

## TOP PRIZES FOR OUR ACADEMICS

Four University of Auckland academics have won three of the 2013 Prime Minister's Science Prizes, including the main science prize, and those for science media communications and for the MacDiarmid emerging scientist.

There are five prizes, with the top award recognising a transformational science discovery or achievement which has had a significant impact on New Zealand or internationally.

Professors John Boys and Grant Covic from the Faculty of Engineering accepted the \$500,000 top award for the 2013 Prime Minister's Science Prize.

John and Grant have pioneered wireless or inductive power transfer technology and coined IPT terminology globally. Their technology is now used throughout the world, from factories that depend on automated systems or clean-room environments, to charging electric vehicles (EV).

Auckland Bioengineering Institute scientist, Dr Ben O'Brien, won the 2013 Prime Minister's MacDiarmid Emerging Scientist Prize worth \$200,000 (with \$150,000 of the money to be used for further research).

Ben has pioneered the development of small, light and soft, stretchy sensors that can measure movement of the human body and transmit the information to a smart phone app.



Ben O'Brien

Earlier this year, he formed a company – StretchSense – to start selling the technology to global customers in healthcare, rehabilitation, sports training, animation and gaming.

Ben plans to use his prize money to take the technology to the next level by developing an intuitive skin-tight under-garment that can monitor and interpret body language, gestures and posture to accurately read the emotions of the wearer.

His goal is to create an "emotionally aware" body suit that he expects will produce a range of practical technologies that can be commercialised by his company.



Siouxsie Wiles

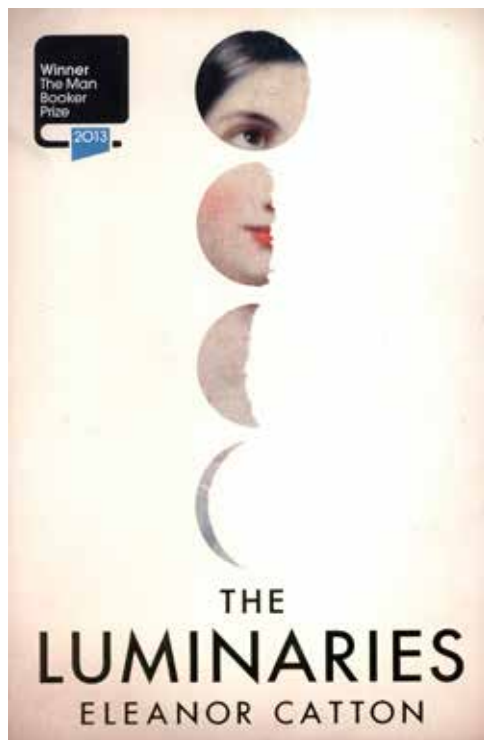
Microbiologist Dr Siouxsie Wiles (Molecular Medicine and Pathology) has won the 2013 Prime Minister's Science Media Communication Prize. She receives the award for her communication on a wide range of scientific issues, including aspects of the recent Fonterra botulism scare.

As well as working as a scientist in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, Siouxsie is a media commentator and blogger who regularly gives public talks about science and was one of the faces of last year's public engagement campaign for the National Science Challenges.

*Continued on page 5*

## A room of one's own

It was with pleasure that the University of Auckland congratulated novelist Eleanor Catton on winning this year's highly prestigious Man Booker prize – especially since the final draft of her prize-winning book, *The Luminaries*, was written while Elizabeth was holding a University of Auckland Writers' Residency.



Co-hosted by the Department of English in the Faculty of Arts, the Residency enables a writer to spend six months at the Michael King Writers' Centre, an historic villa in Devonport. The writer also receives an office in the English Department and is supported by a \$30,000 stipend.

After completing her residency last year, Elizabeth strongly urged her fellow New Zealand writers to apply this year.

"Virginia Woolf insisted that a writer needs only two things to be able to write: money, and a room of her own," she said. "The recipient of the University of Auckland Michael King Writer's Residency receives both: an office in beautiful Devonport and a generous stipend on which to live. As the 2012 resident I have done great work here, working much longer hours than I could ordinarily manage at home."

Twenty-six New Zealand writers have held these residencies, which also give an opportunity for an author to benefit from an academic environment, and to contribute to teaching and creative mentoring in the Department of English.

Elizabeth, who is just 28, is already the author of the award-winning novel *The Rehearsal* (2008). *The Luminaries*, set in during the goldrush in Hokitika in 1866, was one of more than 150 entries for the Man Booker Prize this year.

