in 2003 when he was awarded a

James Cook Research Fellowship – an award which is widely regarded as New Zealand's most prestigious science and technology award. Andrew's cardiac modelling work is documented in his 2005 book *Mathematically modeling electrical activity of the heart - From Cell to Body Surface and Back Again*. Andrew was promoted to the rank of Professor in 2006 and elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of New

Zealand in 2009.

He became Head of the Department of Engineering Science in 2008. Andrew was a dedicated Head of Department who edited a beautiful book, *TAM to DES and Beyond in 45 Years: The Story of Engineering Science at The University of Auckland* to celebrate the 40th anniversary of students graduating from the department in 2008. Among his many other initiatives Andrew also founded a contest for high school students entitled "NZ's Next Top Engineering Scientist".

Andrew's retirement from the Department of Engineering Science is on medical grounds and will allow him to focus on his health and his family after being diagnosed in June with metastatic melanoma. Andrew's ground breaking research is continued by a team of 11 graduate students, post-doctoral researchers and research assistants at The University of Auckland.

### Associate Professor Rosalind Archer, from the Department of Engineering Science

*The image shows Andrew involved in a gastric mapping study at Mayo Clinic (Rochester, Minnesota). He is wearing a colourful lead-shielded vest because his team were using fluoroscopy (an X-ray based technique) to study a subject's stomach while electrodes recorded it's electrical activity.*

## Cellphone towers impact on property

Cellphone towers do not lower the value of nearby properties as long as telecommunications providers refrain from building visually disruptive monopole towers in residential areas, a new University of Auckland Business School study has found.

Department of Property lecturers Dr Olga Filippova and Dr Michael Rehm say their year-long study has rubbished widely-held claims that cellphone towers lower the value of surrounding properties in Auckland.

After mapping 521 cellphone towers across the city to test their influence on property prices, the pair says residential sales figures on properties sold between 2005 to 2007 and

located within 500m of a tower do not show any pricing influence...as long as the towers are lamppost or single monopole structures.

And the two say a new study they are launching shortly in Christchurch could provide advice to telecommunications providers on the best types of towers to use in different circumstances.

"Cellphone towers often raise the ire of nearby homeowners, with many claiming that their potential health effects and visual impact lowers the value of their houses," Dr Rehm says.

**Royal Society of New Zealand Marsden Fund**  
Details of the 2012 Marsden funding round are due to be released in mid-November. Researchers interested in applying to this fund should register with Julia Zhu, [j.zhu@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:j.zhu@auckland.ac.nz), at the Research Office from 1st November, 2011.

### Transport Research and Educational Trust Board

Grants to individuals and organisations proposing projects involving or relating to transport, including logistics, up to \$15,000 per annum. Projects must further the board's aims of promoting, encouraging and co-ordinating the study and advancement of transport within New Zealand, including proposals that deal with disaster recovery and resilience. Application forms and guidelines can be found at [www.cilt.co.nz](http://www.cilt.co.nz). Closing date at the Research Office 14 November 2011. All enquiries to Research Office Helpdesk [researchoffice@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:researchoffice@auckland.ac.nz) ext 87956.

### Royal Society of New Zealand International Mobility Fund - Cancelled

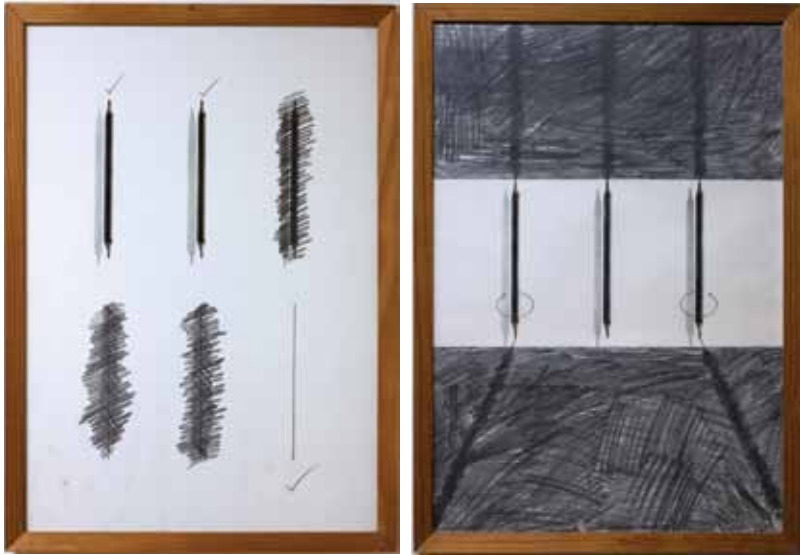
The Ministry of Science and Innovation has recently revised its budgets for the International Relationships Fund. As a result, MSI has decided to dis establish the International Mobility Fund (IMF). Mobility funding schemes for specific countries (France, Spain, Germany, China, Japan, EU) will continue. Research Office contact Chris Tews, [c.tews@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:c.tews@auckland.ac.nz), ext 88301.

### Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade Historical Research Grants

Grants of up to \$5,000 to assist with the direct costs of research in the subject area "New Zealand's Place in the World". Preference will be given to research on the development of New Zealand's foreign relations in the period from World War Two onwards, and to work which draws on the Ministry's archival records. Salary costs or foreign travel costs will not normally be met. Closing date at Research Office 25 February 2012. Research Office contact Martina Landsmann, [m.landsmann@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:m.landsmann@auckland.ac.nz), ext 86615.

### AKO Aotearoa Organisational Good Practice publication grants.

Up to \$10,000 is available to support the development of publications relating to a suite of practices operating at an organisational-wide level, that have been shown to benefit learners. Closing date at the Research Office Friday 11 November 2011. Research Office contact Martina Landsmann, [m.landsmann@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:m.landsmann@auckland.ac.nz), ext 86615.



Helensville-born folk singer - and erstwhile editor of Craccum - Peter Cape was as famous for his beautifully produced art books as he was for the classic kiwiana songs "Tamarunui on the Main Trunk Line" and "All Black Jerseys". In the last decade of his short life he published four surveys of New Zealand painting and crafts based on interviews done with artists as part of his job as arts and religion editor at Radio New Zealand. *Prints and Printmakers in New Zealand* was published in 1974, during the heyday of printmaking in New Zealand.

Featuring 23 artists, Peter Cape's book ranged widely over different intaglio and planographic techniques championed by the practitioners. Representing silkscreen printing was John Lethbridge whose imagery for his silkscreen prints in the early 1970s used the sinuous line and elongated forms of the Aesthetic Movement from the turn of the century. His entwined couples were Aubrey Beardsley-like, the kaleidoscopic colours of their hair and clothes in

perfect registration as testament to Lethbridge's technical skill.

By the time Cape's book appeared, Lethbridge was a student at Elam School of Fine Arts. His period of study there coincided with the post-object movement, and he became

focused on making minimal process works which explored the materials and methods of artmaking. After graduation, he exhibited his Double Ended Series of drawings at Peter Webb's Barrington Galleries before taking the works with him to Sydney. There, one of the works won the Mosman Art Prize and the remainder immediately sold from a dealer gallery, funding overseas travel to London and New York. Returning to Australia, Lethbridge became a Professor of Fine Arts at Sydney College of the Arts in Rozelle where he taught for over two decades.

These two works were purchased from Lethbridge's Elam graduation exhibition. The first shows a pencil sharpened at two ends as a repeated vertical element. This reinforces the business of manufacture: the artifact has been made with the implement that is depicted. The drawing tool shifts its meaning from being part of the process of making, or the "how", to being the "what", or the subject of the image. In that role, it performs as the measure, the figure and

the activator of the pictorial space. The wording of the title of the series is close to "double entendre", a French expression to denote the existence of multiple meanings for a phrase. Lethbridge's double-ended pencils are the visual equivalent of this, and he works with a visual pun, the lead in the pencil very much in evidence.

The first drawing shows two super-realistic pencils together in a row at top left. Cleverly rendered to appear suspended in space, they cast a shadow behind them as if lit by an unseen light source on the right. Above them are ticks, as if they have met with the artist's approval, while the third pencil in this row (also hung with a shadow) has been obscured by diagonal shading. Below this row are lined up two blocks of cross hatching, as if two more drawn pencils might have been there but have been thoroughly obliterated as unworthy. Surviving the censorship is a hand-drawn vertical line which ends the progression, like the full-stop in a sentence, which also earns the final tick.

The second image shows the pencils mounted like specimens or equipment in a diagram in a technical manual. An arrow indicates clockwise rotation for the pencil at left while on the right the arrow describes an anticlockwise motion. Contrasting with the meticulous realism of these forms, the background is roughly shaded to create an illusion of depth, so that the pencils become architectural, propping up the entry to a room.

Celebrating the graphic arts as they do, these works also marked the end of the artist's period of concentration on drawing, and pointed the way to his future career in sculpture and installation.

