

CAMPUS TRANSFORMED

"This is a great day for the University," said Prime Minister, the Rt Hon John Key, at the official opening of the magnificent new Medical and Health Sciences Campus at Grafton.

"It's exciting to see that the next generation of young doctors, pharmacists, nurses and many other health professionals will be learning in the modern state-of-the-art facilities we have today."

The official opening on 3 July marked the end of a massive four-year redevelopment and the beginning of a new era in New Zealand's medical education and research.

The new complex represents a dramatic transformation of space, with the light and airy central atrium providing a vibrant heart for the campus from which all teaching and research spaces radiate. The design unites new and existing buildings and allows the co-location of four of the faculty's five schools, along with the Liggins Institute. It also allows for an increased number of medical students, approved by the present government and its predecessor.

More than 7,000 square metres of new learning and teaching spaces have been created, with two new large lecture theatres, seating 250 and 300, and a Clinical Skills Centre, offering specialised facilities such as a model pharmacy and a dissection suite.

Dean of the Faculty, Professor John Fraser, gave warm recognition for the long-standing support of the Auckland Medical research Foundation, who sponsored the largest auditorium and the Learning Centre. He also acknowledged the enormous contribution of former Dean, Professor Iain Martin (now Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Strategic Engagement) and Director Property Services, Peter Fehl, who oversaw the redevelopment.

Teaching takes place on the ground floor and basement of the new complex, which allows for easy movement between classes for the students and for new thematic research laboratories on the upper floors. Each floor focuses on a different theme, such as neuroscience, infection

and immunity, and pharmacy and pharmacology. This creates a very different research environment from the laboratories of the past, which were traditionally divided into small spaces along departmental lines.

The new large open-plan laboratories link on either side with research support and writing spaces, a plan which fosters communications between researchers and helps build a collaborative research culture as well as allowing shared access to top-of-the-line equipment.

"Multi-disciplinary research will sit at the heart of future research and innovation," says Iain Martin.

Says John Fraser: "I think this is as good as you'd find anywhere in the world. We've fused a high-quality teaching environment with a truly great research environment. Universities often achieve one or the other but seldom both."

Prime Minister the Rt Hon John Key, on a tour of the new facilities, chats with Elizabeth Hammond, a Biomedical Sciences Honours student in Obstetrics and Gynaecology.



Students chase Olympic glory

Four students from The University of Auckland will be competing at the London Olympic Games.

Kayaker Teneale Hatton, sailor Stephanie Hazard, football fern Katie Hoyle and Black Stick Stacey Michelsen will soon make their way to London with their respective teams to represent New Zealand at the 30th Olympiad.

"Studying at a top university and achieving at an international level in sport is a wonderful and rare achievement. The University is proud to support our elite athletes and we will be following their progress closely," says Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon.

Commerce student Teneale Hatton will be competing in the Women's K1 500m Sprint and

has had a good lead in to the games with an improved world ranking of 12 and a year which has included victories over four of the world's top 16 kayakers.

Stephanie Hazard, who is studying towards a Bachelor of Engineering, is also at her first Olympic Games, and will be at the helm of the Women's Match Racing crew on the Elliott six-metre yacht.

Football midfielder Katie Hoyle, a Bachelor of Physical Education student, will be competing in her second Olympic Games, having also represented New Zealand in Beijing at the 2008 Olympics. With 62 caps for her country, Katie is one of the more experienced members of the team.

New Zealand Women's Hockey midfielder Stacey Michelsen, a Law student, was named World Young Player of the Year in 2011 and is a promising talent on the global women's hockey scene.

"This is a great moment for these four and one I'm sure they will treasure," says Louis Rattray, Director for Sport and Recreation at the University. "To be competing at the Olympic Games is an amazing achievement and an acknowledgement of both an athlete's ability and potential."

"It speaks volumes about the character of these women, and that of our other elite athletes who are able to combine their studies with the rigours of high performance sport. I look forward to congratulating them on their return."

The following is a timeline of when our students will be competing. All dates are in New Zealand time.

Katie and the Football Ferns have three round robin games against Great Britain (26 July), Brazil (29 July) and Cameroon (1 August).

Stephanie's first race day for the Women's Elliott six-metre is on Monday 30 July with the medal races taking place on Sunday 12 August.

Stacey and the Black Sticks start their campaign on 30 August against Australia. New Zealand is listed in Pool B and will play five games in the space of nine days to qualify for the finals.

Teneale's first heat for the K1 500m Canoe Sprint will be held on 7 August with finals scheduled for 9 August.

