



SYSTEMS THINKING

The Prime Minister has received a request from Auckland's Mayor and Council to provide government funding to help improve the overall resilience of Auckland's infrastructure.

A group comprising the major infrastructure providers to the region has identified a number of potential "hotspots" where adverse natural or manmade events such as an earthquake or volcano could cause the simultaneous loss of several major pieces of critical infrastructure (power, water, wastewater, transportation, communications and data links). This group needs the funds and resources to improve Auckland's resilience capability before, during and after a major "event".

What is the best proposal to forward to the Prime Minister for funding?

This was the basis of this year's "Systems week" where some 550 fourth-year Engineering students spent all of last week (October 7 to 11) tackling a complex, multidisciplinary challenge of national proportions. "We give them a fast forward on a project that could take two years in the real world," says Systems Week organiser

Professor Keith Robinson. "It takes students into a socio-economic and political environment as well as an engineering one."

Working in teams of 25, the students, with access to places like the Treasury website had to think through the whole scenario working out where money could come from and where money could be saved. By the week's end they had thought through the resilience architecture, done a full cost benefit analysis and made initial recommendations. Each team then presented their recommendations to the Government's Minister of Civil Defence, the Hon Nikki Kaye.

"We are now providing a very worthwhile professional and project experience for students," says Keith. "They put it on their CVs and it's the sort of thing that is a shortcut to board room positions."

The Systems Thinking week has become a regular feature on Engineering's calendar. Last year students were tasked with working out what would be needed by Council and Government after a Cruise Ship knocked out Auckland's harbour bridge.

MOOCs is coming

The University's recent decision to offer Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) is an important chance to experiment with this mode of course-delivery, says Professor John Morrow, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic).

"We need to look at the pedagogical challenges and cost involved as we develop the first two courses as a pilot," he says. "It is important that we take a considered approach to the MOOC phenomenon and engage with it as an active agent rather than a passive recipient of work produced by others."

The University is partnering with FutureLearn, a UK-based consortium founded by the Open University to develop and deliver MOOCs. Among 28 leading institutions who will deliver courses for FutureLearn are the Universities of Bath, Birmingham, Bristol, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Monash, Leeds and Southampton. In addition the British Museum, British Council and British Library have all agreed to partner with FutureLearn to share their content and their

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StretchSense up for innovation award

A company that emerged from research at the University's Biomimetics Laboratory is a finalist for two awards in the New Zealand Innovator's Award.

StretchSense Ltd is run day-to-day by two former students of the Auckland Bioengineering Institute (ABI) and is incubated at the Institute. It was named as a finalist in the "Innovation in Design and Engineering" and "Emerging New Zealand Innovator" categories of the award, to be announced the day the *UniNews* is published.

The company has developed wireless soft sensors for applications in healthcare, motion capture, and human-machine interactions.

"We use small, light, soft sensors for measuring human body motion – linked to a Bluetooth sensor transmission circuit that can be used with an app for android phones", says StretchSense CEO, Ben O'Brien. "We apply it to anything you can measure, because it is so precise and

reliable," he says. "For example, they can be used in rehabilitation applications for physiotherapists to track movement and a changing target over time – such as an improving knee injury."

These sensors, made of polymers, can be sewn into clothing, (such as a pressure support wrap for a knee), and give real time results and personal information about improvements and exercising.

StretchSense began operating late last year, had its first local sales in January this year and in March gained customers in the United States. In September, Ben joined a New Zealand trade delegation to San Francisco for the week long NZ Health Innovation showcase – the company's first sales trip overseas.

Ben set the company up with fellow researchers and co-founders Dr Todd Gisby (CTO), Dr Tom MacKay, and his PhD supervisor and ABI Biomimetics research leader, Associate Professor Iain Anderson from Engineering Science (COO).

"We're very grateful to the ABI for incubating us," says Ben. "This product comes out of the research we did in the Biomimetics Lab and Todd and I left our jobs to develop this and get it out to industry."

Ben and Todd both have a background in mechatronics with a Bachelor of Mechatronics from the University's Faculty of Engineering followed by PhD research in the ABI's Biomimetics Lab. Ben's doctoral research was supported by a Bright Futures Top Achiever Doctoral Scholarship and in 2010 he was awarded a two-year Rutherford Foundation Post-doctoral Fellowship.



