



SHARING EMPOWERMENT

Innovations introduced in the Faculty of Arts, with the help of a University Vice-Chancellor's Development Award (now known as a VCDUF), led to an invitation for two members of the University's Professional Staff to visit Deakin University in Australia.

Stephen Rothman (Group Manager in the Faculty of Arts) and Wendy Chambers (who was in Arts but is now Faculty Manager in Engineering) were invited to share their experiences on developing an empowered and engaged workforce with the Faculty of Science and Technology, at Deakin, as keynote speakers for their planning day on 24 September.

Their journey to Deakin started in 2005 when Stephen, Wendy and Gaynor Van Beurdon, all Group Managers at the Faculty of Arts, realised that the traditional hierarchical structure then prevalent in the faculty, with its flattened reporting structure and centralised set up, could benefit from improvements. They recognised that

in changing aspects of the management style, they would be in a better position to continue to attract and retain the high quality staff required to move Arts forward.

Their inspiration came from attending a short course at the business school run by Brian Travers called "How to empower your people", and from an article in the *NZ Herald* from that time.

"What motivates people is confidence that there is a future with their organisation, genuine advancement opportunities, a sense of personal achievement, knowing how work contributes to company success." *The New Zealand Herald, June 08, 2005.*

They developed a plan with the aim of empowering their staff and giving them the authority and responsibility to make decisions and take actions. The plan was successfully funded by the VCDUF and the operational aspects were implemented the following years and are still part of the Arts values.

Today the faculty is considered a leader in innovation, staff engagement and quality. Staff are encouraged to take on professional development, the silo mentality has been reduced, there is a wider understanding of faculty and University issues and a higher level of staff engagement, says Stephen.

In 2011, Stephen and Wendy presented their findings in a paper entitled "Engagement to empowerment: A Journey" at the annual Tertiary Education Management Conference held that year in the Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia. The paper was well received and in the audience was a consultant working with Deakin University, Geelong, who recommended the paper and its finding to the managers of the Faculty of Science and Technology. They found the content and direction relevant to their aspirations and invited both Stephen and Wendy to speak at their faculty planning day.



Memorable experience

The New Zealand Asia Institute (NZAI) was set up in May 1995 as part of The University of Auckland's strategic plan for internationalisation. Last month Kimberley Wu, External Relations Coordinator for NZAI, felt "fortunate and honoured" to have the opportunity, at the recommendation of the Taipei Economic and Cultural office in Auckland and with the support of the Business School, to serve as Mayor Len Brown's interpreter on the Auckland Council's Trade Mission to Taiwan.

Kimberley describes the experience:

Professionally, as the External Relations Coordinator for the New Zealand Asia Institute, I was an ambassador for the University on the trade mission. I was grateful for the support of my director and of the Business School, in taking up this role, which contributes to the NZAI's work to 'build a bridge to Asia'. Indeed, the NZAI was acknowledged by the Auckland Council as an

official sponsor and supporter for the trade mission through my participation.

Over six days, the Trade Delegation, including Councillor George Wood and representatives from the Government as well as sectors such as ICT, education, film production and venture capital, visited my home city Taichung as well as three other major cities: Taipei, New Taipei, and Hsinchu.

The partner city relationship between Auckland and Taichung was renewed by the mayors, and meetings with the two other mayors established mutual interests in furthering links and prospective collaborations between cities and businesses.

The Trade Mission's programme was action-packed, with site visits ranging from two of Taiwan's major Science Parks, the award-winning Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI) and the National Synchrotron Radiation Research Centre to a refuse incineration plant that turns

waste into energy and the control room of Taipei's Mass Rapid Transit system, used by more than 1.4 million passengers every day.

The trade mission coincided with the announcement of a co-investment partnership between New Zealand's Venture Investment Fund and Taiwan's National Development Fund, which sees each party committing equally up to a total of \$200 million into venture capital funds in the two countries.

Highlighted events, if I had to choose, would be the signing ceremony of the partner city relationship between Auckland and Taichung City and a networking function hosted by the Australian and New Zealand Chamber of Commerce in Taipei, which was very well attended by Kiwi and Taiwanese business leaders alike. The warm receptions we received were amazing, and on more than one occasion not only gifts but also songs were exchanged as a demonstration of good will and friendship.

