



NEW DATA CENTRE

Photo: Front to rear Liz Coulter, Jim Thomson, Micheal Davies, Head of Tāmaki Innovation Campus, Nick Jones.

University IT services are about to take a giant step forward with work already underway on an innovative new data centre at the Tāmaki Innovation Campus.

Housing high tech equipment imported from Italy, Spain and the USA, the new centre, which is expected to open in July, will have a state of the art cooling system and support high performance computing. It will put The University of Auckland at the forefront of IT infrastructure in New Zealand and mean it can grow an ever larger computational environment for researchers.

"This is a collaborative project between Property Services and ITS providing a basis for the growth of exciting opportunities particularly for eResearch and Tāmaki Innovation Campus," says Director of ITS, Liz Coulter.

The Data Centre is also part of a \$9 million upgrade of the University's IT network. "We needed a second data centre for disaster recovery backup," explains Liz. "At the moment we have a smaller one in Symonds Street near the main one here at OGGC on the City Campus but this is too close and it is also running out of generating power and needs upgrading." The new data centre - 15 kilometres away at Tāmaki - will be able to replicate all activities of the services currently on City Campus.

"The intention is that if one data centre goes down completely, everything automatically transfers over to the other one," says Nick Jones, co-director of the University's eResearch Centre. "This is continuity of service and tangible IT." The eResearch centre hosts New Zealand's National e-Science Infrastructure (NeSI) and the super computers used for this work will all be based at the new Tāmaki Data Centre where there will be room to grow and expand. "This means we can grow the sort of infrastructure our researchers need to do supercomputing, science challenges and genomics," says Nick. "Currently we have constraints around space and until we get to Tāmaki we can't grow and meet the needs of researchers."

Although the new data centre will look like a concrete box on the outside, it will be state of the art inside with data travelling on a fibre network (rather than copper) at 10 gigabytes per second, (at the moment this is one gigabyte per second) building to potentially 40 gigabytes per second in three or four years time. It is also a lights out centre and will be controlled from the City Campus and it has a far more efficient cooling system than the current data centres.

"Data centres are power-hungry," explains Jim Thomson, ITS Project Manager. "A certain amount of power goes in and then you've got to get rid of the energy created by using a cooling system. At

Tāmaki we've developed a different model for extracting the heat and we're using some natural ventilation, so we'll be using about half the electricity that we're currently using at OGGC."

Key features of the Tāmaki Data Centre (TDC)

- 85 IT equipment racks
- 15 KW capacity per rack average
- PUE (power usage efficiency) of 1.4
- Designed for remote operation
- Designed for automatic failover
- 2.4MW of generator capacity
- 1.2Mw of cooling capacity
- 10G connectivity between OGGDC and TDC
- Capability to host other tertiary institutions.



Photo: New data centre under construction.

Pacific focus for vice-regal visit

The Australian Governor-General is now more familiar with Pacific issues after spending two hours at the Fale Pasifika and the Centre for Pacific Studies.

Her Excellency Quentin Bryce came to the University on 27 February, the first full day of her five-day state visit to New Zealand.

She met Auckland Pacific leaders from education, health, trade, religious, social services, creative arts and other sectors informally over afternoon tea.

Then she was briefed by four academic staff at the Centre for Pacific Studies on major issues facing the Pacific region.

"The gathering was organised at the Governor-General's request to acquaint her with some of the challenges that confront Pacific peoples and to engage with Pacific leaders in a relaxed and convivial setting," says Walter Fraser, the Centre's Director.

In welcoming her the Chancellor, Roger France, said The University of Auckland had a long and proud history of Pacific-related teaching and research across many disciplines.

"Many of our academics are involved in research and policy development and advice in areas that have been prioritised by the Pacific Island Forum leaders as areas of focus in the Pacific Plan for this region. These include the environment, population health, trade, education, renewable energy, regional security, urban development, governance, biosecurity and marine resources."

In addition the University had been a fertile training ground for Pacific leadership across every sector, said Mr France. The University had been proud to count amongst its alumni many of the region's leading Pacific scientists, economists, business leaders, academics, educators, law makers, community leaders and

politicians, both past and present. "With over 40 percent of the Pacific university students in New Zealand studying at this University, we are inextricably linked and deeply committed to the future of the Pacific region."

- Some 3151 Pacific students were enrolled at The University of Auckland in 2011. This represented 40 percent of Pacific students undertaking degree studies in New Zealand.



Photo: Chancellor Roger France with Quentin Bryce

Acclaimed yacht designer lecturing



Renowned superyacht and performance sailing yacht designer Ron Holland will be lecturing in the University's new masters programme in yacht engineering.

The Master of Engineering Studies in Yacht Engineering, offered by the Yacht Research Unit in the Faculty of Engineering, is believed to be the first yacht engineering masters degree in the world.

Mr Holland, who is widely regarded as one of the world's most influential yacht designers, has been involved with the yacht design industry for 37 years. The Ireland-based yacht designer, who was born and raised in New Zealand, has design studios in Kinsale, Ireland, and in Vancouver, Canada.

