



FIRST EVER FUDAN DAY

“When you make human contacts that’s when everything flourishes.”

That was the message from Professor Jan Crosthwaite, Dean of Arts, as she addressed a group of people at the Maidment Theatre on 9 May, who had travelled from China and other parts of the world for just the purpose she was talking about: to make human contacts and to keep the relationship flourishing between two universities with a history of cooperation and much in common, The University of Auckland and Fudan University in Shanghai.

Staff of The University of Auckland, including the Dean of Graduate Studies, Associate Professor Caroline Daley, David Baker, Director of the International Office, Dr Matthew O’Meagher, Deputy Director of International Relations and Nora Yao, Director of Auckland’s Confucius Institute, welcomed the delegation from Fudan University, led by Professor Shen Xiaoxiao of the University’s International Cultural Exchange Group and comprising directors and deputy directors of Fudan’s Foreign

Affairs Office, Information Office and Undergraduate Programmes.

A highlight of the welcome was a performance by five talented young musicians, all students of Fudan University, who introduced themselves – and their traditional Chinese instruments – before giving those present a rare opportunity to hear music of this kind played live in Auckland.

This visit was unique for two reasons. One was that it marked the first-ever Fudan day, held in the student quad during the afternoon and featuring the presentation of information about the courses and programmes offered at Fudan University, and about scholarships that make it possible for Auckland students to study there.

It also marked the first-ever gathering of the deputy directors of all seven Confucius Institutes associated with Fudan University. Dr Meng Jinrong, deputy director of our own Confucius Institute in Auckland, was joined by five of her counterparts: one from Sydney, two from Britain and two from Germany. The only one unable to

come was from Stockholm in Sweden. The deputy directors are on the staff of Fudan University and are usually based in Shanghai, but undertake to spend periods, usually of two or three years, as deputy directors of Confucius Institutes that are partnered with Fudan. There is a total of nearly 400 Confucius Institutes around the world, all in partnership with universities in China.

From Auckland, the deputy directors were headed for the University of Otago, where the Confucius Institute at Auckland has established an outreach office.

Also on the programme for the afternoon was a lecture by Yu Hai, professor of sociology from Fudan University, entitled Shanghai in multiple perspectives.

Caption: Talented young musicians entertain the guests in the foyer of the Maidment Theatre. We Yuexin (left) plays the Yangqin or Chinese dulcimer while Shen Ye plays the pipa.

Snapshot of travel



Photo Chris Marshall

A transport survey has provided valuable insights into the travel habits of students and staff at the University.

The Campus Transport Survey team, led by PhD candidate Alfian Syman (Architecture and Planning), interviewed a random sample of 580 students and staff about their actions and perceptions of transport to and from University and outside of their study and work hours. The interviews were conducted in late 2011.

Of the 580 people surveyed 72 percent of the students travel to university using public

transportation, walking or cycling. By comparison, 47 percent of the staff use the same modes of transport.

Of staff surveyed 41 percent drive to work and most commonly spend between \$50 and \$80 per week on travel-related costs. Only 13 percent of students surveyed drive to the University, most commonly spending between \$10 and \$30 on travel-related costs.

Findings from the survey should provide valuable information for those responsible for implementing the Universities' Travel Plan – a collaboration between the University, Auckland University of Technology (AUT), Auckland City Council, Auckland Regional Transport Authority and Transit New Zealand – which covers access to the “learning quarter” of Auckland CBD. While surveys have been conducted before, the focus and objectives have been too specific to be comparable with one another.

“A number of surveys have sought to provide information on travel to and from the University, but they have tended to focus on parts of the picture, such as parking, or segments of the University community. Their results have therefore had limited value as baselines against which to measure change in travel patterns and perceptions amongst our staff and students,” says Lesley Stone, Manager for the University's Sustainability and Environment programme. The project was funded by Property Services “Living Laboratory” programme – an initiative which pairs senior students with academic staff members to work on projects that help address operational issues within the University.

Professor Dory Reeves, who supervised the project, with Dr Asif Khan (Architecture and Planning) saw it as “an excellent example of a win-win ‘living laboratory’ project – Property Services have gained valuable information for transport planning activities and a senior student has benefited from support for his research.”

Caption: Alfian Syman (right) with Dory Reeves.