This experience proved to be very special and memorable. I was privileged to meet many people, visit a wide range of sites and learn things about Taiwan I otherwise might not have had the opportunity to. In addition, it was truly inspirational to witness first-hand the mayor's passion and energy for making Auckland the most livable city in the world.

It may well be said that this opportunity came about because I was at the right place, at the right time and knowing the right people. At the end of the day (and of the trade mission), I just felt myself to be a very proud Kiwi in my home country of Taiwan and a very proud Taiwanese in my adopted home in New Zealand.

Auckland's mayor, Len Brown (left) with Kimberley Wu and Mayor Jason Hu of Taichung City.

Highlighted events

No worries

In an inaugural lecture called "No worries: She'll be right Mate", Professor Matthew Parsons will speak of "Planning to meet the health needs of older New Zealanders in 2020." Matthew holds a joint appointment between Older Person Rehabilitation at Waikato District Health Board and the University's School of Nursing, where he is inaugural Professor of Gerontology Nursing, a position established in 2011 because of growing awareness of the need for evidence-based health services for older people. His presentation, examining where we need to go and how to get there, will take place in the Atrium at Grafton at 5.15pm on 13 November in 505-007, with welcome hospitality from 4.30pm.

Shrinking distance

A conference on 16 and 17 November will celebrate the relationships between New Zealand and the Republic of Korea, which has blossomed and matured over the 50 years since diplomatic relations were initiated, with high levels of trade and the presence of some 30,000 Koreans in New Zealand and thousands of Korean international students. Panels at the conference will discuss the "Shrinking distance" between New Zealand and the Republic of Korea, Koreans in New Zealand, the two Koreas, the economic rise of the Republic of Korea, and cultural engagement between the two countries. The conference will take place in the Decima Glenn Room, Owen G Glen Building. For more information contact Dinah Towle on d.towle@auckland.ac.nz

Acquisition of organs

All are welcome to a roundtable on ethics and the acquisition of organs, to take place on Thursday 22 November from 2-4pm in Arts 1, Room 209, Lecture Theatre 3. Associate Professor Martin Wilkinson (Political Studies) will present the main ideas of his Oxford University Press book (see page 6). This will be followed by a critical discussion with experts from medicine, ethics and political philosophy: Professor John McCall from the University of Otago, a clinical scientist and practising transplant surgeon; Dr Monique Jonas, a lecturer in medical ethics at the School of Population Health; and Dr Stephen Winters (Political Studies), who believes we do not have rights after death. There will be plenty of time for audience discussion.

Outstanding person award



Associate Professor Ken Palmer (Law) has received the Resource Management Law Association (RMLA) "Outstanding Person Award" for 2012, presented for exemplary individual contributions to the law, theory and practice of resource management.

Ken's citation described him as the "guru" of resource management and local government law in New Zealand.

Ken studied law at The University of Auckland, Harvard University and the University of Virginia. Since being appointed to the Faculty of Law at Auckland in 1969, he has made a substantial contribution to research, teaching, law reform and legal practice in the fields of planning/resource management law, and local government law.

For Ken receiving this award was an honour, and an acknowledgement of a lifetime of work in the law.

He says it affirmed "the supportive environment provided by the University and the Law School, which encourages and facilitates the scholarship required to produce texts and papers of significant quality".

Ken sees three main achievements as

contributing to this award: Firstly his books: *Planning Law in New Zealand (1977)*, *Local Government Law in New Zealand (1978)*, and the combined *Local Authorities Law in New Zealand (2012)*. Secondly, his 40 years of lecturing undergraduates and postgraduates in Planning Law, and now Resource Management Law. His supervision of "many excellent dissertations and theses" has complemented his teaching, and his editorship of the *New Zealand Journal of Environmental Law* "has aimed to provide a vehicle for publication of the best student papers." Finally his participation in professional activities, including law reform, submissions on new legislation and involvement with local bodies has been part of a wider endeavor to promote community wellbeing and maintenance of the law. He has a concern over the fair implementation of the Treaty of Waitangi, including water rights, and the valuation and rating of Māori land.

As Ken (pictured left) was overseas the award was collected on his behalf and re-presented to him by the Honourable Peter Salmon QC (right), on 25 October at the annual Salmon Lecture organised by the RMLA.