The current writer in residence, novelist Sarah Laing, is working on the first draft of a graphic novel on the life of Katherine Mansfield.

## New appointment as trial court judge

A 37-year-old masters student from the University's Faculty of Law is about to become the youngest trial court judge in the province of Albay in the Philippines.

Joan Mosatella's family is proud of her achievement and delighted by her success and has promised celebrations when she interrupts her studies to return home to be sworn in by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

"Some people say I am bright, but I say I am diligent," she says. "My parents are both retired Government employees and I come from an average, normal family. My three sisters and I were sent to good schools and taught to work hard – one is an executive producer/writer, one is a doctor and the other is a nutritionist/dietician – so we have all done well."

Joan is at the Faculty of Law as a recipient of a New Zealand ASEAN Scholarship Award. She arrived in February and will complete her masters studies, specialising in Public Law, early next year.

The faculty has been kind to her and she is especially pleased with the support she has received from Professor Warren Brookbanks.

"I didn't really expect to be appointed a judge," she says. "Such an appointment is very political in the Philippines and I didn't know anyone who could back-up my nomination."

"When I found I'd been short-listed from a field of about 20 applicants, I asked the professor to write a letter to the President for me and he was my main referral. I am very grateful for his support and I rang him straight away when I found out I had been appointed."

Warren comments that "Joan is a bright and very able student and she will make an excellent judge".

In keeping with modern times, Joan found out about her appointment via Facebook, triggering a mad rush to confirm her success.

Her husband, attorney Neil Canicula, a specialist in elections and family law, will celebrate with her when she goes back to take her oath in the presence of her family from Tabaco City in Albay. It will undoubtedly be the biggest day to date in her very successful young life.

## National award for injury researcher

Professor Shanthi Ameratunga (Epidemiology and Biostatistics) is the 2013 recipient of the Injury Prevention Network of Aotearoa New Zealand's Te Manaia Leadership Award.

This award, presented to Shanthi at a reception in Wellington on 1 November, recognises her outstanding commitment and contribution to national injury prevention.

Shanthi's current research focuses on road traffic injuries, child and youth injury, disability and high-quality equitable trauma care, and rehabilitation outcomes. She is particularly interested in the unfair distribution of injuries among the most vulnerable – especially children and young people, low-income families, pedestrians and cyclists, and people living with disabilities.

In New Zealand intentional and unintentional injury is a leading cause of death for people between one and 34 years.

IPNANZ general manager Justine Ropata says: "The burden of injury is immense in terms of resulting disabilities, health expenditure, lost



Kiri Pardoe (left) presents the award to Shanti.

productivity personal suffering and loss of quality of life. Injuries are preventable and ... people like Shanthi ... are helping to expose the message that living an injury-free life is affordable and worthwhile.

IPNANZ is funded by the Ministry of Health.



## Biosecurity expert to advise Ministry



University of Auckland biosecurity expert Associate Professor Jacqueline Beggs has been appointed to the Ministry of Primary Industry's Biosecurity Ministerial Advisory Committee.

She is one of five new appointments to the committee, which provides the Minister with advice on future trends, risks and issues that may impact on the performance of the biosecurity system, and identifies opportunities for improvement.

Jacqueline is based in the School of Biological Sciences, and is also Director of the Joint Graduate School in Biodiversity and Biosecurity, created by the University and Landcare Research to combine their resources and expertise in environmental science and ecology research.

Her research aims to contribute to our understanding of ecological communities, particularly invertebrates, and ultimately to assist in the restoration and sustainable management of New Zealand's ecosystems. She focuses in

particular on the ecology and control of invasive invertebrates, the restoration of native ecosystems, and the role of invertebrates in ecosystem function.

For instance she has studied the impact of wasps on the structure of native insect communities in honeydew beech forest and ways to control wasps. Other research includes projects on the role of invertebrates in providing ecosystem services such as pollination, decomposition and biocontrol in natural and agricultural systems.

She has recently turned her attention to the ecology of dung beetles in New Zealand and the value of urban reserves in maintaining native invertebrate populations.

Primary Industries Minister Nathan Guy, in announcing the new appointments, said biosecurity is his number one priority "and hugely important to New Zealand as a trading nation.

## From the Vice-Chancellor



### University governance and autonomy

The Government's proposals to change the way universities are governed remains a major topic of discussion throughout the sector. Universities New Zealand has been developing a submission on behalf of the Chancellors and Vice Chancellors, who have been engaged in discussions with the Minister on this issue for some time.