Director of the Yacht Research Unit Professor Richard Flay says Mr Holland will be taking six lectures focused on the practical aspects of running a yacht design business.

"Ron will be lecturing on how to deal with the business side of the industry including how to set up a yacht-design business, and how to work with the client to achieve a successful outcome.

"We are incredibly fortunate to have Mr Holland involved in the masters programme. He's won numerous awards and been responsible for many innovations within the

yacht design industry in the past three decades," says Professor Flay.

Professor Flay says the one-year programme provides students with technical, engineering, economic, and regulatory knowledge.

"The masters degree is for students who are looking to work as designers or research engineers in the yacht and small craft industry, or the high performance yacht racing sector."

The University is launching the Masters in Engineering Studies in Yacht Engineering at the 4th High Performance Yacht Design Conference in Auckland this month, which is hosted by the Yacht Research Unit, and the Royal Institution of Naval Architects (NZ branch). The conference coincides with the Auckland stop-over of the 2011-2012 Volvo Ocean Race.



A healthy heart

The Park Avenue Early Childhood Education Centre has been awarded a Gold Healthy Heart award for having a programme that keeps its children nutritiously healthy and physically active.

The award, presented annually by the Heart Foundation, recognises the efforts of early childhood education centres in having programmes in their curriculum that encourage healthy diets and physical activity. Park Avenue's gold

award follows on from the bronze award it received for the 2010 year.

"We are extremely proud and honoured to have received this award and it tells us that we are on the right track and the challenge is to keep on creating an environment that promotes a healthy lifestyle," says Sangeeta Mehta, Park Avenue ECE Centre Leader.

For more information about the award, visit the Heart Foundation www.heartfoundation.org.nz





New Dean

After an international search, Professor John Fraser has been appointed as Dean of Medical and Health Sciences, becoming both the first alumnus and the first non-clinician to hold the position.

He heads New Zealand's largest health research and professional training institution, with a 2012 roll of more than 4,000 students and 1,000 staff. The faculty is ranked in the top one percent of biomedical universities in the world.

John gained a BSc with honours at Victoria University of Wellington followed by a PhD at The University of Auckland, both in biochemistry.

His groundbreaking research in molecular aspects of the immune response was ignited during his postdoctoral years in the laboratories of Professor Jack Strominger at Harvard

University, where his work led to the investigation of the structure, function and role in disease of superantigenic toxins. John's research resulted in the now widely accepted model of how superantigens work.

On his return to New Zealand John took up the first NZ Wellcome Trust Senior Research Fellowship at the University. In 2000 he was appointed to Professor, and in 2003 he was named to head up the faculty's School of Medical Sciences, the largest biomedical research unit in New Zealand; he also took up the position of deputy director of the University's Maurice Wilkins Centre for Molecular Biodiscovery. John has earned an enviable reputation as a world class scientist, researcher and teacher, and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

"The University conducted an international search for the new Dean and was pleased to find the best candidate from within the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences," says Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stuart McCutcheon. His appointment says a great deal about the excellent leadership development at the University when we are able to make such a senior appointment from the ranks of one of our own graduates and staff."

John succeeds Professor Iain Martin, Dean of the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences for six years, and becomes the seventh Dean since the medical school took in its first class in 1968.

From the Vice-Chancellor



I am very pleased to advise that, at its meeting on Monday, the University Council approved the draft Strategic Plan 2013-2020 for consultation with the University community and our many supporters over a four-month period to the end of June. Following that period we will provide to Council a summary of the submissions that have been received and a revised draft of the Plan, ideally for adoption by Council in August in time for the process of planning and budget development for 2013.

The draft Strategic Plan 2013-2020 has been developed over the last year with input from a number of groups including Council itself (through a series of workshops held last year), Senior Management Team, Senate, academic and service division heads and other interested groups. It aims to provide a vision and path forward for the University over the next eight years, and will provide the basis for how we will invest our time, energy and financial/capital resources in taking the University to even greater levels of achievement.

The draft Plan is based around seven aspirations which we propose for the University. These are to: be a community comprising highly accomplished and well supported academic and professional staff; attract very able students and give them an outstanding experience so that they become successful and influential graduates and loyal alumni; benefit society by conducting and applying research of the highest quality; benefit Māori and the University through partnerships that acknowledge the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi; develop strong partnerships with key organisations and communities, nationally and internationally; adhere to our core values and remain an autonomous, sustainable, equitable organisation; and to be a public university of global standing that serves New Zealand, is distinctive and reflects our place in the Asia-Pacific region. These aspirations then give rise to a series of objectives, key actions and measures that will be required to achieve them.

I encourage all members of the wider University community to read the draft Strategic Plan 2013-2020 at: goo.gl/VcUyO The same site links to a video and Supporting Document in which I explain some of the issues relating to the Plan. Finally, please give us your feedback on the Plan via the same website.

Welcome for Mandarin teachers



Twenty-two Mandarin Language Assistants (MLAs) from China were welcomed to New Zealand at a special ceremony held at the University's Confucius Institute on 28 February.