From the Vice-Chancellor



A recent article in the *New Zealand Herald* claimed that "New Zealand degrees are the most worthless in the world". Based on an OECD report *Education at a Glance 2012*, it asserted that the lifetime benefit to a New Zealand man of acquiring a degree was just \$63,000 and to a woman a mere \$38,000. It makes you wonder why anyone would bother! The answer is of course that the article was completely off the mark. First, the figures it cited were actually the public benefits of a tertiary education (i.e. the benefits to the community at large) rather than the private benefits to the graduates, which were estimated at \$109,000 and \$89,000 for men and women respectively. Second, the figures did not discriminate between the value of a university degree and the value of a qualification earned from another type of tertiary institution.

A 2010 report by the Ministry of Education paints a more positive view of the private benefit of higher education. It shows that, compared to no qualification, an undergraduate degree is associated with a 43 percent increase in earnings and a postgraduate degree with a 67 percent increase. This compares very favourably with the 21 percent increase in earnings from a tertiary non-degree qualification. The OECD report similarly shows that in New Zealand, earnings over the age group 25-64 years for holders of type A (university) qualifications are 50 percent higher than those whose education terminates at secondary school whereas there is very little earnings premium for holders of type B (non-university tertiary) qualifications. Although the earnings premiums from university degrees are clearly higher than those from non-university qualifications, the differences are generally lower in New Zealand than in other countries. That is perhaps not surprising given that we have a generally low wage economy. If we want to develop a higher level of earnings across the board then we will need to increase the technological sophistication of our industries and move away from our traditional reliance on agricultural commodities. Here too, universities such as ours have an important part to play, but we will not be able to do so effectively if we fail as a nation to value our universities in the way that many of our competitors do.

National teaching excellence

The University's nominations for the National Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards for 2013 are Professor Alison Jones, Te Puna Wānanga, School of Māori Education, Faculty of Education; Associate Professor Bryony James, Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering, Faculty of Engineering; and Dr Cather Simpson, School of Chemical Sciences, Faculty of Science.

For these nominations, recommendations are made by the selection sub-committee to the Vice-Chancellor after the University's Teaching Awards for 2012 are determined.

The criteria for these awards differ to some degree from those for the University's awards. In making its recommendations, the sub-committee takes account of the national criteria and reviews previous University awardees.



Finishing the doctorate

The Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust is offering a new scholarship to support a woman graduate completing her doctorate.

This trust annually funds a number of awards to provide women with financial assistance for retraining and for undergraduate and postgraduate study. Kate Milligan Edger (1857-1935) was the first woman in the British

Empire to graduate with a BA.

The Doctoral Completion award assists a woman graduate who has completed a minimum of three years' part-time study towards a PhD at an approved institution in the Auckland area. The \$15,000 award will enable the successful applicant to have one semester free of teaching duties and to become a full-time student to

facilitate completion of a PhD.

The trust was inducted in 2012 into the University's Chancellor's Circle, which acknowledges donors who have given between \$100,000 and \$1 million to The University of Auckland.

Says KEECT Chairperson Emeritus Professor Charmian O'Connor: "The trust gives away over 100 awards each year. These awards vary from small \$1,500 grants that assist awardees to retrain, to much larger \$15,000 postdoctoral research awards. Without our help many of these awardees would not be able to access further education."

For more information visit www.academicdresshire.co.nz and click on the quick link to Academic Awards Available.

Photo: Left to right are Trudie McNaughton (Pro Vice-Chancellor Equity), Sue Marshall (Trust Manager) Rebecca Ewart (Trustee), Stephanie Harris (Trustee), Margaret Allen (Trustee) and Amy Malcolm (Development Manager)

Combining expertise



Brent Young.

A \$3 million food processing laboratory is being established at The University of Auckland through a partnership between the University and Plant & Food Research.

The Lab, to be based at the University's Tāmaki Innovation Campus, is due to open in time for the start of the 2013 University year.

Pilot plant equipment that is currently at Plant & Food and high pressure manufacturing equipment housed at the University's main campus will be moved to the University's Tāmaki Innovation Campus. The equipment will be used for joint projects with the University and Plant & Food Research, as well as with industry.

Professor Brent Young, Head of the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering, says it will combine under one roof food processing expertise from Plant & Food and the University that will help in the development of new products and processes.

"The collaboration is a win-win for both the University and Plant & Food. Having one main lab will encourage more collaborative research

and build on the number of current joint projects between Plant & Food and the University."