One of the concerns many of us have is that the consultation document is very short on detail, so it is hard to know what the Minister has in mind. This is not helped by the absence of an exposure draft of the possible legislation. For example, the document states: "The Government seeks more efficient councils that are smaller and have sufficiently flexible membership for universities' unique characteristics to be reflected on their councils and for members to have high levels of governance skills and experience". Yet there is no evidence presented – and none that I know of – to indicate that small councils are more efficient than larger councils. Furthermore, there is already considerable flexibility in membership of university councils within the existing legislation. Six of the eight current university councils include between two and four alumni, while two include no alumni members. Six include members appointed after consultation with employer and union organisations, two do not. Four include members appointed after consultation with tangata whenua and one includes a nominee of the local city council. The numbers co-opted to complement the skills of other council members currently vary from one to five.

While we could perhaps live with the greater specification of accountabilities of Council members, and even the smaller councils, proposed in the consultation document, the proposal to increase the proportion of Ministerial appointees (from four out of 18-20 to 4 out of 8-12), and to remove the mandated right of other stakeholders to elect or appoint members of Council seems to me a clear threat to the autonomy of universities. It is difficult to reconcile this aspect of the proposals with the obligation that the Minister has under the Education Act 1989 (along with the councils and chief executives) to preserve and enhance academic freedom and the autonomy of the institutions. And it is this aspect of the proposals with which we should all be particularly concerned.

Although formal submissions on the proposals closed on 12 November, I encourage all who care about the autonomy of our universities to write to the Minister, Hon. Steven Joyce, to express their concerns.

## From Henderson to Venice

Professor Michael Parekowhai's inaugural lecture will take its audience on a tour "From Henderson Valley to Venice's Canalazzo, 2011".

Michael, who is a professor at Elam School of Fine Arts, will talk about his project for the Venice Biennale, and about how he responded to a variety of influences and aspirations, ranging from the 1960s New Zealand film *Don't Let It Get You* to the garden of a Venetian Palazzo.

The result was *On First Looking Into Chapman's Homer*, an exhibition which opened first in Henderson and later toured to Venice, Paris, Christchurch and Wellington.

Michael's exhibition history spans two decades and includes the Venice Biennale, Italy (2011), the Asia-Pacific Triennial, Australia (1999, 2006-2007), the Gwangju Biennale, Korea (2004), and the Sydney Biennale, Australia (2002).

An alumnus of the University of Auckland, he works across the disciplines of sculpture, installation and photography, exploring concepts such as the ambiguities of identity; the shifting sensitivities of historical memory; the value of aesthetics; the significance of biculturalism; and the fluid relationship between art and craft.

The lecture will take place at 6pm on 28 November in the Main Lecture Theatre, School of Engineering, 22 Symonds Street. For more information contact Echo Janman, Public Programmes Manager, Elam School of Fine Arts, e.janman@auckland.ac.nz

## Marty clocks up 50 years

A former lecturer who still presents Executive Education courses has clocked up 50 consecutive years of teaching.

Award-winning lecturer Marty Perkinson has just completed his latest Finance Fundamentals course at the University of Auckland Business School, cementing five decades of continuous service.

He was a student in the Department of Accountancy in 1964 when he was approached by the head of department to teach tutorials. Evening hours allowed him to continue while he studied at Auckland Teachers College, and he kept it up when he started work at Auckland Grammar School.

Marty was employed as a senior tutor at what is now AUT in 1969 and despite the rivalry between institutions, he was allowed to continue his contract at the University of Auckland where he was lecturing Stage 1 Accounting.

He became a full-time lecturer at the University in 1971, taking responsibility for financial accounting.

In 1976 he took sabbatical leave and visited universities in England, including Cambridge. He returned to New Zealand and took a series of

lectures on trust accounting in the Law School before returning full-time, teaching a stage two accounting paper and a masters paper.

In the late 1980s a new Diploma in Business was proving popular with working business people who wanted a quick but in-depth qualification.

Marty says: "Professor Alastair MacCormick, Dean of the Faculty of Commerce, asked me if I would like to teach these busy but more mature students. I thought this would be a real challenge. As luck would have it, I really enjoyed building up a rapport with these students and they rated my teaching evaluations very highly."

He was awarded (jointly with Alan Teixeira) the inaugural Department of Accounting and Finance Teaching Award in 1993, and, in 1994, one of the prestigious University of Auckland Teaching Awards.