Linda Tyler

*John Lethbridge, Black double ended series, 1975 body colour*

## Books



*Technology and Social Theory*, by Dr Steve Matthewman from the Department of Sociology and published by Palgrave Macmillan, attempts to make sense of the growing role of technology in our lives.

Technology is not a new development; the novelty lies in its total domination of our social lives. While saving us time and effort, it can also shape our environment, mediate our relationships, and simultaneously solve problems and create new ones. In studying technology we gain an insight into how society is constructed, maintained and transformed.

Unravelling and explaining the complex connections between technology and the social contexts in which it is used, *Technology and Social Theory* guides the reader through 150 years of thinking in this ever-evolving field.

The chapters critically evaluate a broad range of theorists, from Marx to Foucault, Orwell to Elias, alongside empirical examples which show theory in action. The significance of technology is assessed within both public spheres and intimate spaces, shedding light on its integral role in society.

# What's on

## THURSDAY 3 NOVEMBER

**Department of Statistics seminar**  
Dr Hadley Wickham, Rice University:  
*Tidy data*. 4-5pm Computer Science Seminar Rm 303S.279, City Campus. Queries to mholmes@stat.auckland.ac.nz

## FRIDAY 4 NOVEMBER

**Confucius Institute/School of Asian Studies seminar**  
Prof Tao Wenzhao: *China-US relations under the Obama Administration*. 2-3pm Case Rm 3, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. Queries to asianstudies@auckland.ac.nz

**Confucius Institute/School of Asian Studies seminar**

Dr Wang Xu, Minjiang, Director of Institute of American History, Xiamen University, China: *China's urbanisation at a new stage*. 3.30-5.30pm Case Room 3, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd.

Queries to asianstudies@auckland.ac.nz

**Planning Dinner 2011**  
6.45-11pm The Northern Club, 19 Princes St.

A celebratory dinner for Planning Alumni and friends on World Town Planning Day 2011.

Guest speaker Rod Oram, well known business and economic commentator, will focus on the challenges facing Auckland in a new era of planning and economic conditions.

For further information email l.beattie@auckland.ac.nz

## TUESDAY 8 NOVEMBER

**Clickers: Supporting interactivity in large classes**

10.30am-12.30pm, Rm 420, Level 4, Kate Edger Information Commons Bldg, 9 Symonds St.

If you want to put an end to passive student attendance and encourage active student engagement during your lectures, particularly with large classes, classroom response systems (CRS) or 'clickers' may be helpful to you. Participants will have opportunities to use clickers both as students and as teachers, with guidance and advice from lecturers who have been using clickers for several years in a range of departments at The University of Auckland. Enrol at [www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops](http://www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops) or phone CAD reception at ext 88140 for assistance.

**ABI PhD exit seminar**

Helen Lam, Auckland Bioengineering Institute: *Mathematical tools for ventricular analysis using cardiac MRI*. 4-5pm Ground Floor Seminar Rm G010, UniServices House, 70 Symonds St.

**Inaugural lecture**

Prof Xun Xu, Mechanical Engineering: *Live the dream of 'design anywhere and manufacture anywhere'*. 6pm Lecture Theatre 1.439, Building 401, Faculty of Engineering, 20 Symonds St. By new professors at UoA. Visit [www.auckland.ac.nz/inaugural](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/inaugural)

## WEDNESDAY 9 NOVEMBER

**NZ Governance Centre/Centre for Accounting, Governance and Taxation Research/Office of the Auditor-General seminar**

*Cleanest public sector in the world: Keeping fraud at bay*. 7.30-10am Case Rm 3, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd.

• Chair: David Mayes, Business School. Panellists:

• Lyn Provost, Controller and Auditor-General of NZ.

• Suzanne Snively, Director, Transparency International NZ.

• Andy Lovelock, Detective Superintendent, NZ Police.

• Nick Paterson, General Manager, Serious Fraud Office.

• Alex Tan, Director Forensic Services, PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Programme:

7.30am: Light breakfast on the Level 3 social bridge.

8.30-10am: Presentation in Case Rm 3. NZ consistently ranks well in fraud and corruption surveys. To gain a better insight into fraud awareness, prevention and detection in our public sector, the Office of the Auditor-General carried out a unique survey of 1500 people working in the public sector about their perceptions and practices in detecting and preventing fraud. This seminar marks the launch of the results of the survey.

RSVP to <https://secure.business.auckland.ac.nz/KeepingFraudAtBay>

## THURSDAY 10 NOVEMBER

**Dept of Film, Television and Media Studies/Dept of Sociology book launch**

4.15-6pm Pat Hanan Rm 501, Arts 2.