Under the partnership, Dr Zaid Saleh from Plant & Food will take up a joint appointment in the University's Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering, and Professor Murat Balaban, Chair of Food Process Engineering at the University, will hold an adjunct position at Plant & Food Research.

Both Dr Zaid and Professor Murat will maintain offices at the Plant & Food Research campus in Mt Albert as well as at the University. The appointments build on an existing relationship between the two teams, says Brent Young.

As well as Plant & Food and University staff, masters and PhD students will also use the laboratory.

Marsden funding

Twenty three research groups from across the University have been awarded a total of \$14.7 million in the prestigious annual Marsden Fund round.

Ten research groups led by investigators from the Faculty of Science received a total of \$7.3 million, including a team headed by Dr Cate Macinnes-Ng who will investigate how native kauri forests respond to climate change.

Four teams led by academics from the Faculty of Arts received a total of \$1.8 million, including

Dr Steven Ratuva studying Pacific regional security.

Investigators from the Auckland Bioengineering Group also led four successful applications, receiving a total of \$3.1 million. Their research includes work by Professor Martyn Nash and colleagues on the mechanisms of heart failure.

Three groups led from the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences received a total of \$1 million, including Dr Zimei Wu and colleagues

investigating a new strategy to guide anti-cancer agents to solid tumours.

A group led by Dr Deidre Brown from the National Institute of Creative Arts and Industries won \$635,000 to investigate the history of indigenous art from Aotearoa New Zealand.

Researchers led by Dr Mark Vickers (Liggins Institute) received \$785,000 to study how nutrition may affect reproductive development.

This year the fund distributed \$54.6 million to 86 research teams around the country.



Winning words

“The University’s wider writing community is clearly in vibrant good health,” said the judges of the inaugural *Ingenio* magazine short story competition, which attracted 173 entries from staff and alumni (with the winning entry published in the latest issue of *Ingenio*).

“It was a fantastic range of stories. We enjoyed the diverse voices, craft and narratives on offer,” said Distinguished Professor Brian Boyd, Charlotte Grimshaw and Professor Witi Ihimaera.

As entries were anonymised and it was stories, not writers, that were being judged, it came as a surprise to the judges to discover at the end of the process that a few stories by the same authors had been competing against each other.

Here’s what the judges had to say about the winning entries:

First prize goes to Allan Drew’s “Somewhere”, an ambitious story that tugs at the heart. Showing a nice use of counterpointing, “Somewhere” resonated strongly with us. And while the story is successful at a textual level, with fine sentences, it also throws out sub-textual hints that enhance its power. An excellent, evocative read.

Second prize goes to Tony O’Brien’s “There’s Always Something”. Nodding to a Raymond

Carver story, “There’s Always Something” has a Carveresque tension between the possibilities of communication closed off and opened up. We appreciated its flashes of fresh vividness and hints of tension or threat.

Highly commended were Allan Drew’s “Every-day Easy@”, in which a simple instructional manual becomes ... something more; Tony O’Brien’s “Ash and Embers”, a strong, focused story with emotional heft and poise; and Paul Left’s “Friday Pickup”, which unfolds a pleasing surprise for the reader.

“Somewhere” can be read in the Spring issue of *Ingenio*, and all five stories can be read online at www.ingenio-magazine.com

Ingenio staff gave special thanks to the judges, generous sponsors and Anna Hodge from AUP for her invaluable contribution to the selection process, as well as to Emily Perkins for offering a two-hour personalised coaching session for the winner.

Inspired to give it a go? The *Ingenio* Short Story Competition will run again in 2013. Watch out for details in University News and the Autumn 2013 issue of *Ingenio*.

Sponsors for the competition were AUP, UBS, and Goldie Wines.

Inaugural graduation of leaders



The first students to complete a leadership initiative at the University officially graduated from the programme earlier this month.

Held at the Fale Pasifika, the ceremony saw 26 students recognised for completing the programme, all awarded certificates by Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon in the presence of students, staff, family and friends, with some travelling from outside of Auckland to join the occasion.

The programme, organised in partnership between the University and the New Zealand Leadership Institute, provided a series of workshops, fora and group work that were designed to challenge and strengthen leadership potential in the students as well as encouraging personal growth.