Chris Marshall

Kate Edger Charitable Trust



Trudie McNaughton (left) with Jane Bellamy, Awards Co-ordinator for the Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust

Trudie McNaughton, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Equity), was the guest speaker at the recent Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust (KEECT) Annual Awards.

This year, 87 awardees were acknowledged at the ceremony, which was held at Old Government House. Many of the award recipients are currently studying at the University and could not have undertaken their studies without the support of the Trust.

"The Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust has made many awards to talented and deserving women to study at The University of Auckland. We recognise that the assistance for these women supports

them as individuals and also has a powerful impact on their families and wider communities. The Trust and the University have a longstanding, shared interest in promoting the academic

achievement of women in New Zealand," says Trudie.

Emeritus Professor Charmian O'Connor is the Chairperson of KEECT, and is passionate about the difference the Charitable Trust is making: "This year KEECT has provided support in the form of grants and scholarships to many deserving recipients. These awards vary from small \$1,500 grants which assist awardees to retrain, to much larger \$15,000 postdoctoral research awards. Without our help many of these women would not have been able to access further education."

The Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust is named in recognition of Kate Milligan Edger (1857-1935), the first woman to graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in the British Empire. The main purpose of the Trust is to provide funds in the form of awards and scholarships to assist women in furthering their studies.

The Trust is funded through the academic regalia hire business, Academic Dress Hire (ADH), which provides regalia for University of Auckland staff and students during graduation.

Major prize for new professor

Professor of European Studies, Jean-Jacques Courtine, has been awarded a major French literature prize by one of Europe's oldest national academies, the prestigious Académie Française.

For his three-volume *L'Histoire de la virilité* (History of Manliness), which he co-edited, Jean-Jacques has received a Vermeil Medal (Academy Prize) in the Grand Prize category of the annual L'Académie Française book awards.

"It certainly does mean a lot to me to receive such recognition from L'Académie Française," says Jean-Jacques, "as we wanted *L'Histoire de la virilité* to be meaningful for a wide audience. The Academy prize paradoxically helps confirm to me that it is the kind of work that is not restricted to an 'academic' audience, but is of interest at the same time to a larger general public.

"Since the book was published in October last year, 15,000 hard copies have already been sold and it is being translated into Portuguese and Polish.

"From antiquity to the modern day, the model of masculinity is always evolving. But a constant has been the use of masculinity and virility as a justification for men to be tough, aggressive and physical. This book questions whether this is the real nature of a man, or a social construct. Again it looks at the profound influence of war, the ultimate test of masculinity, and how masculinity is expressed and has changed in the absence of war."

L'Histoire de la virilité has generated a significant amount of print and broadcast media coverage in France.

Call for participants

Senior managers, would you like to participate in a nationwide project on the experiences of early career academics?

Funded by Ako Aotearoa, supported by all eight New Zealand universities and approved by the Victoria University Human Ethics Committee, this project offers an opportunity for you to have a say on resources and support for the work of early career academics, and to contribute to building a national picture of the early career academic experience in New Zealand.

More than 500 early career academics at all eight New Zealand universities have already

completed a national survey. The aim is now to learn about the perspective of the people who support early career academics in their work (Senior Management Team, Heads of Schools and Departments, Human Resources leaders, etc).

Your response will be anonymous, and any information that is obtained in connection with this study that could be identified with you will remain confidential.

Please contact Kathryn.Sutherland@vuw.ac.nz for more information or with questions.

Seeking a trustee

The Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust (KEECT) is seeking to appoint one additional trustee to its Board of Trustees.

The appointment will be made when a suitable appointee is identified.

KEECT aims to be a key provider of the means by which to achieve in education. Annually it funds a number of awards intended primarily to provide women with financial assistance for retraining and for undergraduate and postgraduate study.

The awards provided by the Trust are primarily for women living in the Auckland and Northland regions who are enrolled at key tertiary institutions in those regions.

Funding for the awards is generated largely through Academic Dress Hire, owned and operated by the Trust, which supplies academic regalia for graduations and other similar events.

The Board consists of up to seven members who each hold office for a term of three years. Thereafter, trustees are eligible to be reappointed for a further term of three years.

The Trust would like to appoint a person, preferably from the Auckland region, who has governance experience. Also desirable is experience working in any capacity in a voluntary organisation. Taking into account the composite skills of current members, the Trust is especially seeking applicants with business expertise, especially in strategic marketing or strategic finance.

For further details or to apply, please contact Stephanie Harris, Trustee, Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust, Stephanie.harris@klaister.co.nz or 09 356 8232.

Applications close 10 August.