An oral history of nursing



What was it like to train as a nurse in post-World War II New Zealand?

A two-year research project led by Professor Linda Bryder (History) is to give insight into this fascinating era in New Zealand's health history.

The Nursing Education and Research Foundation (NERF) nursing oral history project aims to record the experiences and stories of older nurses who completed their basic training in the 1950s and 1960s.

Linda, with Professor Margaret Horsburgh and Dr Kate Prebble from the School of Nursing and independent historian Dr Debbie Dunsford, will carry out the project, which is being managed through UniServices.

“These were decades of significant changes within the nursing profession and medicine, as well as within New Zealand society,” Linda says.

“During these decades nursing was overwhelmingly an occupation of women, and nurses' experiences reflect many of the changes that occurred for women in the post-World War II era.”

They anticipate interviewing 60 nurses covering a broad range of profiles with an ethnic and geographical spread, including hospital and community nurses, junior and senior (staff nurses and matrons), leaders and educators as well as those who left straight after training.

Immediately following the war, nursing services in New Zealand were beset by serious manpower problems. There were many work

opportunities for women other than nursing. Additionally, there was a high marriage rate and women who had worked during the war returned to family life. There were serious shortages of candidates for schools of nursing. Demands for public health, Plunket, district and industrial nursing services added to difficulties in providing nursing services to hospitals.

The interviews will provide an important understanding of an aspect of New Zealand society during these decades and will be a future resource for researchers into history, health and nursing, as well as for the general public. The group will develop a website to display the results.

Caption: Investigators and oral historians on the project: front row, Dr Debbie Dunsford, Professor Linda Bryder, Dr Kate Prebble (School of Nursing); behind Debbie (on left) Associate Professor Margaret Horsburgh (School of Nursing). Back row: Members of the Oral History Advisory Committee: Yvonne Shadbolt, Dr Jill Clendon (Nursing Policy Advisor, New Zealand Nurses Organisation), Liz Mitchelson.

Inaugural Jazz Scholarship

A new Music Works Scholarship is the first award earmarked specifically for a jazz scholar at the School of Music.

The annual scholarship initiated by Darren Smith from Music Works aims to create

opportunities for and assist young jazz musicians. The scholarship consists of a \$3000 cash prize plus a \$1000 instrument voucher and an offer of employment at Music Works.

The award will be given to a first-year jazz

major with the highest mark in their live performance audition. Jazz piano major Guy Harrison is the inaugural recipient.

Don Binney at Old Government House



A wonderful exhibition now on at Old Government House (until 30 July) gives a rare opportunity to see all the works of iconic New Zealand artist Don Binney that are held in The University's Art Collection.

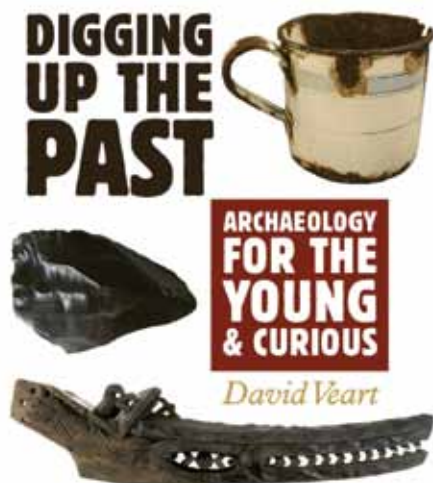
An alumnus of Auckland and a former senior lecturer and HOD at Elam School of Fine Arts, Don Binney, who spoke at the opening of the show on 21 May, still retains a strong presence at the University through his work, including *Arts-Commerce Kaka*, commissioned by Pat Hanly for the Arts 1 Building, and created specifically for the space.

Among familiar works in the exhibition are *Requiem Te Henga*, Oil on canvas 1965-66 – on long-term loan from the artist in the Senior Common Room Collection - and *In the Lee of a Looted Island*, oil on board, 1966) – depicting a bottle-nose dolphin in front of Bon Accord Harbour, Kawau Island, purchased in 1966 for The University of Auckland Art Collection.

The exhibition also includes a portrait of Don Binney by Garth Tapper (1927-1999) who was an alumnus and later a lecturer at Elam School of Fine Arts.

Arts Commerce Kaka, Acrylic on board, 1984. The University of Auckland Art Collection.