“The students we have here tonight are already very active in a variety of clubs, groups and associations on campus and indeed off campus, volunteering and taking on leadership roles in the community,” said Marie-Jo Wilson, Student Engagement Manager. “They show real commitment to bringing about positive change and building the student community.”

Left to right are Marie-Jo Wilson, Kun Qian, Kristal Sawatzke and Jennifer Gao.

Health Research Council

Explorer Grants. These offer up to \$ 150,000 to fund researcher ideas that have the potential to either open a new avenue of knowledge in their chosen health field or markedly improve the health of New Zealanders. Proposals must advance ideas that are transformative, innovative, exploratory or unconventional, and must have the potential to revolutionise entire health disciplines, create new fields, or challenge accepted theories and perspectives. Registration opens in Funder portal 7 November 2012. Information and application forms can be found at www.hrc.govt.nz. Research Office deadline for full application is 21 November 2012. Contact Hilary Lapsley h.lapsley@auckland.ac.nz ext 83562.

NZ Society for the Study of Diabetes

Eli Lilley Research Award. This provides for a \$40,000 grant to health professionals wishing to commence or continue a career of research in Diabetes Mellitus. There is a two-stage application process with a one-page summary of proposed research being required for the preliminary round. Information and application forms can be found at www.nzssd.org.nz. Research Office deadline is 23 November 2012. Contact Julia Zhu julia.zhu@auckland.ac.nz, ext 83986.

European Commission (FP7)

Marie Curie Actions, International Research Staff Exchange Schemes (IRSES) This is an exchange programme to strengthen the organisational connections between EU and world research groups through the exchange of researchers between Europe and New Zealand via visits of one to 12 months within two to four-year project. It funds travel and living allowances. The programme must involve at least two European Member states and/or Associated Countries. New Zealand costs for participation are funded by MBIE (via the Royal Society of New Zealand). Information can be found at www.ec.europa.eu. The Research Office deadline is 10 January 2013. Contact David Saunders d.saunders@auckland.ac.nz ext 84886.

Funding opportunities calendar

This calendar with information on funding opportunities coming up for the next 12 months is available via the Research page of the staff intranet. This calendar is updated at the beginning of every month and is maintained by Mandy Brown, Research Office, mandy.brown@auckland.ac.nz ext 82735.



There are two tidal inlets on the Pacific Coast of Otago Peninsula over the hill from Portobello.

To the north is Papanui Inlet where the sand is laden with cockles and occasionally a fur seal. Cape Saunders with its lighthouse demarcates the much more shallow Hooper's Inlet, known for its odour of rotting marine algae. Almost cut off from the sea by sand hills, it is surrounded by salt meadow, and a narrow road skirts its margins, leading to the pounding surf at Allan's Beach, where the kelp boils around the rocks.

Living about 15 minutes away at Portobello in the 1970s, Robin White wrapped up and ventured out often to make drawings around Hereweka or Harbour Cone, and climbed its 400-metre height in every kind of wind and weather. This work symbolises the decade that

Robin White dwelt in Otago. As opposed to the island life that followed this interlude, where she studied the language and culture of the local population, her years on the peninsula were a time characterised by living and working close to the wildness of nature. She supported herself by selling editions of up to 50 of her prints, honing her techniques to render the iconic forms of the landscape features that surrounded her as bold and simple shapes.

She had taught herself screen-printing while teaching at Mana College in Porirua, often painting directly on to the screen with shellac so that she didn't have to change the stencil. She

told Alister Taylor, who interviewed her for his book in 1981: "If you've got an area with three different colours, you can print the first colour over the whole area, block out parts of it, print the second, block out a greater part, and print the third colour. The alternative is to produce three separate stencils, but by painting directly on to the screen, somehow the effect is much more together. And it's also that you feel very much closer to the whole process - to what's happening. The final image has a sense of immediacy and closeness. Screen-printing can be repetitive, boring work. What makes it interesting is this kind of close contact with the final image. The fact that you're seeing it evolve, not as a preconceived idea, but as something growing organically of its own accord as it goes."