From the Vice-Chancellor



A key role of any research university is to educate students for a lifetime of learning, contribution to society and a variety of careers as opposed to merely training them for their first vocational opportunity. Nevertheless, the transition to employment remains an important issue for students and their families, particularly in a difficult employment environment.

The University therefore has a major investment in supporting the transition to work for students through the University Careers Service, which partners with faculties, some of which (notably the Business School) also operate specialist careers services. The objectives of this function are to help students acquire skills that will enable them to plan their careers, enhance their employability and chances of success in the applications and interview processes and bring them into contact with prospective employers. It also provides internship opportunities through which students gain experience in the work environment as well as make better informed career choices.

Considerable progress has been made in delivering these services in recent years. For example, the number of careers consultations delivered to undergraduates (individually or in groups) has increased by a third to 7065 over just the last three years, while the number of online interactions by students and employers is running at nearly 70,000 each year. In 2011, job postings were viewed by individual students nearly 112,000 times, a three-fold increase on the number in 2009. The service consistently receives very high satisfaction ratings from both students and employers.

Marshall Barlow and the team at Careers Services are to be congratulated for the excellent work they do in assisting students to make the transition to employment successfully. So too are the many staff who support students in this regard, both formally and informally, throughout the University. This support not only ensures that students will have a greater likelihood of generating an economic return on the investment they and their families have made in their education, but also ensures that they will make the contribution to the economy and society that we and they hope for.



First of its kind

A new collaborative online service for New Zealand universities and Crown Research Institutes had its official launch last week.

Named Tuakiri - New Zealand Access Federation, the service enables participating institutions to use their home institution login to access a growing number of national and international resources, thus helping foster education and research development in New Zealand.

Liz Coulter (pictured), President of the Tuakiri Access Federation Inc. and Director of IT Services at the University says Tuakiri helps bring New Zealand in line with other similar services available at education and research institutions in Australia, the US, UK and Europe.

"There are currently 26 other similar services worldwide.

"We've been developing Tuakiri for the past 18 months, working closely with the Australian Access Federation Inc., (AAF), which is in many ways similar to Tuakiri, looking at their policies and software, learning from what they did when setting up AAF and drawing on their best practices."

Sponsored by the Ministry of Science and Innovation and developed by The University of Auckland - in conjunction with project partners Landcare Research and the University of Canterbury - Tuakiri builds on earlier work establishing federated service delivery models across New Zealand's research sector within the BeSTGRID project, which ran from 2006 through 2011.

The Tuakiri pilot programme started at The University of Auckland in June 2011, with

Landcare Research, AUT, Lincoln University, University of Canterbury and Massey University also taking part.

Tuakiri members can access up-to-date research, e-books and library resources securely and easily from remote locations using a single set of login credentials provided by their home institution.

A further benefit is that it reduces the overhead for managing multiple user accounts for different services.

Nick Jones, Director of New Zealand eScience Infrastructure (NeSI), says NeSI is a key supporter of Tuakiri and has already adopted it as its primary access mechanism for its services.

Commenting further on what Tuakiri means, Liz Coulter also says: "Tuakiri marks a very positive step towards an increasingly collaborative approach to research and education in New Zealand. Our immediate plan for Tuakiri is to broaden the portfolio of services available, along with its reach to include polytechnics and Māori educational institutes. There could also be potential to extend the federation service to the compulsory New Zealand school sector.

"In the future we hope to interlink with other federations to enable Tuakiri members to access research and educational resources and service providers based in Australia, Europe and the US."

Tuakiri is self-funding, operating off a membership subscription base where participants pay an annual membership fee.

Highlighted events

Take a walk

This free lecture on exercise, aging, and cognition by Professor Arthur Kramer from the University of Illinois is the first of four in the Vice-Chancellor's Lecture Series, hosted by the Department of Sport and Exercise Science. Our society has become increasingly sedentary. Decreases in physical activity have been associated with diseases such as hypertension, diabetes, and a number of different cancers. Professor Kramer will speak about physical activity and exercise and their influence on healthy minds and brains. His main focus will be on human exercise research across the lifespan, covering epidemiological and intervention studies. The lecture will take place from 7-8pm on 31 July at the Fisher and Paykel Appliances Auditorium, Owen G Glenn Building.

Nutrition and exercise

Exercise is medicine but this "medicine" requires nutrition to make it palatable. Brain food can improve physical performance and health through modulation of energy supplies to the brain. Understanding the brain's role in controlling metabolism and its influence on fatigue is one of the big-picture questions in exercise science. Professor David Cameron-Smith from the Liggins Institute and Dr Nicholas Gant from the Department of Sport and Exercise Science will speak on "Nutrition and exercise: Protein for power vs. carbohydrate for performance" at the second lecture in the Vice-Chancellor's Lecture Series. This lecture will take place on Thursday 2 August at 7pm at the Fisher&Paykell Auditorium, Owen G Glenn Building.