1) Prof Nick Perry: *Ruling Passions: essays on just about everything*.

2) Dr Bruce M.Z. Cohen: *Being Cultural*.

## FRIDAY 11 NOVEMBER

**Doctor of Education (EdD) confirmation seminars**

10.30am-4.30pm Kohia Education Centre, Faculty of Education, Gate 1, 78 Epsom Ave, Epsom.

• 10.30am - Gayle McIlraith: *Overall teacher judgment: What influences teachers in making an overall teacher judgment about students' achievement in relation to the specified standards in reading?*

• 1.30pm - Lyn McDonald: *The role of the visiting lecturer in promoting student teacher learning*.

• 3.30pm - Anne O'Callaghan: *Communication matters: Influences on the ability of junior doctors to use and enhance communication skills learned at medical school in the working environment of the hospital*.

For each seminar there will be a 25-30 minute presentation by the candidate, followed by 15-20 minutes for questions and discussion. The seminars are open to all. Queries to Keitha Shalley, [k.shalley@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:k.shalley@auckland.ac.nz)

## MONDAY 14 NOVEMBER

**Consortium for Health in Ageing seminar**

Dr Nathan Considine. *The balance of payments: Attachment, socioeconomic status, and the kin-non-kin distinction predict patterns of social exchange in late life*. 12.30-1.30pm Room 731.201, School of Population Health, Tāmaki Innovation Campus.

Queries to [t.eliott@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:t.eliott@auckland.ac.nz)

## TUESDAY 15 NOVEMBER

**Department of History seminar**

Dr Nicholas Keene: *Extending the religious mind: A cognitive-cultural approach to worship in the early modern English parish*. 11am Room 59, History Department.

Queries to [a.harris@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:a.harris@auckland.ac.nz)

**Inaugural lecture**

Prof Bruce Small, Auckland Bioengineering Institute: Topic to be announced. 6pm venue tba. By new professors at UoA.

Visit [www.auckland.ac.nz/inaugural](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/inaugural)

**2011 Chapman Lecture**

Prof Stephen Levine, Victoria University of Wellington: *NZ politics: Democracy and the semi-sovereign people*. 6.30pm Maidment Theatre, Alfred St.

## WEDNESDAY 16 NOVEMBER

**The even bigger pre-Christmas Punctuation Festival 2011**

Rm 420 Kate Edger Information Commons Bldg.

16 November: 9.30am-12.30pm

17 November: 10am-1pm

18 November: 10am-1pm

The festival considers and celebrates the function of punctuation in formal academic writing. Open to all students, particularly postgraduate, and to staff. Book through Centre for Academic Development Ta te Akonga Student Learning, Level 3, Information Commons or at [http://www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/index.php?p=slc\\_workshops\\_ug](http://www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/index.php?p=slc_workshops_ug)

**Orientation to doctoral education policy and process at UoA**  
9.30-11.30am Graduate Centre Seminar Rm, East Wing, ClockTower.

A two-hour introduction to the policy and process environment governing the supervision and the examination of doctoral students at UoA.

Enrol at [www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops](http://www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops) or phone CAD reception at ext 88140 for assistance.

**The art of graduate research supervision**

1-4.30pm CAD Seminar Rm, 5th Floor, 76 Symonds St.

A half-day interactive workshop that explores supervision as a complex teaching and learning practice requiring a range of skills and understandings. There are opportunities to raise questions and share experiences of supervision.

Enrol at [www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops](http://www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops) or phone CAD reception at ext 88140 for assistance.

## THURSDAY 17 NOVEMBER

**Engineering the future: perspectives on energy**

5.30-8pm Lecture Theatre 401.439, Faculty of Engineering, 20 Symonds St.

NZ aspires to generate 90% of its electricity from renewable sources. Come along and discuss the latest research and find out what the future might hold for electricity generation, supply and usage. Speakers:

- Prof Mike O'Sullivan: *Current and potential geothermal generation in NZ*.
- Prof Andy Philpott: *Electricity markets, dry winters, and risk*.

- Assoc Prof Udaya Madawala: *A green energy system for grid integrating renewables and electric vehicles*.