Archaeological adventures



Auckland University Press book *Digging Up the Past: Archaeology for the Young and Curious* by University of Auckland alumnus David Veart has won an Honour Award in the non-fiction category of the 2012 NZ Post Children's Book Awards.

The Judges wrote: "Dave Veart has a particularly warm and engaging author's voice

and he doesn't take himself too seriously, cheerfully describing his own footsteps down empty tunnels. He likes his readers and he wants them to grab a shovel and join him on an archaeological adventure that could start in the dustbin outside the reader's back door. . . . the publisher has produced a handsome hardback with high production values."

AUP Director Sam Elworthy, who attended the awards, said he was "enormously proud to have worked with David Veart on *Digging Up the Past*. David is one of New Zealand's great storytellers – an author who can engage readers young and old with his humour, his deep knowledge, and his passion for the past.

"*Digging Up the Past* has already got heaps of kids out in the back yard hunting for old bottles and ancient moa bones, and it has engaged those young people with great New Zealand writing. We couldn't ask for more."

Each Honour Award recipient received \$500. Honour Awards are discretionary and are awarded in recognition of particular features in a book.



The National-led coalition government's fourth budget has considerable implications for The University of Auckland and the university sector.

The budget reflects the government's intention to move funding from student support to institutional funding and to recognise the personal benefits of higher education, especially in postgraduate study. This sees changes in the loans and allowances system that will focus on low income families and over time allow for greater investment in some areas, notably those related to applied research, science and engineering.

An 8.8 percent increase in the tuition subsidy for engineering courses and a 2 percent increase for science courses (\$59 million over four years) is welcome, but has to be balanced against no adjustment for inflation in other disciplines (which were previously adjusted at around 2 percent per annum). Alongside a maximum increase in tuition fees of 4 percent, the funding for the majority of our courses will decrease in real terms.

The removal of funding for Adult and Community Education in universities from 2013 was anticipated and was one of the reasons behind the recent changes in continuing education provision across the University.

The announcement that student allowances will be limited to undergraduate study (including honours degrees) has major implications for the University and our planned increase in the graduate school. It is likely to make postgraduate education less attractive financially at the time when the country needs very well educated people.

An increase in the Performance Based Research Fund by \$100 million over four years is welcomed although only a \$6 million increase is included this year. Some \$14.5 million has been provided for National Science Challenges – to find innovative solutions to fundamental issues facing New Zealand. We hope that the capabilities of our researchers are recognised in deciding the allocation of this funding. This is set against no increase in funding for the Health Research Council or Marsden funds.

Overall there may be some beneficial effects of this budget, but it certainly will not address in any significant way the very low level of both public and private investment that New Zealand makes in its universities relative to overseas institutions that are increasingly seeking to attract our brightest young minds.

Excellence in teaching



From left are Dr Guy Warman, Associate Professor Jenny Weller, Dianne Marshall, Associate Professor Janie Sheridan, Dr James Cheeseman and Associate Professor Papaarangi Reid. (Not present was Professor Alan Merry.) They were joint recipients of a Teaching Excellence Award.

Autumn Graduation gives many reasons to celebrate. One is the presentation of the University's Teaching Excellence Awards. On these pages are excerpts from the citations for the 2011 award winners.

Innovative collaboration

Seven academics from the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences were joint recipients of a Teaching Excellence Award for Collaboration in Teaching.

Kylie-Ellen Edwards spoke of an exceptional Quality and Safety Workshop delivered by the team (pictured above) to third-year medical, nursing and pharmacy students.

"This innovative workshop was introduced in 2004, building on the Root Cause Analysis training programme developed in American Veteran's Health Administration hospitals...At the heart of the workshop students work together in interprofessional groups to analyse anonymised vignettes of adverse events occurring in New Zealand settings, and developing understanding of their causes. For two days we were not separate trainee doctors, nurses or pharmacists, but members of healthcare teams working together to gain knowledge and understanding, and build a safer healthcare system for our future patients...

"During the cleverly constructed workshop my group realised the complexity of the system we were training to work in and became much better acquainted with the causes of human error. We were humbled by the realisation that without good systems these errors could have been made by any one of us."