Are you ready?

Auckland has a third of New Zealand's population, yet how prepared are we to respond to and recover from a major disaster? These are some of the questions to be tackled at this year's Winter Lectures. The lunchtime series began on 17 July with a lecture on the global perspective of disaster and democracy by Professor Saville Kushner from the Faculty of Education. Five more lectures are still to come, on successive Tuesdays from 1pm to 2pm between now and 21 August, at the Maidment Theatre. Admission is free. Organiser and speaker Dr Carol Mutch (Education) says the series aims to share the best in disaster response and recovery research so Aucklanders can be better prepared.

Fellowship for AUP editor



16 young publishers chosen from around the world and the only Kiwi to be selected.

In the run-up to the Frankfurt Book Fair, this programme promotes "information exchange, professional dialogue and the creation of networks between international publishers".

Anna will be in Germany for two weeks from 30 September to visit publishing houses in Frankfurt, Cologne and Berlin. She'll learn about the unique characteristics of the German book market and will update others on recent market developments in New Zealand. She will also participate in the Frankfurt Book Fair from 10-14 October, where New Zealand will be the 2012 Country of Honour.

Auckland University Press Senior Editor Anna Hodge has won a coveted place on the 2012 Frankfurt Fellowship Programme, one of only

Volunteers for hearing assessment

Master of Audiology students at the beginning of their clinical experience need to test the hearing of a number of adults to gain experience in basic test techniques.

The Department of Audiology is looking for more adult volunteers who would be interested in having their hearing assessed by Master of Audiology students under the supervision of an experienced audiologist. These free appointments

will take approximately 90 minutes and will be offered from mid-July through to mid-August. Assessments will be performed at the Tāmaki Campus in the audiology teaching clinic on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Please contact: Kirsty McEnteer – Audiology Administrator on 923 5536 or email audiology@auckland.ac.nz to arrange an appointment.



Tongan Ark

Echo Janman, Public Programmes Manager at Elam and her husband, filmmaker Paul Janman are behind the documentary *Tongan Ark* which premieres at the Film Festival on Saturday, 4 August.

Tongan Ark tells the story of 'Atenisi (Athens) institute founded in Tonga by 'Futa Helu, the intellectual architect of the Tongan pro-democracy movement, credited with developing a modern form of European /Tongan critical education in Tonga.

Paul and Echo, both alumni of The University of Auckland, were lecturers in literature and fine arts at 'Atenisi from 2004 to 2006, and that when they began their project.

Paul spent days wandering the grounds recording small details of 'Atenisi life: "Sometimes it would be Futa lecturing or waxing on all manner of philosophical topics, boys killing and cooking suckling pigs, the operatic performances of Futa's daughters or late night kava drinking sessions laced with heart-rending Tongan music and poetry..."

He was then faced with the problem of how to transform it into a compelling representation. "The ideas [of Futa Helu] were like Tongan culture itself, both perplexing and stunningly pointed."

The film became the narrative of the 'Atenisi Institute itself.

2012 Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) Proposals – call for Applications

Applications are invited from academic staff/teams across the University to the 2012 Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) Research Development Fund process (which comprises both internal and external sub-processes). WUN is an international network of research-led universities focused on developing multilateral, transcontinental research collaborations. The University can propose up to three new Auckland-led projects per year to the WUN for recognition and pump-priming funding, and be a partner to any number of other member-led proposals. Pump-priming funding for WUN-recognised projects generally ranges between GBP20,000 and GBP30,000. More information, guidelines and application forms for the internal process can be found on the staff intranet. University deadline is Monday 6 August, 5pm. Contact Robyn Hill, robyn.hill@auckland.ac.nz, ext. 83812.

Distinguished Visitor Awards

These are University Research Committee awards of up to \$10,000 each to enable scholars and researchers who have made very significant contributions to their disciplines to visit the University and to participate in its intellectual life. Visitors are expected to contribute substantially to research activity in the nominated department and to give seminars, lectures, and engage in informal discussions with staff and students in that department. University deadline is Tuesday 31 July. Contact Mandy Brown, Internal Fund Specialist, mandy.brown@auckland.ac.nz, ext. 82735.