"MOOCs is coming" continued from page 1

expertise and collaborate in the development of courses. The FutureLearn option is particularly attractive because of its focus on pedagogical objectives and the application of technology to them.

The University will prepare the two online courses within the next year for delivery through the FutureLearn platform. These courses will be developed in close consultation with FutureLearn so that Auckland benefits from its expertise and delivers unique material that is not going to compete with that provided by other partners.

MOOCs will provide a platform for presenting examples of high quality, innovative teaching to global audiences. They also offer the possibility of adding new material to on-campus teaching collateral and may have an impact on the University's recruitment of international students: "If students see a polished performance online then they are more likely to enrol with us."

The FutureLearn membership will provide the sole focus of the University's engagement with MOOCs in the near future.

The University has been welcomed into the

consortium by its new partners. "The University of Auckland adds real prestige to FutureLearn's line-up of world-renowned partners, as New Zealand's foremost university and a major presence within the international higher education rankings," says FutureLearn CEO, Simon Nelson.

"This collaboration is also great news for learners globally as they will have access to an even broader selection of free, high-quality, online courses from some of the world's best educators."

www.futurelearn.com

Return for commercialisation

The University's commercialisation company, Auckland UniServices Ltd, took home the top award for "Best Commercialisation of Intellectual Property in International Business" at the New Zealand International Business Awards ceremony in Auckland recently. Its winning entry, sponsored by James and Wells, covered UniServices' system for identifying, evaluating, protecting and commercialising IP.

The awards, run by New Zealand Trade and Enterprise and supported by ANZ, celebrate and recognise excellence on the world stage.

CEO Andy Shenk says that he is delighted with the win. "We documented the years of hard work and smart thinking that have led to the creation of the Return on Science system and the impressive deal flow we are now generating through our engagement with our academic partners in the University of Auckland, the experts who make up our investment committees and our growing portfolio of licensees in markets around the world."

Forty percent of UniServices' clients are international and the company works across 45 countries, targeting markets with large economies and significant consumer and manufacturing bases. The company is responsible for half of all the patents issued in New Zealand to universities and Crown Research Institutes.

"We invest a lot in developing IP assets for their potential in the marketplace – investing in the first commercial embodiment of that potential, and creating a deal structure with the licensee that interests them and generates a revenue stream for the University."

In 2012, UniServices commercialisation income exceeded \$13 million, with potential for more value in the form of equity and royalties from its spin-out portfolio. In the same year, UniServices had 105 invention disclosures and filed 66 Full Patent Applications, bringing its total pending or granted patents to 620. In the past five years, it has raised over \$25 million in seed and first-round funding. These companies have gone on to raise a

further \$155 million.

UniServices was also a finalist in "International Success Through Application of Innovation", sponsored by Callaghan Innovation. This second entry covered the company's success in commercialising a customised education programme with Princess Nora University in Saudi Arabia and showed how the teams built on the strong reputation of New Zealand and the University of Auckland in education to develop and deliver programmes in a very challenging cultural and commercial environment.



Left: Dr Andy Shenk

Future of music in good hands

School of Music Popular Music student Jamie Moana was named the University of Auckland Songwriter of the Year 2013 at a sell-out event held at the Maidment Theatre earlier this month.

Jamie who is in his final year of studies towards a Bachelor of Music degree at the University, performed two songs, *Coney Island* and *Harold Time*, before being named the winner from amongst five talented finalists.

The six-member judging panel made up of music industry representatives were unified in their praise for all the finalists, with songwriter Julia Deans commenting that "if the depth and breadth of the talent on display here is anything to go by, the future of the music is in good hands."

Jamie won a swag of prizes including a professionally recorded and produced single.

"It was surreal to win when up against so much talent. Songwriting can be a daunting task when you reflect on yourself, so it is fantastic to have affirmation for it", says 25-year-old Jamie, who shifted home to Auckland in 2010 after living for many years in Sydney.

Jamie, whose music combines an uncompromising sixties influence with garage delta blues, plans to write as many songs as he can to form a more distinctive palate and also intends to move on to recording to keep up his momentum.