Marty was later appointed assistant director for the Diploma in Business and moved to the director role when Mike Groves became in charge of short courses.

"I continued to teach accounting courses in the diploma and short courses during these times



because I enjoyed it and because I wanted to ensure I kept touch with students' needs."

In 2000 Marty left the University for an Adjunct Professor position at Unitec New Zealand, but still continued to teach the Understanding Accounting short course. In 2013, he is still teaching the course, now named Finance Fundamentals.

After his last presentation, students gave Marty's teaching an overall score of 6.8 out of a possible 7.

## Medal for outstanding paediatrician



Jane with Kawiti Nordstorm.

Distinguished Professor Jane Harding is to be awarded the Howard Williams Medal for 2014 at the Royal College of Physicians Congress in Auckland next May.

The medal is awarded each year by the College's Paediatrics and Child Health Division to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to Paediatrics and Child Health in Australia and/or New Zealand.

Jane's research activities include clinical as well as basic physiological studies. Her main interests concern the interaction of nutrients and growth factors in the regulation of growth before and after birth, and the long-term consequences of treatments given around the time of birth.

Most recently, she was the lead scientist in a study that developed a cheap and easy-to-administer dextrose gel to treat low blood sugars in newborns, published in *The Lancet*.

Jane obtained her medical degree at the University of Auckland, and trained in fetal physiology on a Rhodes Scholarship, completing her PhD at the University of Oxford. After specialist training as a paediatrician in New Zealand, she completed her FRACP in neonatology.

She is currently Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) for the University and is a member of the LifePATH research group of the University's Liggins Institute.

## Resolving international disputes

A leading scholar of international arbitration and professional ethics will present a public lecture hosted by the New Zealand Law Foundation (NZLF) at the Stone Lecture Theatre in the Faculty of Law at 6pm on 26 November.

Professor Catherine Rogers' presentation will consider how arbitration in its various forms responds to three important procedural concerns – arbitrator selection, appointment and challenge standards and procedures; transparency; and procedures affecting the interests of third-parties and non-party stakeholders.

Catherine will also address mediators, arbitrators and interested parties on third party funding at a breakfast meeting of the Arbitrators'

and Mediators' Institute of New Zealand at 7.15 on 25 November at the Northern Club, 19 Princes Street, Auckland.

In Wellington she will give a presentation on her work with the ICC Palestine, a joint venture partner with the ICC Israel in the creation of a new Jerusalem arbitration centre, which seeks to provide resolution for commercial disputes arising from annual trade between Palestinians and Israelis, worth about \$4 billion per annum.

Catherine is a professor at Queen Mary, University of London, and at Penn State Law in the US.



For information about the Dispute Resolution Lecture, email [g.vandruen@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:g.vandruen@auckland.ac.nz), phone 09 923 5723 or RSVP to [lawevents@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:lawevents@auckland.ac.nz) For the breakfast meeting please email [office@aminz.org.nz](mailto:office@aminz.org.nz)



## Tragic loss of valued friend and colleague

It was with deep sadness that staff in the School of Environment and in the wider University community heard the tragic news that Dr Hiroki Ogawa lost his life in a mountaineering accident.

"Hiroki has been a valued member of the School and great friend to many for the past eight years and has had a significant impact on staff and students," wrote Professor Paul Kench, Head of the School of Environment, in an email to staff and graduate students.

"Joining the School in 2005 as a PhD student, Hiroki studied coastal processes and coastal development around the New Zealand coast under the supervision of Mark Dickson and myself. Graduating as Dr Ogawa in 2012, Hiroki began work as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow on a project with me examining the impact of sea-level rise on Pacific Islands.

"Those of us who worked closely with Hiroki were impressed by his passion for the Earth Sciences and for outdoor pursuits. He was a dedicated and talented scientist who was beginning to make a significant international impact with his research. He was also hugely generous with his time and would frequently go the extra mile to help others.

"Hiroki also touched the lives of hundreds of students as a popular, supportive and approachable teacher in many of the School's undergraduate courses and assisted in countless postgraduate projects. For all these attributes Hiroki will be fondly remembered and sorely missed. His career was just taking off and his untimely death will be deeply felt by staff and students.

"To many of us Hiroki was also a great friend and his absence will make no sense at all.

"The School extends its sorrow and condolences to Hiroki's and his partner Nicole's families and will be organising an appropriate forum to remember this enthusiastic, generous and thoroughly decent friend."