Cross Faculty Research Initiatives Fund

These University Research Committee awards are to facilitate the development of new collaborations and initiatives, with a particular focus on research career development and the support of projects to the stage that they are able to obtain external research funding. Researchers from at least two different disciplines as well as two different faculties who intend to work collaboratively on a specific research question are eligible to apply. Awards are for Seeding Funds of up to \$25,000 each for one year, and Major Research Awards of up to \$100,000 over two years. University deadline is Tuesday 31 July. Contact Mandy Brown, Internal Fund Specialist, mandy.brown@auckland.ac.nz ext. 82735.

From the collection



Best known as a writer, Greg O'Brien was born into an Irish Catholic family in Matamata and trained as a journalist in Auckland before becoming a cadet reporter for the *Northland Times* in the late 1970s.

He returned to study Art History and English as part of a BA at The University of Auckland, and published his first illustrations (done to accompany "Paris", a poem by C.K. Stead and published by Auckland University Press) in 1984. After graduation that year, he published his own poems in literary journals in Australia, including *Meanjin* and *Scripsi*, as well as in *Island*, *Sport and Landfall in New Zealand*. These poems were brought together with drawings in a single book, *Location of the Least Person*, which was published by Auckland University Press in 1987,

and led to him winning the Frank Sargeson Fellowship the next year. This award brought with it residency in the flat above the George Fraser Gallery, and occasioned his first meeting with the Hungarian photographer Mari Mahr, who exhibited there in 1988.

This drawing is from his 1989 picaresque novel *Diesel Mystic*, which was also published by Auckland University Press. Using the rapid changes that he was undergoing in his emotional and spiritual life in his late twenties as the stimulus for the creation of imaginary tableaux, O'Brien transformed the descriptions of topography of land surrounding the Kaipara Kumara capital, Dargaville, where he used to live, into a magic realist landscape. The publication of this book preceded his migration south to Wellington where he has lived since 1990.

Like his writing, Greg O'Brien's drawing style is very graphic, with abbreviated symbols and shapes which are shorthand for states of mind. In this image, it is possible to see the white horse of the imagination galloping away from a lone hand, which waves forlornly behind it. Other marks seem like runes, or are reminiscent of the patterns left carved into stones by wayfarers as they made their pilgrimage from France down into the top of Spain. Like a stained glass window in a medieval cathedral, the heavy outlining seems to divide the drawing into sections of land, narrative and sky, with koru-like spirals giving emphasis to the local character of the mark-making. Indeed, the tradition of pages of medieval illuminations which appeared alongside pages of text, to draw out the religious significance of the written word with pictorial and symbolic imagery, are inspirational for him.

Greg O'Brien's book on the work of another

illustrator, Graham Percy (coincidentally, the late husband of Mari Mahr) is shortlisted in the Illustrated Non-Fiction category for the New Zealand Post Book Awards. Ahead of the awards, Greg O'Brien will be reading from the book at Gus Fisher Gallery as part of an all-day event on Saturday 28 July at 12.30pm. The day is styled as BAM: a celebration of books, art and music, and includes performances by international jazz hero Roger Manins from the School of Music. Coffee and pastries will be available at 10am, with readings by poet Karl Stead at 10.30am, and a conversation between photographer Marti Friedlander and her husband Gerrard Friedlander and author Len Bell at 11.30am.

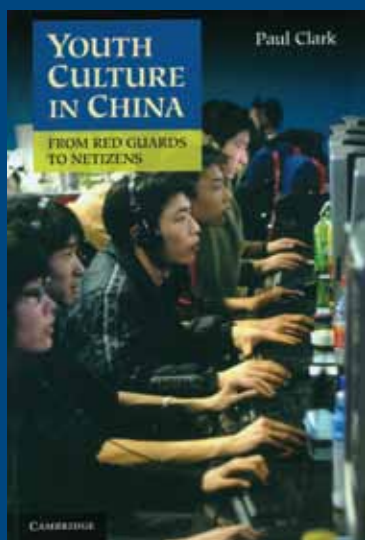
Copies of the Auckland University Press publications by these writers will be available for signature and sale.

In the afternoon, David Veart author of *Digging Up the Past: Archaeology for the Young and Curious* and *First Catch Your Weka: A Story of New Zealand Cooking*, will be available for a "speed date" at 1pm, followed at 1.30pm by a reading by Fiona Farrell, who is shortlisted in the General Non-Fiction category for *The Broken Book*, her book of essays and poems about the Christchurch earthquake and then at 2pm, it's Dame Anne Salmond, whose book *Bligh: William Bligh in the South Seas* is also a General Non-Fiction finalist in this year's book awards. At 2.30pm, Associate Professor Peter Simpson will appear, followed by architectural historian Dr Julia Gatley at 3pm.