Associate Professor Jennifer Frost (History)
Sustained Excellence in Teaching

"Her commitment, enthusiasm, and passion for teaching continue to inspire students, past and present," said Sharon Haswell

"Jennifer has a rare ability to engage students in her love of history by sharing an infectious enthusiasm evident in her lecturing style which captivates audiences. She brings history alive by personalising it in a way that is relevant, by demonstrating that events do not just happen, but it is people who make history...

"Like all excellent teachers, Jennifer ensures that her students demonstrate a sound knowledge of theory and methodology. She is clear that history is not only an intellectual exercise of research and writing, but from the past we can derive purpose for the present.

She also has an ability to step into a student's shoes by relating to each process of their development to enable a successful result."



Peter Bier (Engineering Science)
Early Career Excellence in Teaching

"It is with great pleasure," said Un Hee Minett, "that I can convey to you the excellent teaching ability of Peter Bier. His comprehensive teaching style combined with his enthusiasm for the subjects he teaches and willingness to help others learn makes him an excellent lecturer. He is supportive of his students' learning both in and out of lectures and actively pursues ways to make lectures fun and interesting.

"Peter teaches in a way that promotes student engagement by clearly and concisely explaining the relevant theory in a way that is memorable...

"[He] reflects his passion, commitment, enthusiasm and creativity in his teaching. I am very glad that Peter is receiving this extremely well deserved award."



Dr Nicholas Rowe (Dance Studies)
Early Career Excellence in Teaching

"He toa taumata rau. Bravery has many resting places," said Tia Reihana. "An excellent teacher challenges and inspires learning, and this requires a teacher to be brave, to be strong and to have courage for the journey. Dr Nicholas Rowe possesses such bravery..."

"His teaching liberates you. He opens spaces for new ideas, new possibilities and inspires you to want to know more. As teacher and mentor Matua Nicholas Rowe provides space for something else to occur and on many occasions

this attribute in his sharing of knowledge has changed people's lives.

"From the Australian Ballet to the occupied territories of the West Bank to international research networks, Nick's work in traumatised communities, hegemony and postcolonial discourse and dance pedagogy is a continuous source of inspiration and institutional reflection..."

"Thank you Matua for listening; thank you for caring; thank you for not shying away from words that for some are hard to hear; thank you for your generosity, your challenges; and, most importantly thank you for your love of others and the art of teaching."



Dr Pamela Millward (Teaching, Learning and Development)
Sustained Excellence in Teaching

"In my eyes, Dr. Pam's greatest asset is her inherent belief that all students are capable of success and deserve the opportunity and support to achieve this..." said Justine Mary Delpont.

"Dr. Pam's approachable style, empathetic nature, professional manner and effective feedback support a collaborative and inclusive learning community where excellence and diversity in its myriad forms is valued and considered integral to the teaching-learning process. She is able to make learning relevant, authentic and engaging to her students. She does this by taking learning theories and concepts and

connecting these to learners' prior knowledge and experiences by using real case studies, her academic knowledge and personal experiences.

"On a personal note, Dr. Pam has inspired me to reach heights that I had not aspired to or dreamed of before entering tertiary education."



Angela Liew (Accounting and Finance)
Innovation in Teaching

"Angela's enthusiastic, innovative and effective teaching has made a significant contribution to the teaching in the Accounting Information Systems class," said Kenny Chan.

"Angela showed an amazing level of commitment to improving student success in a topic that is usually pretty difficult for students. I was impressed by her enthusiastic approach and the large amount of time she has spent in developing material to enhance learning.

"Angela introduced a comprehensive range of e-learning resources. Her teaching materials are always very clear, relevant and interesting and we all like the pre-recorded computer laboratory workshop exercises with audio-narrated instructions and explanations.

"Angela's innovations have resulted in the class being extremely happy with the course... she has helped students appreciate accounting, and to learn from a different perspective."

Short sharp scripts

The *Ingenio* short story competition for alumni, friends and staff of The University of Auckland gives you a chance to put your creative writing skills to the test, regardless of how much or how little experience you have.

The maximum number of words is 1500 and the closing date is 15 July 2012.

First prize is a personalised two-hour coaching session with author Emily Perkins; \$150 worth of your choice of books from Auckland University Press; a \$250 book voucher from the University Bookshop; a half-case of Goldie Wines valued at \$178; the story published in *Ingenio* magazine (distribution 100,000) and on the *Ingenio* website.