*"Top prizes for our academics" continued from page 1*

In her research work, she makes bacteria glow in the dark so we can better understand how to fight infectious diseases, and is researching the uses of bioluminescence (or the production of light by living organisms).

She also leads the University's Bioluminescence Superbugs Group, focusing on how glowing bacteria can help scientists better prevent and fight microbial infections such as food poisoning, tuberculosis and hospital superbugs.

The Prime Minister's Science Prizes were awarded in Wellington on 12 November.

They combine recognition and reward with total prize money of \$1 million and are presented annually.

The prizes are New Zealand's most valuable science awards and were introduced to raise the profile and prestige of science. They celebrate scientific achievement, highlight the impact science has on New Zealanders' lives and aim to attract more young people into science careers.

## Eyes firmly fixed on the target

The Research Office has its sights clearly focused on the University's targets for growing external research income - a high priority in the University's 2013-2020 Strategic Plan.

Accordingly it has reprioritised resource to "support researchers to win more money to do more and better research".

Building on valuable learning from the recently-concluded International Research Team Development Award (IRTDA), the Research Office has reprioritised the role of its Fund Specialists towards business growth activities. The former IRTDA supported eight research teams with established track records in New Zealand to increase their success in obtaining international research funding by supplying: a development framework; dedicated support from an International Research Developer; and a mobility fund. The programme led to some good successes in enhancing international profile and linkages; the teams concerned are now receiving invitations to engage with other prominent international research groups and are engaged in a number of productive research collaborations. Successful joint bids for external research funding are expected to flow over the upcoming two years. The team of re-focused Fund Specialists will similarly support strategic programmes and bids across the University, taking a case management approach. One key difference, however, will be that the programmes and bids will be identified, on a pilot basis, by a process that maps research leadership, unique research offerings, funding opportunities and funder interests quite specifically; and has dual national and international foci for revenue growth.

The Fund Specialists will also actively support faculties and Large Scale Research Institutes (LSRI) administrations to implement the strategies and plans for achieving their respective external research income growth targets. The Research Office will supply valuable mapping and assessment activities to support the faculties to target their resources and support to the best advantage.

The Director of the Research Office, Dr Tracey Swift, will communicate the enhanced service offering to Deans and Associate Deans (Research) over the month of November. The University's targets for external research income are significant in ambition and scope, and the job of the Research Office is to add value to the University's research efforts.

# From the art collection

Running away from his Whanganui home to Wellington in 1939, the teenaged Dennis Turner was an incessant caricaturist whose first job consisted of retouching torn reproductions of paintings for a manufacturer of jigsaw puzzles.

Bored by his day job, he enrolled in evening classes at Wellington Technical College and there met Gordon Walters, who was five years his senior and already exhibiting at the New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts. Indonesian-born Dutch painter Theo Schoon and photographer Tom Hutchins were the other members of this coterie, who gathered to drink, smoke and talk about abstract art in a studio under the YMCA building in Wellington.

The inspiration for this drawing came from Schoon and Walters' sketches after expeditions to investigate Māori rock drawings in Weka Pass in Canterbury, and around North Otago. The Dominion Museum had opened in 1936, and Turner roamed its impressive Māori Hall until World War II interrupted his education. Called up for military service, Dennis Keith Turner changed his name to D. Knight Turner on the refusal of his appeal as a conscientious objector. He described his war years as a succession of periods of internment: "Two years in army. One year in marriage. Three weeks in Elam School of Art. Retained "Knight" as painting signature."

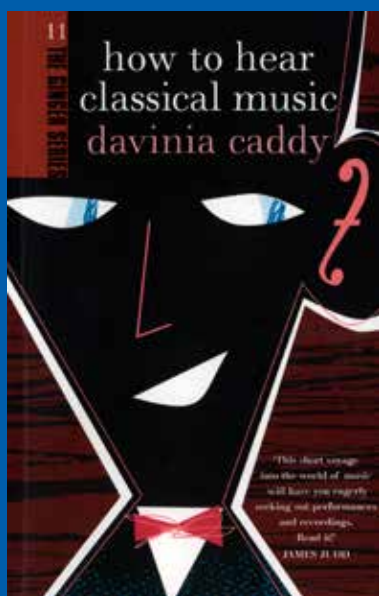
After discharge, his first solo exhibition was of 20 paintings at the Progressive Bookshop in Darby Street, Auckland in 1947 and was followed by an exhibition of 60 paintings at the Auckland Society of Arts Gallery in Victoria Arcade in 1948 and an exhibition of 40 portraits there the following year, along with a show at the Architecture School at Auckland University College that same year. An exhibition of 23 "mixed" paintings at the Kominoth Chalet Restaurant in Victoria Street was followed by an exhibition dedicated to the "Oceanic Motifs". Writing biographical notes a decade later, he remembered "Second attempt to paint seriously biased by misunderstanding of 'Oceanic Motifs' (They were taken seriously and sold like the hot cakes they were.)". He subsequently mounted an exhibition of "100 Oceanic Motifs" at the Pilgrim Press in Wakefield Street, and observed "All of which goes to show that Art, like crime, doesn't pay, and that biographic manifestations are sometimes better left cryptic than public."