For more details, visit the Gus Fisher Gallery website, www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

Greg O'Brien, And this also is the Point of Saying Goodbye, 1988, ink on paper

Books



The lives and aspirations of young Chinese, between 14 and 25 years old have been transformed in the last five decades. By examining youth cultures around three historical points – 1968, 1988 and 2008 – this book, *Youth Culture in China: From Red Guards to Netizens*, published by Cambridge University Press – argues that present day youth culture in China has both international and local roots. Author of the book, Professor Paul Clark (School of Asian Studies), describes how the Red Guards and sent-down youth of the Cultural Revolution era carved out a space for themselves, asserting their distinctive identities despite tight political controls.

By the late 1980s, Chinese-style rock music, sports, and other recreations began to influence the identities of Chinese youth. In the twenty-first century, the Internet offered a new and broader space for expressing youthful enthusiasms and frustrations. From the 1960s to the present, global youth culture has been reworked to serve the needs of young Chinese. Paul is the author of *The Chinese Cultural Revolution: A History* (Cambridge 2008), *Reinventing China: A Generation and its Films* ((2005), and *Chinese Cinema: Culture and politics since 1949* (Cambridge 1987).

What's on

THURSDAY 19 JULY

Department of History seminar
Prof Thomas W. Laqueur, Helen Fawcett Distinguished Professor, University of California, Berkeley: *The work of the dead*. 7pm Rm 220, Arts 1.

FRIDAY 20 JULY

Word Fundamentals workshop
9am-12noon 2nd Floor, Fisher Bldg, 18 Waterloo Quadrant. Phone 923 7951 for more information or to enrol.

SATURDAY 21 JULY

Gallery talk
1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Clinical psychologist Maree Martinovich discusses psychosis and vision in Vincent Ward's work. Visit www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

MONDAY 23 JUL

Affirming diversity workshops for staff and students

Part one: 3.30-5.30pm Rm N357, N Block, Faculty of Education, Gate 4, 60 Epsom Ave, Epsom.
A forum on sexual/gender identity and same sex attractions.
Discuss the impacts that social and cultural factors have on relationships, in particular, the impacts of stereotyping and discrimination against individuals on the basis of gender and sexual orientation.
Queries to Mary-Anne McAllum rainbow-group@auckland.ac.nz
Register www.forms.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/affirming-diversity-registration

TUESDAY 24 JULY

2012 Winter Lecture
Hazards, disasters, risks and responses: Auckland are you ready?
Clive Manley, Auckland Council: *Risk and response in Auckland*. 1-2pm Maidment Theatre, 8 Alfred St.
The national strategy for civil defence and emergency management is for a resilient New Zealand. Auckland has a third of New Zealand's population, yet how prepared are we to respond to and recover from a major disaster? What is being done to build the resilience which will be needed in Auckland? What have we learnt from Christchurch?
Queries to 373 7599 ext 87698.

Bioengineering research seminar
Professor Anne M Gillis, Dept of Cardiac Sciences, University of Calgary, Libin Cardiovascular Institute of Alberta: *Atrial fibrillation: the role of the ryanodine receptor*. 4-5pm Ground Floor Seminar Rm G010, UniServices House, 70 Symonds St.

WEDNESDAY 25 JULY

Auckland Bioengineering Institute postgraduate recruitment evening
5.30-7.30pm Level 1, UniServices House, 70 Symonds St.
Are you considering a doctoral or masters degree in Bioengineering? ABI staff will be available to discuss

the Institute's many graduate research opportunities and provide advice on which course might best suit you.

Fast Forward lecture

Lee Beattie, Errol Haarhoff: *A critical appraisal of the implementation of five new world city's urban growth management strategies*. 6.30-7.30pm Engineering Lecture Theatre 439, Bldg 401, 20 Symonds St.
Queries to n.guy@auckland.ac.nz

THURSDAY 26 JULY

Science and Technology Careers Fair
10am-3pm venue tba.
A great opportunity for students and recent graduates to meet employers and learn about their companies and potential jobs, internships and graduate recruitment programmes.

FRIDAY 27 JULY

Innovating large class tutorials
11am-1pm, Case Rm 4, Business School. Register to attend this seminar to learn from Teaching Excellence Award Winner Angela Liew's experiences and discover more on how she provides a comprehensive range of elearning resources to her undergraduate large classes. Register at www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops or phone CAD reception at ext 88140.