The NZ-China Free Trade Agreement provides for up to 150 Mandarin Language Assistants to temporarily work in NZ at any one time and the

NZ and Chinese Education Ministries have agreed on the placement of 22 Mandarin Language Assistants in New Zealand schools for the 2012 academic year.

On behalf of the International Division of the Ministry of Education, the Confucius Institute selects suitable candidates from the large

number who apply, provides an orientation programme for the successful MLAs, and monitors progress during the school year.

"Meeting the needs of the rapidly growing numbers of schools teaching Chinese language is exciting for the Institute".

Lecture launching centre

Professor Andrew Ashworth from Oxford University will be delivering a public lecture "Human rights, judges and politicians: Recent controversies in the UK and Europe" (Thursday 29 March, 6pm, Old Government House Lecture Theatre).

His lecture will mark the launch of the New Zealand Centre for Human Rights Law, Policy and Practice at The University of Auckland Law School. RSVP to lawevents@auckland.ac.nz

'Oracle' celebrates 40 years



Lyn Clark, the Research Office's office manager and chief technical adviser, has just celebrated 40 years working at the University in a diversity of roles.

"Lyn is one of those people who are often described in organisations as a 'national treasure' and in fact one of Lyn's nicknames is 'The Oracle' - because she knows everything and everyone about the University," says Director of the Research Office, John Smart.

Lyn was studying towards a New Zealand Certificate in Science at ATI (now AUT) when on 1 February 1972 she was employed at the University as a technician in the Chemistry Department with responsibility for the Physico-Chemistry laboratory. Over the next 18 years she advanced to Senior Technician, and then as the Physico-Chemistry Lab manager was "basically running the place". She also got

involved in staff research projects during the summer breaks and as a result developed an interest in radiochemistry completing a stage three chemistry paper in 1982.

Contemplating possible career moves she decided she didn't want to follow the common path for technicians into a technical sales role but rather stay in the University and move into a more senior role. She applied for a role in the Faculty of Medicine (now FMHS) and asked a colleague in the Finance Registry to act as her referee.

"My application was unsuccessful," she recalls "but my referee later approached me asking if I'd ever considered accounting as a career." She hadn't but she applied and was accepted for the position of Senior Administrative Assistant, Research and Supply in the Finance Registry in October 1989.

This was the beginning of her career in the Research Office. Her new role involved dealing with the finance side of research grant applications, mainly health research-related. In October 1992 her boss resigned, so she applied for the role, and in February 1993 she became the Assistant Registrar, Research and Supply. Her additional responsibilities included purchasing, the Library photocopy card system, the ID Card Centre, the University Stationery Store, and the University's Human Subjects Ethics Committee in addition to research funding.

In 1996 with the help of a University of Auckland Staff Development Scholarship Lyn studied for her Diploma in Management while continuing full time work. "It was a challenging

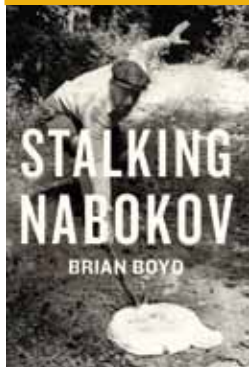
but hugely satisfying year because it gave me the opportunity to study in the Business School with peers from a diverse range of occupations both in private and public sector organisations. It also included completing a project in which I was able to analyse research administration processes and develop a business plan for the new Research Office."

From 1997 the University's new senior management structure came into being and the Research Office became independent of the Finance Registry reporting to the new Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) (DVC(R)). Lyn has since reported to four DVC(R)s and has been a central figure in the Research Office throughout its relatively short history.

"Lyn delivers huge value to the Research Office and the University every day" says John Smart. "She works as long and "hard as anyone, she handles all the curly questions and requests for information or solutions about research policy and management practice, and she does it in a style that is constructive and helpful and is accompanied by a smile. As director you couldn't dream of a better 2IC - Lyn has another nickname in the Research Office. It was necessary when we got a new Lyn in the office and staff had to come up with a way of separating the two. When Lyn heard of the new nickname, "Grey Lynn", she laughed and took it in her stride.

"I often hear Lyn described as a role model for young women. Again that doesn't go far enough - she is a role model for women and men, young and old."

Nabokov works attract international praise



Two of Distinguished Professor Brian Boyd's books published at the end of 2011 have already earned high international acclaim.

Brian (Department of English) chose 26 essays from his over 250 Nabokov publications, translated into a dozen languages, for his *Stalking Nabokov: Selected Essays* (Columbia University Press, 2011).

Susan Elizabeth Sweeney, president of the International Nabokov Society, writes that *Stalking Nabokov* "tells a fascinating story of

continual intellectual rediscovery and of Boyd's own development as reader, student, literary sleuth, biographer, critic, colleague, collaborator, mentor, and best of all, rereader." Reviewing the book in the *San Francisco Chronicle* leading Nabokov scholar, Eric Naiman, singles out what he finds "absolutely fascinating . . . uniquely compelling. . . . Boyd at his best".