Dennis K. Turner (1924-2011) *Oceanic Abstract*, 1951, watercolour and ink on paper

Linda Tyler

## Book



### How to Hear Classic Music

Have you ever had to bluff your way through music conversation? (No, Mozart did not write the "Moonlight" sonata.)

Have you ever considered the works of modern composers to be caterwauling cacophonies? Or failed to convince a teenager that Bach is better than Beiber?

This spirited book by musicologist, Dr Davinia Caddy, a senior lecturer in the School of Music, won't give you all the answers but it will open your eyes and ears to the endless adaptability of classical music, its enduring appeal and its extraordinary power and reach – from an elevator in New York to a landfill in Paraguay.

Davinia teaches the history, theory and analysis of music. She began her musical career playing principal flute in the UK's National Youth Orchestra, gained a PhD in music from Cambridge University, and carried out postdoctoral research at Oxford. Her book, *The Ballet Russes and Beyond*, was published by Cambridge University Press in 2012.

*How to hear Classical Music* was published by Awa Press in 2013.

# Auckland's history through its land

Writing a history of a town usually involves studying people and events.

But PhD student Lucy Mackintosh is writing a history of Auckland by studying the city's landscapes.

Her research is focusing on three themes: the narratives that people have crafted on landscapes; how landscapes have shaped human experience; and how people have remembered, negotiated and erased these narratives over time.

"For me, researching landscapes has highlighted aspects of Auckland's history that have never been written about or really addressed," says Lucy.

"I've always felt that landscapes provide a complex and nuanced perspective on our past."

The thesis will dig deep into the tangible and intangible traces left on the land, including earthworks, pathways, monuments, place-names and

stories, as well as visual and textual representations of the land. "What landscape allows us to do is to move beyond the written and spoken archives that history traditionally engages with."

Her PhD will explore iconic, prominent places, but also forgotten narratives, woven through landscapes in Mangere, One Tree Hill/Maungakiekie and the Auckland Domain.

Lucy enrolled in the PhD programme on her return from overseas in June. She had been working in the US as a public historian and researching early Māori and Pacific artifacts at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Massachusetts.

The Auckland Museum has recently helped boost Lucy's studies with a \$10,000 research grant. She intends to apply for further funding to assist the three-year project.

## What's on

### THURSDAY 14 NOVEMBER

#### Faculty of Education seminar

Prof Colin Evers, Professor of Educational Leadership, University of NSW: *How to conduct non-empirical research: Some strategies*. 4.30pm, Epsom, Seminar Rm 1, Kohia Education Centre, Epsom Campus, Gate 1, 78 Epsom Ave. RSVP to foed-postgraduate@auckland.ac.nz

#### Student performance concerts

7pm, Studio One, Kenneth Myers Centre, 74 Shortland St. Popular Music students complete their final-year of undergraduate study at the School of Music performing original works. Free. Queries to concerts@auckland.ac.nz

### SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER

#### Exhibition event

1pm, Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Artist Michael Harrison gives a guided tour of the Saskia Leek exhibition. Queries to gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz

### MONDAY 18 NOVEMBER

#### Centre for Medical and Health Sciences Education conference

*Interprofessional education showcase - from project to programme*. 12.30-4.30pm, Seminar Rm 505-003, Bldg 505, 85 Park Rd, Grafton. Queries to cmhseadmin@auckland.ac.nz

### TUESDAY 19 NOVEMBER

#### Tōmāiora seminar

*Street homeless Māori men: forging and maintaining positive relationships through gardening activities*. 12.30pm-1.30pm, Function Rm 730-220, Bldg 730, Tāmaki Innovation Campus.