The second prize is \$100 worth of books from Auckland University Press, and publication of the story on the *Ingenio* website

The judges are Professor Brian Boyd (English), Charlotte Grimshaw, and retired Professor Witi Ihimaera.

Please read the terms and conditions at <http://www.ingenio-magazine.com/terms> and send your manuscript with the completed form to alumni@auckland.ac.nz or post your manuscript and completed form to *Ingenio* Short Story Competition, Alumni Relations and Development, Private Bag 92019, Victoria St West, Auckland 1142

University joins MacDiarmid

The University has formally joined the MacDiarmid Institute, a Centre for Research Excellence, internationally recognised as a leading player in materials science and nanotechnology.

Nine MacDiarmid Institute Investigators are already based at The University of Auckland. The new agreement will broaden their access to MacDiarmid Institute resources and pave the way for greater access to MacDiarmid Institute funds including for capital equipment. Research collaborations across the Institute network will benefit from the University's strengths in materials science, engineering and chemistry, and commercialisation

Several Institute events, including international conference, AMN-6, will be held in Auckland next year.

Lottery Health date changes

There have been changes to the schedule for Lottery Health Research grant applications for 2012/13. The next funding round opens on 28 June 2012 for research projects and PhD scholarships in the following categories:

- Research into the causes, prevention and treatment of disorders;
- Research that will lead to advances in health and bio-medical science;
- The development, maintenance and retention of a highly skilled workforce.

Research Office closing date Wednesday 12 September 2012. Contact: lorraine.scott@auckland.ac.nz.

Marsden researchers invited to full application

A record number (63) of University of Auckland researchers are through to the "full proposal" round of the Marsden fund's 2012 application round. Faculty/Large Scale Research Institute (LSIR) research staff and Chris Tews at the Research Office are geared up to offer a full programme of assistance and support before the Research Office application deadline of 20 June.

Future Research Leaders Programme (FRLP)

FRLP is a development programme designed to build research leadership capacity in University environments. This is a unique training opportunity for academics who aspire to take on a research leadership role (project and/or people leadership and management). FRLP has eight independent modules. The coming modules are: Intellectual Property and Commercialisation – 12 June all day. Register through frlp@auckland.ac.nz; Financial Resource and Risk Management – 31 July all morning. Register through frlp@auckland.ac.nz More information, including the 2012 schedule, is available from the staff intranet (intranet > research > strategic development > Future Research Leaders Programme).



The art practice of Peter Smith, an expert sailor, often tackled maritime themes, using a sophisticated arsenal of artistic devices.

In this work, there are three representational systems at work which combine to convey the experience of sailing in the Hauraki Gulf, both literally and metaphorically. Dichotomies are traversed: night cleaves to day, and a journey that was forecast through mathematical calculation is rendered as an indelible real experience, complete with wind, weather and surging tide.

Never one to shy away from new materials, Peter Smith was one of the very first New Zealand artists of the twentieth century to wrest aluminium from its lowly associations with cladding as a building material, or as an expedient tool for plate-making in the etching process. His exploitation of its potential for graphic mark-making in painting is indicative of his ingenuity and inventiveness.

Trained as a primary school teacher at

Auckland Teachers' College, he won, through his creativity, a coveted third year in art, and graduated to become an Art Adviser for the Department of Education in the Auckland region from 1946 to 1953. Completing his Bachelor of Arts with majors in Education and Philosophy part-time while he travelled the region showing school teachers how to bring art alive in schools led to his being

seconded back to Teachers' College to develop a course where fine arts graduates could train to become teachers. By 1980 when this work was made, he had become the most highly respected and influential art educator of his generation in New Zealand. His revolutionising of secondary school art teaching practice was recognised by the award of an OBE for services to art education in 1986.

One of Peter Smith's innovations was to provide teachers with skills in printmaking, including etching. He showed them how aluminium coated with asphaltum (which was resistant to acid) was easy to scratch a drawing into. Submerging the aluminium into ferric chloride until the acid ate away at the metal where there were scratches, then inking the plate and pressing moistened paper onto it, would magically reveal an image. What had been a silver line cut into the darkness of the black, printed as a black line on the dazzling white of the paper.