School of Music lunchtime concert
By flute and piano students. 1.05-1.55pm Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds St. Free.
Queries to concerts@auckland.ac.nz

The Divine Muses IX
6.30pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. A night of poetry readings for National Poetry Day, featuring Riemke Ensing, Sue Fitchett, Bob Orr, John Pule, Harry Ricketts and Siobhan Harvey.

www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

SATURDAY 28 JULY

Book Fair
10am-6pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St.
Speed-date your favourite AUP author at the Gus Fisher Gallery's all-day book fair, held in advance of the NZ Post Book Awards winners' announcement.

www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

MONDAY 30 JULY

Political Studies seminar
Dr Ashok Sharma, Dept of Political Studies: *From estranged to engaged democracies: the India-US strategic partnership*. 12-1pm Room 219, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd.

Affirming diversity workshops for staff and students
Part two: 3.30-5.30pm Rm N357, N Block, Faculty of Education, Gate 4, 60 Epsom Ave, Epsom.
Develop the knowledge and interpersonal skills to support queer/questioning students.
Queries to Mary-Anne McAllum rainbow-group@auckland.ac.nz
Register www.forms.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/affirming-diversity-registration

TUESDAY 31 JULY

2012 Winter Lecture
Hazards, disasters, risks and responses: Auckland are you ready?
Panel discussion: *Understanding the risks - tsunami, floods, earthquakes and volcanoes*. 1-2pm Maidment Theatre, 8 Alfred St.

- Assoc Prof Asaad Shamseldin, Faculty of Engineering: *Tsunami hazard and mitigation in NZ*.
- Assoc Prof Charles Clifton, Faculty of Engineering: *Earthquake and fire risk*.
- Dr Jan Lindsay, Faculty of Science: *Volcanic risk*.

Queries to 373 7599 ext 87698.

Bioengineering research seminar
Dr Quentin Atkinson, Rutherford Discovery Fellow, Dept of Psychology: *Language evolution in space and time*. 4-5pm Ground Floor Seminar Rm G010, UniServices House, 70 Symonds St.

2012 Vice-Chancellor's Lecture Series

Exercise is medicine. Professor Arthur Kramer, University of Illinois: *Take a walk: Exercise, aging, and cognition*. 7-8pm Fisher & Paykel Appliances Auditorium, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. Runs until 9 August.
Queries to 923 3258.

WEDNESDAY 1 AUGUST

Fermata lecture
Dr David Lines: *Ways of revealing: Emerging technologies and music education*. 5.30pm Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds St.

Fast Forward lecture
Manuel Aires Mateus, Aires Mateus e Associados, Lisbon: *Projectes recentes*. 6.30-7.30pm Engineering Lecture Theatre 439, Bldg 401, 20 Symonds St.
Queries to n.guy@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 David Feng (09) 303 0601 or Lauren Valcarcel (021) 103 4865 at City Sales or rentals@citysales.co.nz or log on to www.citysales.co.nz/rentals

Attractive Parnell house: Three bdrms + study. Polished kauri floors. Two bthrms. Warm gas heating. Sunny, small garden (lawnmowing is included in rent). Lovely Hobson Bay views from upstairs. Quiet street close to Parnell District School; in Grammar schools zones. \$750 pw; no agents fees. Phone (021) 0231 8842 or 303 2001.

Freemans Bay double room, quiet street, ensuite, own deck and study area, recently renovated terrace house. Large living room, share house with one + occasional other, close to supermarket and Ponsonby Rd. \$250 pw single, \$300 pw couple, inclusive. Phone 372 3361.

Fully furnished studio apartment available in the Connaught, 14 Waterloo Quadrant. \$340 pw. Carpark is available if required for additional \$60 pw. If interested please contact david at (021) 237 8138 or (09) 309 0274.

Mt Roskill: House at 59B Stamford Park Rd. Three large dble bedroomed upstairs home, open plan with very large conservatory, dble garage. Lawns maintained, separate flat downstairs. No pets, n/s. Close to transport. \$600 pw with water and power or \$500 pw without. Interested parties please contact (021) 148 8127 and leave a message or text.

Ponsonby. Fully-furnished villa, three bdrm, central heating etc, on Link Bus route, 30 mins walk to University. Available 20 July-24 Sept. \$300 pw + utilities. Contact 378 6091 or a.poletti@xtra.co.nz

Westmere: Three bdrm villa available for short-term rent from 20 August-23 October (9 weeks). \$750 pw. Lovely home close to Cox's Bay, Ponsonby, West Lynn village and bus routes to University. Contact celsnz@gmail.com

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

Bach on Kawau Island: Older NZ couple visiting from 16 Dec-10 Jan seek basic reasonably-priced bach for few days to fulfill 'bucketlist' and revisit youth. Email m.playfair@auckland.ac.nz

Looking for a housesitter over the summer? Mature couple (Kiwi/Greek), based in Greece but planning to visit NZ around December-March to enjoy their grandchildren! Reliable, honest, handy, experienced with dogs, cats and gardens. Contact maggvy@otenet.gr Phone Vivienne Gray, Classics, at 620 4997 if reference is needed.