#### Faculty of Education Distinguished Visitor seminar

Prof Reinhard Pekrun, University of Munich: *Achievement emotions: Origins, functions and educational practices*. 5pm, J2 Lecture Theatre, Epsom Campus, Gate 3, 74 Epsom Ave. RSVP to Reinhard.eventbrite.co.nz

#### Inaugural Lecture

Prof Paul Kench, School of Environment: *Islands on the move: Understanding the physical dynamics of coral reef islands*. 6pm, Lecture Theatre, OGH.

### WEDNESDAY 20 NOVEMBER

#### 38th Australasian Universities Building Education Association Conference

*Managing construction in a global market*. Faculty of Engineering, 20 Symonds St. Runs until 22 November. Visit [www.aubea2013.org.nz](http://www.aubea2013.org.nz)

### FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER

#### 20th NZASIA Biennial International Conference

*Environment, dis/location and cultural space*. Runs until 24 November. Visit [www.nzasia.org.nz/](http://www.nzasia.org.nz/)

### SATURDAY 23 NOVEMBER

#### Exhibition event

1pm, Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Marti Friedlander is in conversation with artist Julian Hooper who features as a child in many of the images she made in Tokelau in 1971. Queries to gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz

### MONDAY 25 NOVEMBER

#### School of Biological Sciences seminar

Dr Thierry Candresse, INRA, Université de Bordeaux, France: *Next generation sequencing and viral indexing: Towards a new paradigm?* 1-2pm, Mac 1 Seminar Rm, Biology Bldg, 5 Symonds Street. Queries to m.pearson@auckland.ac.nz

#### Inaugural Lecture

Prof David Cameron-Smith, Professor of Nutrition and Research Director, Liggins Institute: *The secret adventures of food: What really goes on inside?* 5pm, Lecture Theatre 505-007, Grafton Campus. Queries to ligginscommunications@auckland.ac.nz

#### Master of Music recital

Patricio Nuño Téllez (classical guitar). 7.45pm, Music Theatre, School of Music. Free. Queries to concerts@auckland.ac.nz

### TUESDAY 26 NOVEMBER

#### Inaugural Lecture

Prof Paul Neilsen, Engineering: *Bioengineering: a personal exploration*. 5pm, Room 403.404, Faculty of Engineering, 20 Symonds St. Queries to n.baajtjes@auckland.ac.nz

#### NZ Law Foundation international dispute resolution lecture

Prof Catherine A. Rogers, University of London: *Procedural arrangements as a window into the soul of international arbitration regimes: arbitrator selection, transparency and stakeholder interests*. 6pm, Stone Lecture Theatre, Level 3, Faculty of Law, 9 Eden Crescent. RSVP to lawevents@auckland.ac.nz

## Classifieds

### ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

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

**Brand new spacious one bedroom apartment** with deck, secure parking, storage locker. Extensive views to Mount Eden and Manukau Heads. For rent in prestigious Nugent Street development, close to the University, Hospital and Law courts. Available mid-December approx. Email Catherine Wright [wright.2@extra.co.nz](mailto:wright.2@extra.co.nz) or phone 022 0322 910 or (09) 816 9246.

#### Large, furnished, executive home

**Waiheke Island**, above beautiful beach. Stunning sea views. Available 1 July 2014 to 31 October 2014. Close to village, ferry and all amenities. Primary schools and excellent high school. 35 minute ferry ride to Downtown Auckland, walk to University. \$NZ 700 pw. Email [b.barton@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:b.barton@auckland.ac.nz)

#### Delightful townhouse.

Close to Rose Gardens, French Market, Judges Bay public transport, shops, hospital. Fully furnished including linen, two bdrms, two bthrms, quiet and sunny. Gas heating and hot water.

Balcony, green outlook, garage and outdoor area. Suit mature couple. No letting fee. \$615 pw. Available 28 November. Phone (09) 379 3928, (021) 832 654 or email [marham@xtra.co.nz](mailto:marham@xtra.co.nz)

### ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

**Mature woman moving temporarily to Auckland** with study scholarship needs accommodation for the 2014 academic year excluding intermittent study leave weeks. Prefer private board or small attached studio/self contained unit. Promise immaculate and discreet living. Contact details of personal and professional referees supplied. Please phone Judy (027) 205 7008 or (06) 359 4692.