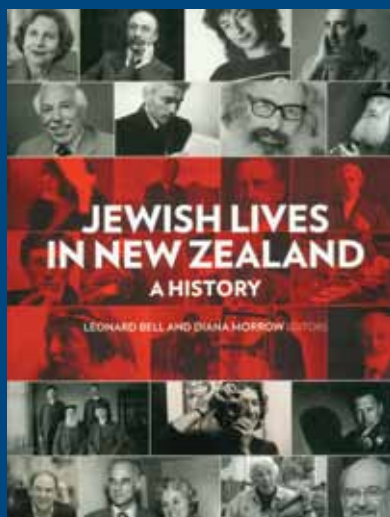
In *Tiritiri Matangi (Transit)*, that miracle of art as transformation of materials is played out through a navigational metaphor. Intersecting white lines that are etched into the black on the left of the composition continue right through the centre of a compass rose, and point to the profile of the island on the horizon. Acting like the pair of dividers that sailors use to measure nautical miles, their pincer movement is the hinge between two systems of representation. One is the planographic map which uses a system of lines to represent contours seen from above (the island is located in the top right of the shaded area) and the other is the side view convention for characteristic coastal profiles from the history of maritime painting. From looking like a tiny flattened platypus in the map, *Tiritiri Matangi* (the name means "tossed by the wind") is transformed in the painting to a place of dark mystery, outlined on the horizon like a surfacing whale.

Smith also combines collage with trompe l'oeil, like the Cubists before him. He labours the physical fact of his art work's flatness, melding the making with the meaning, so that the content of the work, the beauty and majesty of the maritime environment, literally bubbles to the surface. The eye is deceived into reading the torn edges of paper as the foaming crests of waves in the foreground, resulting in a celebration not just of sailing but of painting as an art of representation and illusion.

Caption: Peter Farrar Smith (1925-2012), Tiri Tiri Matangi (Transit) c.1980, aluminium and paper on board 600 x 400mm

Linda Tyler

Books



There has never been an authoritative history of New Zealand's Jewish population, and yet people of Jewish descent have played vital roles in all aspects of our society, throughout the nation's history. Auckland alone has had six Jewish mayors. Jews have been prominent in business, cultural, intellectual, political and medical life and more since the 1980s, and successive waves of immigration have added to the tapestry of New Zealand Jewry.

In this landmark book, published by Random House and edited by Associate Professor Leonard Bell (Art History) with professional historian Diana Morrow, expert writers examine key fields of endeavour in which Jewish New Zealanders have distinguished themselves. They

are fascinating and significant New Zealanders, who have given hugely to our nation.

Says Leonard Bell in his introduction to this beautifully designed and illustrated book, just off the press from Random House, "The practice of Judaism has generally had little visibility in mainstream New Zealand society...Yet, in a wide variety of ways people of Jewish descent have had an impact on New Zealand society and culture out of all proportion to their numbers."

Financial support for the writing and publication of this book was provided by the Gerrard and Marti Friedlander Charitable Trust.

Elam graduate catalogue



The work of emerging artists from Elam School of Fine Arts has been published in a new book.

Elam Graduate Work 2011, a catalogue of Elam's annual end-of-year Graduate Shows, gives a glimpse into the future of arts practice. This is the fifth edition in the series, representing the final submissions of graduating students, and is a must for anyone interested in new work by young contemporary artists.

The beautifully designed publication is a collector's item that presents a refreshing look at the diverse forms employed by graduates from Elam - many of whom go on to enjoy stellar

careers both in New Zealand and overseas.

The publication is available from suppliers of fine art books nationwide or through Elam School of Fine Arts for \$19.95.

Contact:

Echo Janman

Public Programmes Manager |

Elam School of Fine Arts

Phone (09) 373 7599 ext 86623

Email e.janman@auckland.ac.nz

What's on

THURSDAY 31 MAY

Postgraduate Fair

An opportunity to research everything you need to know about postgraduate study at The University of Auckland. www.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/home/pgfair

School of Environment seminar

John Carr, University of New Mexico: *Public input/elite privilege: The use of participatory planning to reinforce urban geographies of power in Seattle*. 12noon-1pm HSB 731. Queries to l.schwendenmann@auckland.ac.nz

Exhibition opening

Line: Breadthless Length 5.30pm George Fraser Gallery, 25a Princes St. Runs until 2 June.