From the Vice-Chancellor



Changes to university governance proposed

The Minister of Tertiary Education, Hon. Steven Joyce, has recently announced consultation on changes he proposes to how universities are governed. In essence, he proposes reducing Councils from the current maximum of 20 to 12 (of which he would still appoint four), removing the current requirement for representation by stakeholders (other than himself) and having appointments more focused on the skills required for governance than on representation. Coming soon after the release of the QS world rankings, in which most of our universities fell by 10-30 places, this feels rather like the Minister "fiddling while Rome burns". Once again we have a diversion from the real issue which is that New Zealand universities are forced by government policy to operate with the lowest income per student in the developed world.

The Minister has argued that smaller Councils would make universities more nimble in addressing challenges. That may be a viable argument for businesses, although colleagues in our Business School tell me that the evidence for a relationship between board size and the success of companies is tenuous at best. However, it is clearly not the case for universities. Many of the world's top universities have very large governing bodies – MIT has 72, Stanford 33, Harvard 32, Oxford 25 and Cambridge 23. And if you look at a sample of 50 top universities, size of their governing body explains only 1% of the variation in their world rankings.

The argument that boards should be appointed for expertise rather than representation may also have some appeal in business, although the rise in influence of shareholder associations suggests there is something in the proposition that those who own a company should have a stake in its governance. However, universities are not owned by shareholders and they do not have the objective of maximising shareholder value. Rather, they are held in trust for the benefit of a wide variety of stakeholder groups, and good Councils have been adept at using co-opted places to fill any gaps that representative appointments may have in their governance capability.

I encourage all those who care about the universities to take an interest in this matter and make their views known to government via the consultation process, which closes on 12 November.

Korean Studies boosted

The Korean Wave, including Psy's K-Pop hit *Gangnam Style*, is already boosting the popularity of Korean culture in New Zealand.

Now the Korean language and culture programme at the University is to be enhanced thanks to a boost in funding from the Korean Government.

The School of Asian Studies has received \$1 million over four years as a result of its Korean programme having been selected for the Overseas Leading University Programme in Korean Studies, which is the Academy of Korean Studies.

The funding is the result of several years' work on the part of Senior Lecturer in Korean Dr Changzoo Song, New Zealand Asia Institute Director Professor Hugh Whittaker, and the Head of the School of Asian Studies Dr Hilary Chung.

From 2014, in addition to existing courses in Korean language, culture and society and diaspora, students will be able to choose from a

range of extra courses on offer including Korean History at Stages 2 & 3, Political Economy of East Asian Development (Political Studies), Korean popular music as part of Music of East Asia (Ethnomusicology) at Stage 3 and Korean for Heritage Speakers at Stage 2.

Dr Song says the boost to the Korean programme is important given that there are approximately 30,000 Korean migrants in Auckland region and trade between New Zealand and Korea is expanding.

"For New Zealand and for the whole world Asia is becoming more and more important day by day," he says.

Dr Chung says Korean Studies is strategically important to New Zealand given the history between the two countries.

"It enables us to develop Korean Studies and offer students opportunities that they didn't have before."

The money will also finance two masters and two PhD scholarships in Korean studies as well as a Post-doctoral Fellow in Korean.

Award-winning mentor

Dr Judith (Judy) O'Brien, Deputy Director of Development in the School of Biological Sciences, has been awarded the inaugural Miriam Dell Award by the Association for Women in the Sciences (AWIS). The award recognises her outstanding contribution to mentoring female students and scientists.



Judy, who holds qualifications in both biology and teaching, became a researcher and lecturer at the University in the 1980s. She was formerly a high school science teacher. She was appointed Deputy Director (Academic) of the School of Biological Sciences in 2001 and is now its Deputy Director of Development.

Her current role focuses on recruitment and career support for staff and postgraduate students, but she still lectures in a first year biology class and is involved in a variety of school outreach activities at the University. The AWIS judging panel noted her commitment to sustained mentoring activities beyond those of her official position as an academic director.

"Judy is someone who gets things done, whether helping shape a multistage career path for a young female scientist, instilling confidence and hope in an undergraduate student who has lost their way, or engaging and inspiring the next generation of scientists through her brilliant teaching and outreach activities," says Dr Kate Angel, also of the School of Biological Sciences, who nominated Judy for the award. "She has touched the lives and careers of generations of young female scientists – many of whom would not have continued in science without her mentoring."

Judy will receive her Award from Dame Miriam Dell, Patron of AWIS, at the next AWIS conference, in July 2014.

Professional Staff Development Awards

Applications and nominations for the bi-annual Professional Staff Development Awards close on Friday 18 October at 5pm.