Martin Amis, regarded by many as the foremost British novelist, and a long-standing admirer of Nabokov, devoted the three-page lead review in the end-of-year issue of the *Times Literary Supplement* to *Stalking Nabokov* and to *Pale Fire: A Poem in Four Cantos* by John Shade, which Brian edited (Ginkgo Press, 2011). Amis writes: "Boyd attempts something fairly ambitious: he takes the titanic Nabokov and seeks to revise him upwards," to show Nabokov not only as one of the great novelists but an important poet, first-rate scientist, and a penetrating psychologist.

Nabokov's *Pale Fire* (1962) has been selected

a number of times as the greatest novel of the twentieth century. It consists of a 999-line poem, "Pale Fire," by the invented academic poet John Shade, and a line-by-line commentary to the poem by his small-academic-town neighbour, Charles Kinbote, a paranoid megalomaniac. Like others, Brian Boyd thinks the poem extraordinary in its own right, and *Pale Fire: A Poem* is designed to place it centre stage, without the distraction of Kinbote's crazy commentary.

Amis writes that Brian's "long and fervent essay in *Stalking Nabokov*, and Boyd's new edition of an unencumbered 'Pale Fire', compel us to reexamine the poem as an autonomous whole. And the exercise is epiphanic. 'Pale Fire' glows with fresh pathos and vibrancy - and so does *Pale Fire*. For the first time we see the poem in all its innocence, and register the vandalism of Kinbote's desperate travesty. . . . at last the true dimensions of *Pale Fire* are more clearly revealed to us."

Pale Fire: A Poem in Four Cantos by John

Shade was named a 2011 Book of the Year in the influential on-line magazine *Slate*.

Brian will read from and talk about *Stalking Nabokov* at the Auckland City Library as part of New Zealand Book Month, on 28 March, at

6pm. He will also talk about his literature and evolution books, *On the Origin of Stories* (2009) and *Why Lyrics Last* (2012), at the University of Auckland-sponsored Auckland Writers and Readers Festival in May.

New associate professors

The University has 23 new associate professors as a result of academic promotions announced at the end of last year. In the following issues of the *Uninews* we will profile their interests and accomplishments

Geologist

Associate Professor Jeffrey L Mauk (School of Environment, Geology) teaches in Geology, with an emphasis on Earth resources. He holds a Distinguished Teaching Award from The University of Auckland.



Jeff earned his BSc from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, an MSc from the University of Montana in Missoula, and a PhD from the University of Michigan. By the time he had completed his PhD, he had also gained seven years of industry experience as an exploration and mine geologist in the USA.

Jeff's research focuses on how large volumes of high-temperature fluids migrating through the Earth's crust can lead to the formation of economic mineral deposits. This work is collaborative with a number of other academic staff and post-graduate students. Together they work on diverse topics, and apply tools and techniques from a wide range of earth science disciplines, including mineralogy, petrology, geochemistry, environmental science, structural geology, and geophysics. Many of these topics are multidisciplinary, and they have ongoing collaborative projects with GNS Science and the University of Waikato in New Zealand, the Geological Survey of Japan, the University of Michigan, and the University of Arizona.

Jeff has also led research on New Zealand terroir, which studies how relationships between soils and geology can influence grape vine and berry growth that in turn can impact wine properties.

Jeff leads the Mineral Deposit Research Group at The University of Auckland, and he is currently the regional vice president, Australasia for the Society of Economic Geologists, and an associate editor for *Ore Geology Reviews*.

US historian

A commitment to citizenship characterises Jennifer Frost's career as a historian of the 20th century United States. A native Californian, Jennifer received her PhD in United States women's history at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and her first academic job was in Colorado. Taking up a position at The University of Auckland in 2003 allowed both she and her husband to pursue their academic careers and raise their two young children in New Zealand.

Jennifer's research has focused on historical questions related to US politics, Left and Right, particularly constructions and contestations over citizenship. Her first book, *An Interracial Movement of the Poor: Community Organizing and the New Left in the 1960s* (2001), showed how encounters among New Left organisers and community residents led to expanded definitions of politics, social movements, and citizenship. Her recent book, *Hedda Hopper's Hollywood: Celebrity Gossip and American Conservatism* (2011), argues that Hollywood gossip – usually dismissed as trivial talk – was participatory, political, and partisan, providing an important arena for conservative women's citizenship.



Educating and encouraging students in citizenship ideals and practices has been a primary motivation and aim for Jennifer's teaching and she is dedicated to building a strong programme in United States history at the University. Through this programme, students can develop a broad knowledge and deep understanding of America's past and how that past shapes the present. She hopes that what they gain enables them to participate more fully and knowledgeably in politics and society in New Zealand and the world. Jennifer also has been dedicated to enacting academic citizenship through her service contributions as Undergraduate Adviser, Postgraduate Adviser, and Deputy Head of Department for History.