An exploration how artists Ling Wei Chiang, Philip Tse, and Zi Xuan Guo take part in the cultural diversity of NZ. Queries to l.williams@auckland.ac.nz

Visit www.georgefraser.auckland.ac.nz

FRIDAY 1 JUNE

Web 2.0 Tools for Teaching

1-4pm, CAD IT Training Rm 202, 2nd Floor, Fisher Bldg, 18 Waterloo Quadrant.

Designed for staff with teaching responsibilities this workshop provides an overview of the three Web 2.0 technologies (blogs, wikis and social benchmarking tools) and shows you how these tools can be used for educational purposes.

Enrol at www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops or phone CAD reception at ext 88140.

MONDAY 4 JUNE

Queen's Birthday holiday

TUESDAY 5 JUNE

Exhibition opening

John B Turner: *Postcards from China*. 5.30pm projectspace B431, Elam School of Fine Arts, 20 Whitaker Place. Queries to e.janman@auckland.ac.nz

www.projectspaceB431.auckland.ac.nz

Department of Psychology seminar

Prof Jeffrey A. Simpson, Dept of Psychology, University of Minnesota: *Early interpersonal experiences and*

adult romantic relationship functioning. 6pm OGG84, Level 0, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd.

Inaugural lecture

Prof Siah Hwee Ang, Management and International Business: *Strategy and competition: What really matters?* 6-8pm Decima Glenn Rm, Level 3, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd.

WEDNESDAY 6 JUNE

Chemical Sciences Research Showcase

9am-7.30pm Engineering Neon Foyer, 20 Symonds St.

Visit www.chemistry.auckland.ac.nz/events

Australian and NZ Spinal Cord Injury Network seminar

Prof Alan Mackay-Sim and Dr Megan Munsie: *Stem cells: Hope, hype and progress*. 11am-3.30pm Rm 505-011, Boyle Bldg, Grafton Campus.

RSVP to m.powell@auckland.ac.nz

Inaugural lecture

Prof Georgy Gimel'farb, Dept of Computer Science: *Magic and the challenge of computer vision*. 6pm Conference Centre, 22 Symonds St.

THURSDAY 7 JUNE

EUC Network discussion

The Euro and Australia and NZ in the global financial crisis. 12noon-2pm Rm 325, Level 3, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. RSVP by 1 June to d.towle@auckland.ac.nz

Public lecture

Engineering the future: perspectives on energy. 5.30-8.30pm Lecture Theatre 1.439, Bldg 401, Faculty of Engineering, 20 Symonds St. Queries to foe-events@auckland.ac.nz

RSVP to <http://bit.ly/167LZG>

Book launch

Adjunct Professor Mai Chen: *The Public Law Toolbox: The business case for working with government*. 6-8pm OGG85, Level 0, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd.

SATURDAY 9 JUNE

Artists in conversation

1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. A panel discussion on artist run spaces, including Sam Thomas from Snake Pit, Alex Davidson from Window, Henry Babbage from Gloria Knight and

Window, and Nick Spratt from RM. Queries to gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

TUESDAY 12 JUNE

Future Research Leaders Programme

Intellectual Property and Commercialisation module - all day. Level 2, Short St.

Registration to frlp@auckland.ac.nz

Bioengineering research seminar

Dr David Goldstone, Rutherford Discovery Fellow, School of Biological Sciences: *Restriction factors: A cellular defence against retroviral infection*. 4-5pm Ground Floor Seminar Rm G010, UniServices House, 70 Symonds St.

WEDNESDAY 13 JUNE

Dept of Computer Science seminar

G Gimel'farb, P Delmas, and R Nicolescu: $(BP + DP)/2 = CP$: *Discrete global optimisation by concurrent propagation*. 12noon-1pm Rm 303.561, City Campus.

Documenting your research for promotion, continuation and APRs

1-3pm CAD Seminar Rm, 2nd Floor Fisher Bldg, 18 Waterloo Quadrant. Learn the secrets of writing an effective and engaging research profile. Enrol at www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops or phone CAD reception at ext 88140.

School of Music concert

6.30-10.30pm Studio One, Kenneth Myers Centre, 74 Shortland St. Popular Music students completing their final-year of undergraduate study perform original works prepared over one semester. Free. Queries to concerts@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 (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

Freemans Bay double room, quiet street, ensuite, own deck and study area, recently renovated terrace house. Large living room, share house with one plus occasional other, close to supermarket and Ponsonby Rd. Phone 372 3361.