Made in August, the coldest month of the year in Dunedin, this image is cool and clear, using a circular format to focus attention on the pyramidal structure of the volcanic cone. Fascinated by the geology of the Otago Harbour, which is itself the crater of a large volcano which became extinct 10 million years ago, Robin makes the structure of the land her subject. Geometry often overrides reality in Robin White's work, and she emphasises that she is "not concerned with just recording something though. I take great liberties with the environment, using it to my own ends. I've always been conscious that painting is fundamentally an abstract thing. At Portobello I've done very many paintings of Harbour Cone - it's like an icon in the landscape and seems to have taken on a sort of spiritual significance." Breast-like, it looms behind the famous portrait of the artist's mother, the little patch of bush on its summit appearing like a darkened nipple.

The distinctive shape of Harbour Cone, which can be seen from many locations around the peninsula and across Otago Harbour, is considered so significant by the locals that the Dunedin City Council bought its 328 hectares for \$2.6 million in January 2008. Seeking to maintain this unique landscape feature as a complete block, the local body authority has pointed to its inspirational role in the work of Robin White and other artists as part of the impetus for its preservation.

Linda Tyler

Robin White, Harbour Cone from Hoopers Inlet, 29/45, 1975, screenprint on paper, 420mm diameter.

Books



Ethics and the acquisition of organs

Transplantation is a medically successful and cost-effective way to treat people whose organs have failed - but not enough organs are available to meet demand.

Ethics and the acquisition of organs, written by Associate Professor Martin (T M) Wilkinson from Political Studies and published by Oxford University Press, is concerned with the major ethical problems raised by policies for acquiring organs. The main topics are the rights of the dead, the role of the family, opt in and opt out systems, the conscription of organs, living organ donation from adults and children, direct donation and priority for donors, and the sale of organs.

In this ground-breaking work the author uses concepts from moral and political theory such as autonomy, rights, posthumous interests, justice and well being, in a context informed by the clinical, legal and policy aspects of transplantation. The result is a rigorous philosophical exploration of real problems and options. He argues that the ethics of acquiring organs for transplantation is not only of great intellectual interest, but also of practical importance.

As such this book will be of profit not only to students and academics who work in applied ethics and bioethics, but also to the lawyers, policy-makers, clinicians and lobby groups interested in transplantation.

What's on

THURSDAY 8 NOVEMBER

Innovation in assessment and feedback

1-4pm, 2nd Floor, Fisher Bldg, 18 Waterloo Quadrant.
Visit www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops and click on IT Training.

School of Counselling, Human Services and Social Work seminar

Matt Shepherd (Ngāti Tama): *Can a computerised self-help intervention SPARX be used to support Māori taitamariki seeking help for depression?* 4-5.30pm F2 Lecture Theatre, Gate 3, 74 Epsom Ave, Epsom.

Free parking available at Gate 2.

RSVP to ma.barnett@auckland.ac.nz

Faculty of Education seminar

Prof Noeline Alcorn, Emeritus Professor, Wilf Malcolm Institute of Educational Research, University of Waikato: *A critique of teacher education policy in NZ 1970-2012*. 4.30pm NZEI Rm, Kohia Education Centre, Gate 1, 78 Epsom Ave.

Free parking available at Gate 2.

RSVP to k.shalley@auckland.ac.nz

FRIDAY 9 NOVEMBER

Doctor of Education (EdD) Confirmation seminars

9am-2pm NZEI Rm, Kohia Education Centre, Gate 1, 78 Epsom Ave.

Each presentation lasts 50 minutes including questions. Your support of EdD candidates is appreciated.

- 9am - Amanda Harper: *Tertiary biology students use and understanding of feedback*.

- 11am - Martina Kopf: *The influence of technology on verbal interaction skills of foreign language earners in NZ secondary schools*.

- 1pm - Daniel Dyer: *Identifying the pedagogical challenges of using technology-enabled feedback in NZ secondary school classrooms*.

Free parking available at Gate 2.

Planning Dinner 2012

6.45-11pm The Northern Club, 19 Princes St.

Hosted by the School of Architecture and Planning.

Guest speaker Colin James: *Citizens, subsidiarity, supercity, Southland, Celia and Steven. What's the plan?*

Cost \$95. Visit <http://web.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/for/alumni/news/rsvp/planningalumni.cfm>

SATURDAY 10 NOVEMBER

Exhibition talk

1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Zoe Hoerberigs, intern with Rob Garrett Contemporary Fine Art, in conversation with artist Sarah Munro about her sculpture installation in Gallery 2, *Surface Detail*.

Visit www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

MONDAY 12 NOVEMBER

Japanese Film Week

Free films presented by The Consulate-General of Japan and UoA.