These awards provide an avenue for professional staff (either individuals or teams) to make an identifiable contribution to the University in the fields of administration, management, technical or professional services by furthering their professional development.

Awards are available for professional development activities such as attending or presenting at conferences, visits to other higher education institutions, staff exchanges, specialised training, coaching, mentoring, shadowing and further study.

Applications and Nominations

All applications/nominations for awards must be submitted on the official application forms.

To access these forms or to find out further information visit the Staff and Organisational Development Unit (SODU) website at www.staff.auckland.ac.nz/sodu and click on the "Awards and Fellowships" link.

For general enquiries, please contact: Rose Graham on r.graham@auckland.ac.nz or ext. 85070.

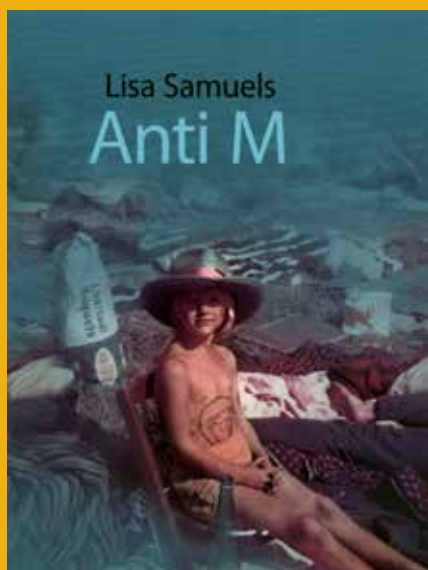
Summer Shakespeare

Shakespeare's Jacobean play *Pericles, Prince of Tyre*, will be the 2014 Summer Shakespeare this year, directed by Geoff Allen, who is currently producer of *Hamlet* at the Musgrove Theatre.

In preparation New Zealand actress and last year's director of *King Lear*, Lisa Harrow, hosted a two-day practice workshop on "Auditioning Shakespeare's Language".

The workshop in particular supported actors planning to audition for *Pericles*.

Book



Anti M

Associate Professor Lisa Samuels has published her ninth book, this time a creative nonfiction work titled *Anti M* (Chax Press 2013).

The title points to anti-memory, to anti-memoir, and to the sound of Dorothy calling out for her Auntie Em in the 1939 US film *The Wizard of Oz*. *Anti M* is an experimental memoir of childhood, with locations from North America to Europe to the Middle East indicated in images sprinkled amidst the book's "omitted prose", a prose that flits among abandoned page areas where memory might obtain. The fragments of family, houses, and cities frame the explorations of what it means to grow and gain an identity: *Anti M* reads like an enchanted literary machine,

something like the body is a machine, for the activation of thoughts about memory and difficulty and childhood. Poet and University Professor Lyn Hejinian writes: "*Anti M* is a delicate, dark, expansive, and obviously elliptical text that explores not the opposite but the obverse side of memory. In *Anti M*, memories are broken apart and intensified, they have become charged particles. They flicker, not cinematically (though the lovely, enigmatic images included in the book bring film to mind) but with electricity. It is that exciting play of light, cast by shadows and patches of even darker darkness, that makes the language of *Anti M* luminous. And it is luminous – this is a gorgeous work".

New chemistry

Honours student Tom Wright, from the School of Chemical Sciences, has created a new kind of chemistry to dramatically simplify the manufacture of drugs targeting the immune system, and the technology has been patented.

This research came out of a Health Research Council project grant to Tom's supervisor Professor Margaret Brimble and Professor Rod Dunbar, both of the Maurice Wilkins Centre for Molecular Biodiscovery, to arm peptides (segments of protein) to better target the immune system.

Tom's discovery will be used to develop new peptide-based immunotherapies such as cancer vaccines, and the work may not be far from the clinic, as the new chemistry can be used in a manufacturing facility at the University of Auckland that was recently licensed by MedSafe to produce medicines for clinical trial.

Tom has developed a simple and elegant new method of joining an antigen (a signal for the immune system to attack a specific target) with an adjuvant (a general danger signal which helps the immune system recognise antigens as a threat it should respond to).

It allows the two to be connected in a single reaction, as opposed to the more complex multi-step process required by conventional chemistry. Essentially, it is a modular click-together system that allows many antigens and adjuvants to be joined quickly and easily, and the resulting compounds screened for useful biological activity.