Research news

Health Research Council - Community-Based Primary Healthcare Research Partnerships with Canada

The RfP has been released and is available on www.hrc.govt.nz. Researchers are required to partner with a Canadian team. New Zealand applicants must complete a Registration of Intent (RoI) in the HRC portal by 5pm, Tuesday 1 May. Research Office contact: Dr Hilary Lapsley, HRC Fund Specialist, ext 83562, h.lapsley@auckland.ac.nz

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation - Saving Lives at Birth: A Grand Challenge for Development

Fund transformational approaches for sustainable, low-cost and scalable solutions to problems during pregnancy and after labour in poor, hard-to-reach communities. Seed funding to demonstrate proof of concept (US\$250,000) or transition funds (up to US\$2m). Solutions are sought in science and technology; service delivery and demand-side innovation. Deadline at Research Office is 26 March, contact David Saunders, International Fund Specialist, ext. 84886, d.saunders@auckland.ac.nz. See www.savinglivesatbirth.net

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation - Grand Challenges Explorations Round 9

Funds up to US\$ 100,000 for innovative projects for low-cost solutions to health problems in developing countries. Emphasis is on the idea as opposed to track record. Topics include malaria, immunisation systems, biotic stresses, HIV, tuberculosis, pneumonia, enteric disease and diarrhoea, polio, maternal and neonatal health, and/or family planning. Two page letter of intent due at Research Office 8 May, contact David Saunders, International Fund Specialist, ext 84886, d.saunders@auckland.ac.nz. See www.grandchallenges.org

US Department of Defence - Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programme 2012

Research topics including breast cancer, drug abuse, food allergies, tuberculosis, inflammatory bowel disease, nanomedicine for drug delivery, neuroblastoma and osteoporosis. Research should be directly relevant to the health care needs of military service members, veterans, and/or beneficiaries. Foreign institutions are eligible where they can present special research opportunities not available in the US. Application is by short pre-application with deadlines ranging from 5-17 April, contact David Saunders, International Fund Specialist, ext 84886, d.saunders@auckland.ac.nz. See <http://cdmrp.army.mil/funding/>



To signal recovery from the Great Depression, Wellington Harbour Board decided to commission three Canterbury-born artists to make paintings of the harbour in 1935. While Archibald Nicoll, and Nugent Welch (a former clerk in the Harbour Board offices) both painted distant views from the Wellington hills, newly repatriated post-impressionist Sydney Thompson zeroed in on activities on the wharves themselves.

This work is a quarter-size preparatory sketch for Shipping Wellington Harbour in the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa. It is likely that the University's painting (which was bought from the artist's daughter in 1980) and a second sketch, Queen's Wharf, Wellington in the Auckland Art Gallery, were painted in front of the subject. Not exactly "en plein air" though – Thompson's viewpoint is from the shelter of the second floor of the Harbour Board's offices in Jervois Quay. Using the painted sketches as a guide, the much larger final work was completed in the artist's studio at 97 Cambridge Terrace in Christchurch, and shown at art society annual exhibitions in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch. Strangely, the northerly viewpoint of Te Papa's work shows steamers at berth and

vehicles on the wharf, while this south-easterly view is devoid of any shipping activity. The top of Mount Victoria is hidden in cloud across the expanse of turquoise harbour, with the ridge sloping down to Point Jerningham at the end of Oriental Bay partly obscured by the point of the gable in the middle ground. Rich with sunset colours, the harbour is still and reflective, with clouds, water and structures dappled in sunshine like the Mediterranean.

Just as Monet had his haystacks, Thompson seems to have approached his Harbour Board assignment as an exercise in studying the fall of light and colour on the same subject at particular moments. In this work it seems to be day's end, with just one lonely horse and dray visible, parked parallel to the long low form of the red brick shed in the foreground. Built by the Wellington Provincial Council in 1862 out of hardwood timber beams and with a concrete deck, the double T-shaped structure of Queen's Wharf extended 167 metres from land that had been reclaimed in 1857-62, and was originally named Deep Water Wharf. Home to the Union Steam Ship Company, in 1913 it had been the site for mass rallies by the Waterside Workers' Union during a month-long strike in support of shipwrights denied paid travelling time to the patent slip. Thompson makes his focus not the port's labour, but its architecture. He picks out the pyramidal form of the new hydraulic crane bristling with booms at the centre of the work in blue, with the older gantry crane prominent in pink alongside at the seaward end of the wharf. The No.1 of the work's title is the two-storeyed shed angled along the length of the wharf and slightly off centre. Now home to the capital's indoor netball team, this was the first bond store built for Lambton Harbour, and had considerable allure. Storing valuable imported goods until