Looking for a housesitter over summer? Retired UK couple visiting their grandchildren in Auckland are looking for housesit/s over late November-January. Houseproud, reliable, honest and mature; contact mosels20@btinternet.com

MISCELLANEOUS

City Legal Services. Rainey Collins Wright is a small law firm centrally located at L1 Princes Court, 2 Princes Street. We are near the University, with good parking. We can assist with property transactions, trusts, wills, administration of estates, enduring powers of attorney and relationship property matters. Please phone our senior solicitor Nichola Christie on 379 5828 to discuss your needs, or email nchristie@rainey.co.nz Visit www.rainey.co.nz

Give your child a learning start before school at First Steps Parnell. We are conveniently located at 7 Ngaho Place, Parnell - walking distance from The University of Auckland. Open five days from 7.30am-5.45pm. 20 ECE hours and WINZ subsidies available for children 3 months to 5 years. Phone (09) 373 3477.

Telling tales transcription services: Transcribing your digital audio files into any format. Interviews, lectures, your stories, family history. Writing, typing, editing and proofreading services. \$30 per hour. Phone or text (021) 234 6309 or (09) 945 0700 or email julia@tellingtales.co.nz

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



LET'S GET IT RIGHT

I support the Ministry of Education's increased focus on early childhood education, in particular the aim of increasing access and participation of children and their families from Pasifika, Māori and special education groups.

However, the services provided to Pasifika families in particular must be of a high quality and excellence if they are to make a difference to our youngest citizens.

Research in England and Ireland has shown that high quality early childhood education can make a significant contribution to later achievement, even when early disadvantage is a factor.

However, this demands an investment not only of money, though this is important, but also of people resources. It requires establishing networks and partnerships, and agreeing overall about our vision for our children and their quality of life.

All research indicators point to the calibre of teachers and educators as having the greatest influence on the quality of early childhood education. Therefore the goal of 100 per cent qualified staff must not be lost sight of, even though this has been temporarily suspended by the present government.

Our children and their families deserve the best we can afford and we need to establish and maintain responsive relationships between professionals, parents and community networks, to make this happen.

I regard the need for local community-based initiatives as crucial in encouraging parents to access quality early childhood education. Having centres that include adjacent health and other services is a model that needs to be established as common practice.

Establishing more community-based playgroups is important for Pasifika children and their families but research I have been involved with demonstrates that parent-led services, such as playgroups, still need to be led by qualified teachers because they can plan and implement the kinds of opportunities and experiences children require for quality learning.

I am concerned that some Pasifika parents are beginning to feel that "keeping their children at home" could be insufficient for their healthy growth and development - that if they do not access early childhood education they are somehow ruining their child's future chances.

Whilst I wholeheartedly support access to quality early childhood education, I also support parental choice. We keep being reminded that the early childhood sector is non-compulsory but the actions of governments (including previous governments) and providers (60 per cent of which are now privately owned businesses) portray something quite the reverse to parents.

If we continue to accept the reference to early childhood education and care as "pre-school" then no wonder parents feel pressured to take their children even if that early childhood education is of variable quality.

If social indicators show Pasifika families are experiencing disadvantage then the solution is to address the disadvantages directly, (in terms of housing, health, employment and so on) and provide support to families with young children to live beyond survival levels of existence.

Actually many Pasifika families raise their children within the supportive contexts of family, church and their cultural and linguistic networks. Pasifika babies are initially the healthiest across

all groups in New Zealand and in many instances Pasifika families have been responsible for raising the sporting champions and other community leaders we all now applaud as "our own".

Recent professional development providers in early childhood education have been required to underpin their work with valuing identity, language and culture. This is a tall order given that, apart from our work at The University of Auckland, much of the teacher education that prepares teachers for this role is scattered and inconsistent.

There is a shortage of Pasifika teacher educators to do this important work and it takes at least three years to train informed and skilled early childhood teachers.

All teachers, not only Pasifika teachers, need to be prepared to be responsive, evidence-based practitioners who work alongside parents and communities and actively value what children bring with them into centres and services.

We have but a narrow window of opportunity in terms of the years in the life of each and every child. Early childhood professionals, teacher educators, parents and communities — supported by government policies and judicious funding — please let us get together, get going and let's "get it right".

Dr Diane Mara
Associate Dean Pasifika
The Faculty of Education

Photo: Chris Marshall