The work has already appeared in *Synlett* and is soon to be published in *Angewandte Chemie*, one of the most prestigious journals in the field.



Valuing Bryde whales

Marine mammal expert Dr Rochelle Constantine has been honoured for her work on the Hauraki Gulf's population of Bryde's whales.

Rochelle, from the University's School of Biological Sciences and Institute of Marine Science, was one of three inaugural winners of a Holdaway Award for outstanding leadership in and around the marine park.

The award citation says that Rochelle's research and communication has helped Aucklanders understand the value of the Bryde's whales, which are critically threatened, and the importance of protecting them from ship strike. It adds that Dr Constantine "has communicated her research findings to management agencies and the shipping industry in order to find real, practical solutions" – in general, slowing ships while in Gulf waters.

She says that there are about 200 Bryde's whales (pronounced Brooders) in New Zealand waters, with roughly 50 of those resident in the Hauraki Gulf region. She researches other marine mammals, but admits that "lately, it's mostly the Bryde's that steal my life away".

Rochelle received a tokotoko (orators' stick), designed by Ōrakei carver Katera Maihi, whose imagery represents the islands, waters and catchments of the Hauraki Gulf.

Dr Pauline Kingi, Hauraki Gulf Forum member and Te Puni Kōkiri regional director, says a tototoko carries mana on a marae and assists an orator to deliver messages. "We wanted to bestow on these leaders something special that equips and empowers them to carry on their important work." Dr Constantine says the "magnificent" tokotoko sits in sight of her desk, "reminding me to keep going".



Unqualified audit from PWC

The University is required to undertake an "A-133 audit" if they spend \$US500,000 or more in any year under research grants from the US Department of Health and Human Services, whether as a direct grantee or under subcontract. It is the first time that we have received an unqualified audit, which is a significant achievement. This certification means the University can now provide evidence to US-based funders that we are best-practice in all aspects of administration of US-based awards. It also means that the reputation of the University is enhanced around the world and that we can prove to domestic funders that their funding is administered by a best practice organisation. Finally, among other benefits, it is now possible to negotiate with US-based funders to increase what we recover by way of overheads, which are currently around only eight percent of costs.

Future Research Leader's Programme (FRLP)

The FRLP has had another successful year with seven attendees completing all eight modules. The final workshop for this year entitled "Project Closeout" will be held on 15 October in the ClockTower and several more researchers are expected to complete the full programme on that day. All eight modules of the programme have recently been updated and re-written by the Group of Eight (Go8) and edited specifically for the New Zealand research environment by the University of Auckland's senior academics. The programme for 2014 will commence on 27 February with module 1, Research Strategy & Planning. For further information please contact Angela McMahon at the Research Office, email: a.mcmahon@auckland.ac.nz, telephone ext 87227.

Health Research Council (HRC)

The HRC has recently announced outcomes for its Expressions of Interest (EoIs) round. Thirty-nine University of Auckland researchers out of a total of 100 nationwide have been invited to submit full project applications. These are due in the University's Research Funding Module at 12 noon, 13 November 2013.

From the art collection

Riding the Neo-Expressionist painting wave in the 1990s, Lily Laita chose to paint on black builder's paper. It was cheap and abundant, meaning that she could work quickly and at large scale. With a bricklayer brother, a Samoan father who makes concrete tanks, and a Ngati Rangitane and Raukawa mother who worked as an industrial machinist, Laita's choice of material also aligned her art practice with the skilled labour practiced by the rest of the family.

Only 21 years old when she completed her BFA at Elam School of Fine Arts in 1990, teacher training led her to the art department of Western Springs College where she has worked since. She returned to Elam to complete an MFA in Painting in 2002. Smearing acrylic onto the black paper with her hands, she builds up her surfaces in layers, working from dark to light, and finishing with white oilstick to outline figures and words. Baseball cap-wearing youths grouped on the left blend into the yellow and red background here, while words addressed to the viewer take centre stage.



Her poetics are often acutely political and direct in their criticism of colonialism and support for change in society through class struggle. Here can be read "Kia Hiwa Ra! X 3" (Be alert! Be watchful! Be alert on this rampart!), the cry usually heard at the outset of a powhiri, while Liu Liu is a repetition of the Samoan word for change or alteration. Beneath these Pacific languages appears Bust a Move, the name of the 1989 single by rapper Young M.C. (Marvin Young) which tells the story of a young man's

frustration at being unable to dance or "bust a move". Using the language of youth culture and the styling of graffiti, the three-part painting builds momentum like a popular uprising, and is a call to action for social change.