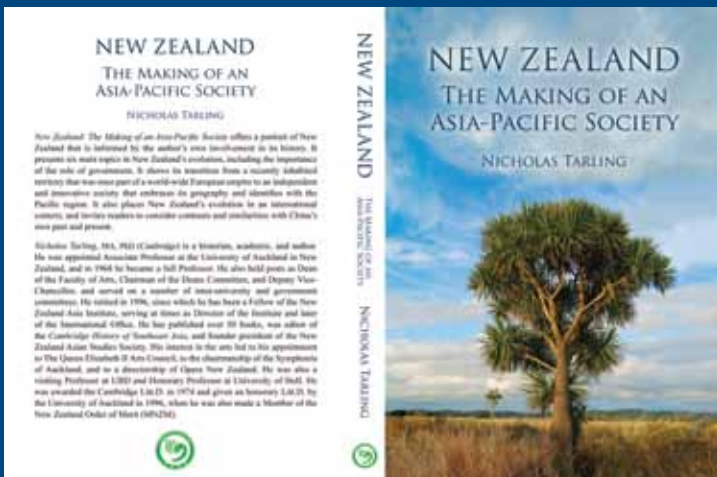
customs were paid, its high windows were calculated to make it impregnable, but it was twice breached by being drilled into from below.

From 1925 until 1933, Sydney Lough Thompson divided his time between the artists' colony of Concarneau in Brittany and Grasse in Provence where he lived with his family. Fascinated by the old world, picturesque Breton lifestyle, Thompson found considerable success in Paris with their views of the markets and harbours of Brittany, and exhibited at the Salon. Faced with the worldwide economic depression, though, he returned with his family to the safer harbour of Christchurch, where he was soon elected Vice President of the New Zealand Society of Arts and President of the Canterbury Society of Arts. Hugely admired for his broad, sweeping brushstrokes and bold use of colour, he brought Post-Impressionist techniques directly from their source onto the walls of New Zealand art society exhibitions. Once the Labour Government was elected in 1935, he was chosen as a member of the committee of management for the new National Art Gallery, which was presented with his painting of Shipping, Wellington Harbour for its foundation collection in 1936. A commission by the Lyttelton Harbour Board immediately followed. He received an OBE for his services to art in 1937 and lived for a further 35 years, still painting at 90 years of age when he finally died in Concarneau.

Linda Tyler

Sydney Lough Thompson (1877-1972), Wellington Harbour, No.1 1936 oil on board 380 x 450mm

Books



New Zealand: The Making of an Asia-Pacific Society by Emeritus Professor of History Nicholas Tarling offers a portrait that is informed by the author's own involvement in its history. It presents six main topics in New Zealand's evolution including the importance of the role of Government. It shows its transition from a recently inhabited territory that was once part of a worldwide European empire to an independent and innovative society that embraces its geography and identifies with the Pacific region. It also places New Zealand's evolution in an international context and invites readers to consider contrasts and similarities with China's own past and present.

What's on

THURSDAY 15 MARCH

Department of History seminar

John Stewart, Professor of Health History, Glasgow Caledonian University: *The dangerous age of childhood: Child psychiatry and the normal child in the mid-twentieth century*. 6pm Lecture Theatre 401-439, Faculty of Engineering, 20 Symonds St.

SATURDAY 17 MARCH

Exhibition talk

1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Sculptor John Edgar gives a gallery talk about his *Ballast* project. Queries to gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz Visit www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

MONDAY 19 MARCH

School of Theology guest lecture

Professor Ulrich Gähler: John Calvin: *The making of a reformer*. 3pm Patrick Hanan Room 501, Arts 2.

Faculty of Law public lecture

Prof Paul Marcus, Haynes Professor of Law, College of William and Mary: *GPS surveillance and consent searches in NZ and the US*. 6pm Northey Lecture Theatre, Level 2, Bldg 801, Faculty of Law, 9 Eden Cres. Queries to s.optican@auckland.ac.nz

TUESDAY 20 MARCH

Communique 2012

Philip Clarke: *Objectspace*. 12noon-1pm Conference Centre Lecture Theatre, Building 423, 22 Symonds St.

Free. Queries to n.guy@auckland.ac.nz

Bioengineering research seminar

Prof Michael Sacks, PhD, Director, Cardiovascular Biomechanics Laboratory, JA Swanson Endowed Chair in Bioengineering, University of Pittsburgh: *The biomechanics of native and engineered valvular tissues*. 4-5pm Ground Floor Seminar Rm G010, UniServices House, 70 Symonds St.

Department of Anthropology lecture

Prof Agustín Fuentes, Professor of Anthropology, University of Notre Dame: *Race, monogamy and other lies they told you: Busting myths about human nature*. 6pm Lecture Theatre B10.

WEDNESDAY 21 MARCH

Department of Computer Science

Dr Alan Blackwell, University of Cambridge: *Rethinking the user experience of creative programming*. 12noon-1pm Room 303.561, City Campus.

Queries to Dr Alan Blackwell, email afb21@cam.ac.uk

Visit www.cl.cam.ac.uk/~afb21/

Applied Language Studies and Linguistics seminar

Chris Golston, California State University, Fresno: *Phonological movement in Greek, Latin, Russian, and Ukrainian*. 12-1pm DALSL Meeting Rm 206-408, Arts 1.