7pm, B28, General Library Bldg.

Monday: *Kamui*

Tuesday: *Maadadayo*

Wednesday: *Yatterman*

Thursday: *Outrage*

Friday: *Arrietty*

TUESDAY 13 NOVEMBER

Bioengineering research seminar

Dr Jennifer Kruger, Rutherford Scholar, ABI: *A bioengineering approach to childbirth: and beyond!* 4-5pm Ground Floor Seminar Rm G010, UniServices House, 70 Symonds St.

School of Learning, Development and Professional Practice seminar

Lovisa Jansson: *Teachers developing teachers in Sweden: Learn and relearn*. 4.30pm J2, 74 Epsom Ave, Epsom.

RSVP to foed-research@auckland.ac.nz

Te Puna Wānanga Postgraduate Information Evening

5.30-7.30pm C Block, Epsom Campus, Gate 3, 74 Epsom Avenue, Epsom.

WEDNESDAY 14 NOVEMBER

Word presentation and graphics

1-4pm, 2nd Floor, Fisher Bldg, 18 Waterloo Quadrant. Visit www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops and click on IT Training.

Philosophy seminar

Paul Saka, University of Texas, Pan American: *Ineffability and incompleteness*. 3-5pm Pat Hanan Rm 501, Arts 2.

THURSDAY 15 NOVEMBER

Faculty of Engineering Dean's Lecture series

Engineering the future: the built environment. 5.30-7pm Lecture Theatre 401.439, Faculty of Engineering, 20 Symonds St.

Queries to foe-events@auckland.ac.nz

FRIDAY 16 NOVEMBER

Public lecture

Assoc Prof Ralph Chapman, Victoria University: *Averting dangerous climate change: Accelerating the transition*. 6.30pm Maidment Theatre Alfred St.

Inaugural lecture

By new professors at the University. Prof Hinke Osinga, Dept of Mathematics: *Exciting transients*. 3pm Large Chemistry Lecture Theatre, Bldg 301, 23 Symonds St.

SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER

Exhibition talk

1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Aaron Lister, co-curator of *The Obstinate Object* at City Gallery in 2012 situates both *Surface Detail* and *Total Internal Reflection* within the context of New Zealand's diverse range of contemporary sculptural practices. www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

MONDAY 19 NOVEMBER

School of Counselling, Human Services and Social Work seminar

Assoc Prof Miri Cohen, University of Haifa - Israel: *Screening for identification of older people at risk of abuse by their caregivers*. 4-5.30pm J3 Lecture Theatre, Faculty of Education, Gate 3, 74 Epsom Ave, Epsom.

RSVP to ma.barnett@auckland.ac.nz

TUESDAY 20 NOVEMBER

5th Educational Psychology Forum

Contemporary trends in educational psychology. Runs until 21 Nov. Faculty of Education, Epsom Campus.

Queries to eddy@eenz.com

Doctoral Studies Information Evening

5-6.30pm, A Block, Epsom Campus, Gate 3 74 Epsom Avenue, Epsom.

WEDNESDAY 21 NOVEMBER

NZ Centre for Human Rights Law, Policy and Practice public lecture

Boris Dittrich, Advocacy Director, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Rights Program, Human Rights Watch: *International human rights law: Sexual orientation and gender identity*. 1pm Stone Lecture Theatre, Law School, 9 Eden Cres.

Former Judge The Rt Hon Sir Ted Thomas will chair this event.

NZ Centre for Human Rights Law, Policy and Practice public lecture

Maria Armoudian: *Kill the messenger: The media's role in the fate of the world*. 6pm Stone Lecture Theatre, Law School, 9 Eden Cres.

RSVP to lawevents@auckland.ac.nz

Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

Accommodation suitable for visiting academic and family:

Furnished four-bedroom, two bathroom home in Northcote, on direct bus route to city and University. Bush setting, two living areas, study, decks, double garage. Available early April to late September 2013. Rent negotiable. Toyota Corolla available if desired. Phone Kerr on 480 2271 or email k.inkson@auckland.ac.nz

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

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

Ardmore accommodation required.

My son (18) is seeking lodgings, Monday to Friday for 12 weeks during January/February 2013. Ideally within 20 minutes drive of Ardmore aerodrome (Helicopter Flight training school). Quiet lad, passionate about flying and can

even be helpful around the house. Please contact Chris Tews at the Research Office, c.tews@auckland.ac.nz or ext 88301.