Lily Aitua Laita (born 1969), *The Past is the Present to the Future*, 1998, 1270 x 3480mm, oilstick, acrylic on builder's paper.

From the cultural collection

Of the once numerous houses in Wynyard Street, number 18 alone survives, now housing the James Henare Māori Research Centre.

It was originally built to accommodate army officers during the 1860s land wars, eventually being purchased in the early 1960s by brewery baron, local politician and philanthropist Sir Ernest Davis for the University, and modified to become the Vivien Leigh Theatre. This may possibly have been inspired by the 1948 visit to Auckland of the Old Vic Theatre company headed by Laurence Olivier and Vivien Leigh. What is certain is that the Old Vic company came to New Zealand again, as part of a 1961–62 overseas tour, and that on this occasion Miss Leigh opened the theatre named in her honour in person.

The Auckland Star of 19 February ran a piece about the theatre opening, adding:

The theatre, a converted house, will seat 70 on an arena plan. It has a workshop and dressing rooms. The first production in the Vivien Leigh Theatre will be the premiere of the Aucklander Allen Curnow's play, "The Overseas Export," [sic]* probably in May.

The photos of the building are part of the extensive collection of photos held in Media Productions. With literally thousands of photos going back to the 1960s there is a wealth of information about the development of the University and its sites. Over 17,000 images have now been digitized and are available through the Library catalogue. Media Productions also holds

numerous treasures in video and other a/v formats including the opening of the Marae and performances at the Maidment Theatre. It is used extensively for teaching purposes, research and telling the stories of the University's development and heritage.

Brian Donovan
Photographer & Multimedia Producer
University Media Productions

*A classic newspaper typo; the play's correct name was "The Overseas Expert"



18 Wynyard Street, 1965. Photograph by Anton Estie.



A recent photo of 18 Wynyard Street

What's on

THURSDAY 17 OCTOBER

Diwali

5.30-9pm, Student Quad, City Campus. The University of Auckland invites everyone to come and experience one of the world's best loved festivals, Diwali - popularly known as the 'festival of lights'. There will also be lots of great entertainment with performances by Glenfield College, the Indian Club and Rhythm House. Traditional dress welcome. Visit www.auckland.ac.nz/uaa/cs-diwali

Faculty of Education Information Evening

Graduate Diploma in Teaching. 6pm, Level 0, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. RSVP at <https://educationinformationevening.eventbrite.co.nz>

NICAI Postgraduate Study Information Evening

6-8pm, NICAI Student Centre, Level 2 Architecture and Planning Bldg, 26 Symonds St. RSVP at <https://www.forms.auckland.ac.nz/uaa/home/nicai/postgraduate-information-evening>

Late Night Art

6pm, Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. In conjunction with Artweek, the gallery will open late with artist Saskia Leek in conversation with Emma Bugden from the Dowse Art Museum, the author of *Saskia Leek: Desk Collection*. Queries to gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz

ADLSI Law Dinner to honour Associate Professor Bernard Brown

7-10.30pm, Northern Club, 19 Princes St. Former students, current and past members of the Faculty of Law and other interested practitioners are invited to join Associate Professor Brown in an entertaining evening showcasing his poetry and celebrating his significant contribution in New Zealand's legal academia. Register at adls.events@adls.org.nz or phone 303 5287.

Vice-Chancellor's Lecture

Steve Cotter, CEO of Research and Education Advanced Network NZ Ltd: *Leading the way: The changing face of national research and education networks*. 7-8pm, Maths Lecture Theatre 1, Ground Floor, Maths/Physics Bldg, 38 Princes St.