Queries to jason.brown@auckland.ac.nz

THURSDAY 22 MARCH

Fluid City

A free interactive art event presented by a consortium of artists, scientists, educators and environmental researchers designed to entertain while raising awareness of contemporary water issues. Silo Park and the Wynyard Quarter, Auckland waterfront. Performance walk starting times: 12.30pm, 5.30pm.

Installation operation times: 12noon-2pm, 5-7pm.

To coincide with World Water Day.

Also on 25 March. Visit

www.creative.auckland.ac.nz/fluidcity

Battle of the Bands

powered by MusicWorks. 6.30-9pm Shadows. Free for UoA students and staff. Queries or to register your band visit www.auckland.ac.nz/adventure

FRIDAY 23 MARCH

Te Whare Kura: Indigenous Knowledges, Peoples and Identities Thematic Research Initiative Symposium 2012

Indigenising knowledge for current and future generations. Waipapa Marae, 16 Wynyard St. Runs until 24 March. Keynote address: Dr Peter Jacobs: *Ta Sxwexwiy'am: Squamish stories*. An exploration of personal stories and how they relate to the development of a Squamish pedagogy and curriculum. Peer-reviewed presentations:

- Tracey McIntosh and Leon Radojkovic: *Exploring the nature of the intergenerational transfer of inequalities experienced by young Māori people in the criminal justice system*.
 - Vili Nosa, Seini Taufa, Teuila Percival, Malakai Ofanoa, and Yvonne Underhill-Sem: *Alcohol and tobacco use in Niue*.
 - Ngarino Ellis, La'a Tamarua and Chloe Weavers: *Whare for grabs: The sale of whareniui overseas, 1880-1965*.
 - Bill McKay, Fiona Jack and Taarati Taiaroa: *War memorial whareniui and wharekai*.
 - Jeremy Treadwell: *Polynesian tectonics: Rebuilding the 19th century whare Māori*.
- Queries to tewharekura@auckland.ac.nz

SATURDAY 24 MARCH

Te Whare Kura: Indigenous Knowledges, Peoples and Identities Thematic Research Initiative Symposium 2012

Indigenising knowledge for current and future generations. Waipapa Marae.

Peer-reviewed presentations:

- Valmaine Toki: *Te Ao Māori: A constitutional right?*
- Lena Henry: *Mana, Rangatiratanga, Kaitiakitanga and local government*.
- Blue skies versus needs-based research in meeting indigenous communities' aspirations. A panel discussion with some of our most respected senior researchers.

• Presentations on research work-in-progress by/with/for indigenous communities from some of our Te Whare Kura research teams across a range of disciplines.

Queries to tewharekura@auckland.ac.nz

Exhibition talk

1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. *Binds, bleeds and bytes: The future of books*.

In response to the exhibition *Paperjams*, Auckland University Press Director, Sam Elworthy, discusses the implications and opportunities of the digital era for publishers. Visit www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

SUNDAY 25 MARCH

Fluid City

Silo Park and the Wynyard Quarter, Auckland waterfront.

Performance walk starting times:

10.30am, 3.30pm.

Installation operation times: 10am-

12noon, 3-5pm.

Visit

www.creative.auckland.ac.nz/fluidcity

The Great Waka Ama Race and Beach Party

11am.

An epic Waka Ama Race out in the beautiful Waitemata Harbour. Teams will row from Okahu Bay to Devonport. Beach Party is at Balmain Park, Cheltenham Beach, Devonport.

There will be a free BBQ, music, and entertainment for spectators. Free shuttle buses will be running to the finish line beach party from the City Campus, and there will be a cash prize for the best dressed support group! Visit www.auckland.ac.nz/adventure

TUESDAY 27 MARCH

Communique 2012

Lyonel Grant: *Te Noho Kotahitanga tradition and innovation*. 12-1pm

Conference Centre Lecture Theatre, Bldg 423, 22 Symonds St.

Queries to n.guy@auckland.ac.nz

Bioengineering research seminar

Dr Vijayaraghavan Rajagopal, ABI: *The heart under the mathematical microscope*. 4-5pm Ground Floor Seminar Rm G010, UniServices House, 70 Symonds St.

WEDNESDAY 28 MARCH

Dept of Applied Language Studies and Linguistics seminar

Peter Jacobs, Squamish Nation: *Control in the Squamish curriculum: Turning research into curriculum*. 12-1pm DALSL Meeting Rm 206-408, Arts 1.

Queries to jason.brown@auckland.ac.nz

Liggins Institute academic seminar

Prof Peter Shepherd, UoA: *Novel pathways by which nutrients can regulate signalling pathways*. 4-5pm Liggins Institute Seminar Room, Level 1, 2-6 Park Ave, Grafton.