Finnish family looking for housesit

or house for rent. We are here from November 2012 until 20 March 2013 as academic visitors, with two children (8 and 6 years). We wish to find a house/apartment with a little garden. Ideally near the North Shore Campus of AUT or the University. N/s. Contact Katja at akp.makinen@gmail.com

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MISCELLANEOUS

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CHALLENGING MISPERCEPTIONS



Dr Annette Beautrais, and Professor (Gregory) Luke Larkin (pictured above) from the South Auckland Clinical School jointly organised a very successful conference in Auckland on 28 September on suicide

prevention, planned as a satellite conference to the World Injury Meeting. More than 400 people attended the one-day meeting to hear a total of 16 international and national speakers. Annette Beautrais writes of the science of suicide prevention. Her question is: "What can we do to bring the rates of suicide down?"

New Zealand's suicide rates top the English-speaking world and have been a longstanding source of national embarrassment.

Public passivity, unfounded fatalism, unfunded research, and uninformed public policy on this issue continue to cost our country both lives and money.

To arrest high suicide rates, we must first challenge our misperception that suicide cannot be prevented. It can. The false allegation that there is no point in investing in suicide prevention because "suicidal people are intent on killing themselves and will always find a way to do it" ignores the facts: evidence shows that people who survive suicide attempts are generally relieved to have done so. Moreover, the vast majority of people with suicidal ideation do not die by suicide. Research into means restriction, and research into treatments for depression, drug, and alcohol abuse further substantiate the claim that suicide prevention saves lives. A second myth is that "We must talk about suicide". Not only is this refrain simplistic and contrary to evidence-based best practice, the reiteration of sad stories has generated a

view of suicide prevention which is pessimistic, fatalistic, and wrong. In itself, this belief may have engendered further deaths; it has certainly led to persistent public misperceptions about suicide.

The way forward relies on concerted action by key stakeholders and the application of prevention science approaches to implement evidence-based, high-impact interventions for all vulnerable individuals.

Suicide prevention is a complex, immensely challenging issue, requiring an integrated response that takes into account biological, clinical, subjective, and social factors. We need expert scientific leadership, informed policymakers, an educated, experienced, workforce and an evidence-based, cohesive strategy which is regularly reinvigorated as new research findings emerge.

We must establish an expert advisory panel to guide strategic development, and develop a critical mass of prevention specialists with expertise in programme development, implementation and evaluation.

A vigorous suicide prevention strategy requires adequate, guaranteed, sustained funding; we cannot develop and retain the expert workforce this field needs if all our programmes are funded as short-term contracts.

While a wide range of strategies have been proposed for suicide prevention, we must implement only those for which there is evidence of effectiveness, and fund evaluations of those that appear promising. These strategies include:

- Control access to means of suicide.
- Enhance training, recognition, assessment, treatment and management of depression by medical practitioners, particularly those in primary care.
- Improve assessment, treatment and follow-up care of people who make suicide attempts and present to emergency departments.

- Enhance access to mental health services and improve the care of people with serious mental illness.
- Increase public awareness of depression and suicide prevention, by programmes which promote mental health literacy and help-seeking, and destigmatise mental illness.
- Provide targeted prevention programmes for identified high-risk populations.
- Improve control of alcohol and other substances.
- Provide crisis centres and counselling, including telephone "hotlines".
- Encourage school-based competency-promoting and skill-enhancing programmes for young people.
- Provide efforts to interrupt suicide clusters, minimise contagion and support communities in which a cluster occurs.
- Provide support for families and others bereaved by suicide.
- Encourage research, evidence-based approaches to programme development, evaluation of components of the national strategy, and the production of timely and accurate statistics on suicide and attempted suicide.
- Promote healthy lifestyle and population wellness programmes.
- Encourage responsible reporting and portrayal of suicide in both old and new media.

In summary, to advance suicide prevention we must frame suicide prevention positively, and as an enterprise which must be evidence-based. We must focus on suicide prevention, not suicide.

At the conference, speakers from the USA, Australia, Ireland and New Zealand emphasised the need for multicompartamental, evidence-based suicide prevention strategies as well as the need for all suicide prevention programmes to be subjected to continuing evaluation.