RSVP to [www.uniservices.co.nz/energy](http://www.uniservices.co.nz/energy)  
Queries to [e.kirke@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:e.kirke@auckland.ac.nz)

# 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 Tess or Mandy on 09 303 0601 at City Sales or rentals@citysales.co.nz or log on to [www.citysales.co.nz/rentals](http://www.citysales.co.nz/rentals)

**Birkenhead:** Four-bdrm house for rent from July 2012 to January 2013. Cedar home amidst kauri trees. Furnished. Would suit visiting researcher/family. \$600 pw negotiable. Easy access to schools, library, shopping, beaches. Near bus lines to CBD and UoA, 10-minute drive to Birkenhead ferry. Contact [lisa.samuels@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.samuels@gmail.com)

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**Sabbatical or holiday retreat** in Greek fully-furnished apartment in East Peloponnese close to beach, overlooking the Aegean, pristine village, orange groves. [t.fookes@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:t.fookes@auckland.ac.nz) or [www.tyrosapartment.com](http://www.tyrosapartment.com)

## MISCELLANEOUS

**Editing and proofreading services:**

Academic writing including research articles and reports, theses, journal articles, marketing, promotional/advertising material, newsletters, corporate publications, instruction manuals and tutorial documents, books biographies, novels, children's literature, historical publications.

Claire Morrison-Rooney DipEdit, GradDipBus, MMgt - Business. Phone 09 4864246 or 021739992 or email [csr.clm@xtra.co.nz](mailto:csr.clm@xtra.co.nz)

Claire has worked in management positions at the UoA for 16 years and is currently employed on a part-time basis.

**Home educator/nanny share wanted** for two-year-old boy in Westmere and/or surrounding areas. From January 2012. Must have current references. Email [amberwrite@hotmail.com](mailto:amberwrite@hotmail.com)

**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.



# IT'S TIME FOR A NEW APPROACH

The Rena oil spill reminds us of the dark side to our current way of life. While our homes and shopping malls are awash with “stuff”, producing and transporting goods has costs. Are we obliged to put up with these costs in order to have the level of consumption we need to prosper? I suggest not.

Somehow we've come to believe that flourishing is about material wealth, and the only problem is that some people are missing out. Psychological research, however, consistently shows that human flourishing is about belonging, feeling effective, living consistently with your values and having creative endeavours that reflect your passions. We can achieve that with a fraction of the material resources we currently consume - it is called sustainability. Sustainability is not about self-sacrifice or doom and gloom, sustainability is about working together to create a world in which both people and the ecosystems we depend upon can thrive.

I have just released a book called *Psychology for a Better World*, aimed at people who want to help bring about a more sustainable way of life. Throughout the book I stress the desirability of a positive approach that focuses on our individual and collective strengths. There are two key reasons for this. First, a positive approach is more effective. It draws people in. Humans are happiness seekers, so proposals for change that promise to be fun, enhance our relationships, and fit with our moral framework will attract us like moths to a light. Proposals that are necessary

drudgery to save the world will not. Intriguingly too, there is abundant evidence that people who are feeling good are more creative and cooperative as well as more open to information that challenges their current practices. This is exactly the mindset we need for innovative solutions and positive progress. Second, sustainability is not a goal, it is an approach. It makes no sense (to me) to spread fear and anxiety here and now, in order to reach a non-existent future where all our problems will be solved, allowing us to finally dispense joy. Instead, let's dispense joy right away.

One strategy for cheerful social change is to craft positive visions for the future. Research by Peter Dowrick and others has shown that providing images of how we might be is a powerful means to bring about that imagined future. So, what is my vision for a thriving society that plays to our strengths and preserves our natural environment? At its core would be people-intensive rather than stuff-intensive exchanges and activities. Of course we have basic material needs, like food and shelter, but beyond this there are endless possibilities for the good life without the constant consumption of costly products. Examples include playing sport together, making music, learning a new skill, teaching others, playing with children, mentoring teenagers, having a street party, gardening, making films, making furniture, dancing, knitting, cooking, writing, sewing, walking, camping in a regional park. If you've walked the Rugby World

Cup “fan trail” to Eden Park, you will have recently experienced how much people can enrich each other, just by offering something of themselves. Street theatre would definitely be part of my utopia.

My book has many ideas for how we can bring about a more sustainable world and be good to ourselves and each other as we go about it. Read it and see! Personally, I am filled with hope for the future. Tragic incidents like the Rena oil spill are not just opportunities to shed blame on the faulty systems that are the immediate cause; they are opportunities to reconsider where we should be headed. We will never be the perfect species that brings only delight to each other and the other species we share this planet with. But, if we choose to, each of us can contribute to a society that encourages flourishing now and in the future.

Niki Harré is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology. Her book *Psychology for a Better World: Strategies to Inspire Sustainability* is based on psychological research and is available from [www.psych.auckland.ac.nz/psychologyforabetterworld](http://www.psych.auckland.ac.nz/psychologyforabetterworld). The book is free to download. Hard copies can also be ordered from the site.