Queries to dx.liu@auckland.ac.nz or m.debock@auckland.ac.nz

Communique 2012

Susanne Hofmann: *The Baupiloten*. 6-7pm Engineering Lecture Theatre 439, Building 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 Andrew or Mandy on 09 303 0601 at City Sales or rentals@citysales.co.nz or log on to www.citysales.co.nz/rentals

Birkenhead: Four-bdrm house for rent. July 2012 to Jan 2013. Cedar

home amidst kauri trees, quiet and private. Furnished, wifi. Would suit visiting researcher/family. Easy access to schools, library, beaches, bus lines, and ferry to CBD. Rent negotiable. Contact lisa.samuels@gmail.com

Fully furnished three-bdrm/two-bthrm house near Mt Eden Village and The University of Auckland Epsom Campus. On bus routes to University of Auckland City Campus. Available July to December 2012. \$600 per week negotiable. Contact rob.marg@xtra.co.nz or ph (09) 630 0360.

We are going overseas for 6 months from mid-April to the end of September. We have to rent a quiet, well-furnished apartment (on the Grey Lynn edge of the city). Spacious living room/kitchen, one bdrm and bthrm and sheltered terrace. Secure parking for two cars. Walking distance to hospitals and universities. \$375 pw. Email info@casamila.it

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

Charming, sunny, fully furnished Waiheke cottage, walking distance to beaches and near bus stop. Suit couple or family of up to 4. \$95 a night (minimum two nights). BYO bed linen and towels. Photos and further details on request. Contact pat.neuwelt@xtra.co.nz or phone (09) 849 4457 or (021) 136 1759.

Dreaming of Italy. Stay at 'Casa Mila' while exploring Tuscany and Umbria. Casa Mila has two self-catering apartments and B&B with delightful garden in the heart of this renaissance walled town. Easy access to the historic towns of central Italy by train, car and bus. Enjoy the food, wine and art - the essence of Italy. Contact Val and Colin Stevens, www.casamila.it or info@casamila.it or phone/fax: Italy (39)+0575 733 477.

South of France: Between Provence and the Cevennes. Ancient chateau offers B&B in historic area - wonderfully varied - vibrant markets, pretty villages, great walking and canoeing. Reasonable rates. Contact jmgee1@gmail.com

PROPERTY FOR SALE

CBD studio apartment, spacious 38m², sunny and quiet, in character 'Brooklyn', Emily Place, three minutes walk to University. \$250,000. Resident carpark available on street \$150pa. Please phone Shirley on (021) 674 946 to view.

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 www.rainey.co.nz

Editing and proofreading services for all academic, literary and general writing (short or lengthy items). Please contact Dr Jan White, (021) 025 87579 or email jweditingservices1@gmail.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 or 940 0064 (wk) or (021) 188 7781.



PRIVATE VERSUS PUBLIC HEALTH INSURANCE

The Health Funds Association is the industry body representing New Zealand Health insurers and so it is not surprising that its CEO (and recent ACT Party research director), Roger Styles, argues that more people must get private health insurance (*New Zealand Herald*, 23 February). Only by doing so, he argues, will we be able to provide access to “big ticket” health care needs without rationing or requiring patients to make contributions beyond the resources of many.

But while compulsory health insurance might benefit the insurance industry, it’s not clear it’s good for the rest of us. Increased access to private health care does not reduce the need to fund an extensive parallel public system that must maintain capacity to provide basic care and unprofitable and emergency treatment private providers don’t want to touch. New Zealand’s private system does not offer expensive treatment such as transplant surgery, intensive care, specialist surgery, dialysis, radiotherapy, and the like. Not uncommonly patients who begin treatment in the private system transfer to public hospitals when their health deteriorates or the treatment they require becomes more complex. Nor does the private system offer 24-hour emergency or trauma care. Private providers organise staff and workloads on scheduled routine work that involves

predictable demands from fairly healthy patients. Even given an increase in private insurance, then, we will have to maintain a public system with capacity to deal with everyone who does not fall into that category.

Furthermore, private providers do not simply take patients from the public system. They also compete for health care resources (most obviously health care professionals) leaving the public system with fewer resources to meet obligations that, unlike its private counterpart, it cannot send away. As a result, private health systems that run alongside public systems normally increase rather than decrease waiting lists.

Mr Styles also fails to mention how important compulsory insurance is for his own industry. One might have expected an erstwhile ACT Party research adviser to favour a market solution, leaving people to choose to insure or not. But the health insurance industry faces the “adverse selection” problem. The young and fit, who would pay premiums and claim in low numbers, tend not to insure, so the old, unhealthy, and expensive are disproportionality represented among health insurance clients. It’s tough in the unregulated health insurance business; like being a car insurer who cannot bank the premiums of the careful drivers to pay for the yobboes. Adverse selection makes it hard to get by in the health insurance industry without

a bit of compulsion, and led to spiralling premiums and the near collapse of the industry in Australia in the 1990s.

And that’s another reason that increased private health care does not reduce the need to fund the public system. Governments can’t let the public system wither as they hand responsibility to private industry because they have to pick up the pieces when private providers decide that this or that area is no longer profitable.

Associate Professor Tim Dare is head of the Department of Philosophy, Chair of the Health Research Council Ethics Committee and a member of the Clinical Ethics Committees of the Auckland and Waitemata District Health Boards. He writes on the philosophy of law, and medical and legal ethics.