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

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

MedEntry UMAT Prep: Government accredited and internationally trusted registered training organisation offers quality focused training for UMAT. Aspiring doctors and dentists, year 13 students and first-year health science students, see www.medentry.co.nz

Ski, snowboard, tramp Mt Ruapehu. Join Graduates Ski Club for an economical and comfortable way to enjoy winter and summer in the Tongariro National Park. One lodge in the snow at Whakapapa. One lodge at Ohakune. Resident cooks. 4-6 person bedrooms. Drying room. Family friendly. \$43 per day, senior member, includes breakfast, dinner. See: www.grads.co.nz and contact the membership secretary.

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.



FINDING FUNDING

How many of us have done something crazy in the name of charity? Sponsored marathons, ocean swims, triathlons, "Movember".

I once took part in the London Moonwalk to raise money for breast cancer research. Imagine the sight of thousands of women walking the length of a marathon through central London, overnight each dressed in a decorated bra! These fantastic events raise both awareness and much needed funds for many charities that support medical research.

But I am struck by the lack of charities that advocate for the diseases caused by infectious microbes – those viruses, bacteria and parasites that like to call us home, even if temporarily. Around the world, one out of every four people who die, are killed by an infectious microbe. That's nearly 40,000 people every day.

Microbes are masters at adapting to their environment, rearranging their genetic material or gaining new genes from their surroundings. This adaptation is how we get antibiotic resistance and new diseases emerging. The fact of the matter is that we are embroiled in a conflict with opponents that can evolve much faster than we can, and we are rapidly losing the battle. We face a not too distant future where many superbugs will be resistant to all the antibiotics available to treat them. Take tuberculosis (TB), once thought all but eradicated. We were wrong. In actual fact, it is estimated that a third of the world's population carry the TB bacterium in their lungs. TB kills over 4,500 people every day, and there are now

patients around the world whose infections are untreatable. Even diseases that we have perfectly good vaccines for cause problems, as a vocal minority choose not to vaccinate, misplacing their fear on the vaccines rather than the microbes.

I want this to change. I want everyone to know how important infectious diseases are: why it's important not to visit a new baby if you are feeling under the weather or kiss them if you have a cold sore; why people shouldn't expect a bottle of antibiotics every time they visit the doctor; why they should get vaccinated and vaccinate their children. Most of all, I want people to know why it is important to back science; why the public should support their taxes being used to fund scientific research. I want the public to be interested and excited about what scientists like me are doing.

In these difficult economic times, money is hard to come by. Rates of success for science proposals in New Zealand stand at around 10 percent. This doesn't mean that only one in ten proposals are considered good enough to fund. It means the funding bodies can't afford to support lots of excellent projects. Just think of all the innovations we may be missing out on!

As part of the SciFund Challenge, I've joined a small group of scientists from around the world who are reaching out to the public to get involved in their research. We are using a platform that has become increasingly popular with artists, writers and musicians called crowd funding where, rather than relying on one

wealthy benefactor for full funding, people seek small donations (in the 10-100 dollar ballpark) from lots of people in return for "rewards". For me, as a microbiologist who makes "glow in the dark" bacteria, I am hoping to swap pictures with people's names written in glowing bacteria, or naming rights for new bacteria, for funding to advance my research.

SciFund was born in late 2011 when two ecologists from California, Dr Jai Ranganathan and Dr Jarrett Byrnes, decided to exploit a popular crowd funding website called RocketHub to see if scientists could spend a month engaging with the public, in a similar way to artists and musicians, to help fund their research. Nearly 50 projects were offered up, covering topics as diverse as parasitic plants, flying foxes, Amazonian crabs, domesticating algae, duck erections, Roman slaves, zombie fish and undersea kelp forests. In the space of 30 days, the scientists raised over US\$76,000. So it does seem possible to get the public to open their wallets for science. Which raises the question, as success rates for more traditional funding avenues drop, will platforms like SciFund become more widely used? Only time will tell.

Dr Siouxsie Wiles (Molecular Medicine and Pathology) with her glowing bacteria. Those on the left spell out her daughter's name.