FRIDAY 18 OCTOBER

Lilburn Composition Prize Concert

7.30pm, Music Theatre, School of Music. A selection of original works from composition students will be performed in this annual competition. Free. Queries to concerts@auckland.ac.nz

SATURDAY 19 OCTOBER

Exhibition event

1pm, Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Saskia Leek discusses her work in *Desk Collection* with Director of the Dowse Art Museum and Nine to Noon correspondent Courtney Johnston. Queries to gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz

SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER

The Auckland Chamber Music Society Prize

2pm, Music Theatre, School of Music. An afternoon of ensemble performances by top School of Music chamber groups. This concert follows a week of intensive examinations where chamber groups are selected to compete for a valuable annual prize. Queries to concerts@auckland.ac.nz

MONDAY 21 OCTOBER

School of Biological Sciences seminar

Bruce Hartill, NIWA: *What do we know about the recreational snapper fishery in the Hauraki Gulf?* 1-2pm, Mac 1 Seminar Rm, Biology Bldg, 5 Symonds St. Queries to m.rayner@auckland.ac.nz

Student Jazz Ensemble Concerts

Large ensemble concerts. 7pm, Studio One, Kenneth Myers Centre, 74 Shortland St. Free. Also on 22 October. Queries to concerts@auckland.ac.nz

TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER

Postgraduate Social Work Information Evening

5.30-7.30pm, N4 14 and N4 15, Epsom Campus.

For more information on postgraduate programmes in social work, and professional supervision, join us for an information session at the Faculty of Education. Register at: <https://postgradsw.eventbrite.co.nz>

WEDNESDAY 23 OCTOBER

European Languages and Literatures/Asian Studies seminar

Dr Hilary Chung and Dr Bernadette Luciano, UoA: *The dis/located migrant as an agent for transposition: two films compared - "Un cuento chino" (Chinese Take-away) and "Io sono Li" (Shun Li and the poet)*. 11am, Room 7 10, Arts 1.

Concert

New music in the eighteenth century. 1.05pm, Music Theatre, School of Music. Featuring Kate Nelson, Ella Tunnicliffe-Glass, Dean Sky-Lucas and Margaret Cooke. Queries to concerts@auckland.ac.nz

Fermata seminar

5.30pm, Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds St.
1) Jonathan Mandeno: *Genres in a strange land: Reconciling rock and art music through polystylism*.
2) Rob Tedesco: The 'value' of Beethoven? The economics and history of the Auckland Philharmonia. Queries to concerts@auckland.ac.nz

Exhibition opening and book launch

Marti Friedlander. 5.30pm, Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. In conjunction with the launch of *Self-Portrait*, Marti Friedlander published by AUP, there will be digital exhibition of Marti Friedlander's photographs of Tokelau, commissioned by the Department of Anthropology in 1971, in Gallery Two. Queries to gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz

THURSDAY 24 OCTOBER

Critical Journeys in Applied Theatre International Symposium

Epsom Campus, Gate 3, 74 Epsom Avenue. Runs until 25 October. This symposium celebrates and questions applied theatre's potential to be a liberating and humanising process. Register at https://www.conf.auckland.ac.nz/ej/getdemo.ei?id=233&s=_3000ZPWRA

Inaugural Lecture

Prof Wendy Nelson, School of Biological Sciences: *NZ's marine macroalgae: the fascinating lives of seaweeds*. 4-6pm, BLT100, Old Biology Bldg, 5 Symonds St.

NZ Centre for Human Rights Law, Policy and Practice discussion

Prof Paul Rishworth, UoA: *The BORA and the regulatory state*. 5.15pm, Bell Gully, Level 22, Vero Centre, 48 Shortland St. Panellists: Ian Gault, partner, Bell Gully. Sarah Armstrong, partner, Russell McVeagh. Nick Flanagan, partner, Meredith Connell.

Queries to s.beattie@auckland.ac.nz
RSVP to lawevents@auckland.ac.nz

FRIDAY 25 OCTOBER

Handel's Messiah

7pm, Music Theatre, School of Music. Runs until 26 October. Under the guidance of Linda Kitchen the Voice Department transforms Handel's Messiah. Linda has re-imagined the iconic work and presents a staged, semi-interactive version of the masterpiece. \$15/\$5. Book at iTICKET. Queries to concerts@auckland.ac.nz

TUESDAY 29 OCTOBER

Anthropology seminar

Professor Emerita Sarah Hrdy, University of California-Davis: *How did humans evolve to be such "other-regarding" apes?* 6.30pm, Library Theatre B 15.

WEDNESDAY 30 OCTOBER

Cuban Rhythm Workshop

12noon, Studio One, Kenneth Myers Centre, 74 Shortland St. Gai Bryant will be joined by acclaimed Cuban percussionist Roman Justo Pelladito Hernandez to present a workshop of exuberant folkloric Cuban music styles. Free. Queries to concerts@auckland.ac.nz

2013 Bruce Jesson Lecture

The Right Honourable Sir Edmund Thomas: *Reducing inequality: A strategy for a cause*. 6.30pm, Maidment Theatre, Alfred St. The Maidment Bar will open from 5.30pm.

Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

Apartments for rent. Call us for your rental requirements; we offer city apartments furnished/unfurnished, all sizes and prices; great rental deals for long-term leases; call David Feng (09) 303 0601 or (021) 246 6710 at City Sales or rentals@citysales.co.nz or log on to www.citysales.co.nz/rentals

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

House sitters available.

Are you looking for a mature, reliable, professional couple (non-smokers) to care for your home (and pet?) while you are away? Duration 6-12 months negotiable. Areas within 40 minutes of Epsom Campus preferred. References available. Email Karen at k.major@auckland.ac.nz

Room or board wanted by female graduate student from November. City or close to University preferred. Tidy, quiet, non-smoker. Reply to adbrown0021@hotmail.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 Visit www.rainey.co.nz

Retired surgeon, University of Auckland graduate, with complex additional skill set, seeks full-time or part-time employment, inside or outside the University system. Please text or call (021) 024 54071 for return contact.

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.



DIGITALLY CHALLENGED: UNIVERSITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

Recently the University of Waikato announced that it is providing New Zealand's first MOOC (Massive Online Open Course). Auckland and Massey universities are set to follow suit. If we are to believe what is said, MOOCs are about to change forever the landscape of university teaching and learning.

This is a global phenomenon: a recent edition of *The Economist* claimed that MOOCs are causing a revolution in university education. "Technology", it said, "has been on the verge of transforming education for over a century. This time it looks as though it will."

So there is certainly a lot of interest in how technology may lead to important changes in universities. However, this cannot be divorced from the wider context of changes in the very role of publicly funded universities. The notion of open access knowledge which changes the very basis of "expertise", combined with high levels of student indebtedness and a growing realisation that the economic value of a degree may be falling raises significant questions about the future of universities. This is reflected in recent reports such as *The Future of Universities* (published by the Australian arm of Ernst and Young) and *An Avalanche is Coming* (whose main author is the educational guru Sir Michael Barber), both of which argue that the current notion of a university will be transformed over the coming decades. It is no wonder that New Zealand's universities are taking these developments seriously.

There is nothing inevitable about the march of technological advancement though. At present there are at least three ways of thinking about technology and its potential impact on universities that are found in common rooms and staff meetings. The first can be summed up in the phrase, "Its economic reality, Stupid". At a time when universities are facing cost pressures and diminished levels of funding, it is simply good "business sense" to look at ways of increasing output (getting more students through faster) and reducing inputs (less face-to-face contact time for lecturers). MOOCs could be the "killer app" that makes that possible, along with forms of hybrid learning which combine traditional lectures and tutorials with e-learning resources.

The second way of thinking about technology can be found among those academics keen to realise its potential for learning. In a world where students are "always on", inhabiting the world of Facebook, You Tube, and accessing and sharing information and papers from mobile devices such as smart phones and tablets, universities risk losing out unless they acknowledge and incorporate these technologies into the everyday life of the campus. This is supported by developments in learning theory that stress the role of participation, collaboration and creativity. For such "peer-progressives", universities will be left behind if they do not embrace new forms of knowledge production and sharing.

A third perspective is offered by those who are concerned that we are replacing the University of Auckland or the University of Otago with "the University of Google". Universities, one of the last remaining spaces in our society where the "public" still exists, relatively free of the pressures of "the market", are now the scene of a corporate takeover (for example, I currently teach in a classroom equipped with Apple TVs and iPads for all students). There is also an important question of whether the types of learning habits associated with the new technologies are at odds with those traditionally required and valued by universities. A few years ago, in an article in *The Atlantic* Nicholas Carr posed the question "Is Google making us stupid?" and suggested that "life online" is fundamentally altering the ability of the brain to pay attention to the types of books and articles that require deep learning.

These are exciting times for universities and students. We need to avoid the common tendency to on the one hand rush to uncritically embrace technology and on the other hand dismiss anyone who gently challenges its adoption as "Luddite". Universities provide a space where ideas about what type of society we want to build can be debated and discussed, so an open debate about the proper role of technology in the lecture hall and classroom is to be welcomed.

John Morgan, Professor of Curriculum at the Faculty of Education.