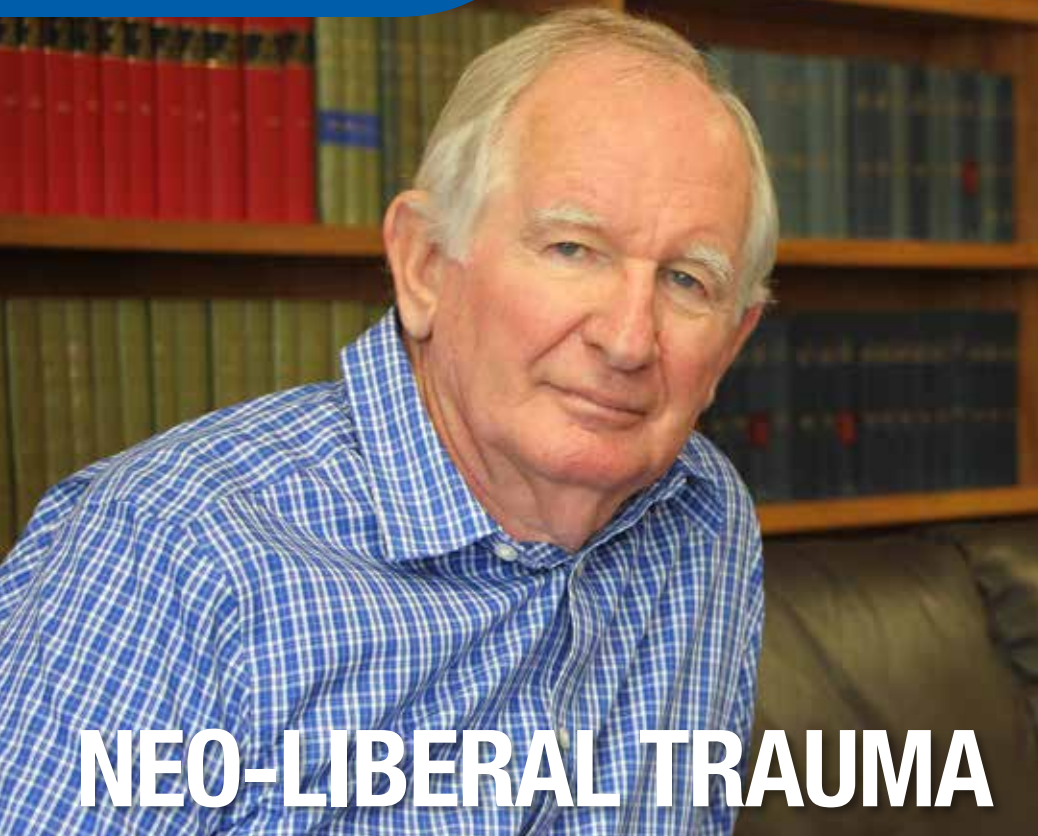
### MISCELLANEOUS

#### Advanced Writing and Research Services.

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# NEO-LIBERAL TRAUMA

The extracts below are taken from the annual Bruce Jesson Lecture, hosted by the Department of Political Studies and the Bruce Jesson Foundation at the Maidment Theatre on 20 October.

**This country, as with many other countries, has undergone a traumatic neo-liberal transformation. A theory that insists human well-being can best be advanced by liberating individual entrepreneurial freedoms and skills within a framework of strong property rights, free markets and free trade has been pursued in New Zealand to a radical extent. The outcome, as in other countries that have pursued the neo-liberal creed, has been extreme and even obscene inequality.**

... A World Health Organisation study has revealed that New Zealand is now second only to the United States in the divide between rich and poor ... in the two decades from the mid '90s in New Zealand the incomes of the top 20 per cent of income earners increased faster than in any other OECD country. Incomes for the bottom 20 per cent actually decreased. Wealth is even more unevenly distributed. The top ten per cent of the population owns half of the country's wealth and the bottom 50 per cent owns only five per cent of the wealth.

... It must be emphasised that the cause of this extreme inequality in affluent countries is not due to the lack of resources to share. There is in these countries more than enough to deliver substantive rights and a humane way of life for all.

### **Why is this gross inequality tolerated?**

The answer is simple ... this gross inequality has been fostered and sustained by the mantras, the shibboleths, the myths, the falsehoods and the specious beliefs that are propagated by the rich and powerful to perpetuate their wealth and privilege.

Among the neo-liberal features that must be reversed are:

**Values directed by the economic order ...** naked self-interest is a malign foundation for a healthy society. The free market should not be permitted to dictate or direct the values of the community. Rather, the community must determine its own values and impose those values on the free market.

**Exploitation ...** We have become increasingly tolerant or even immune to what I regard as the most reprehensible of all social and economic evils – exploitation. The potential for exploitation is inherent in capitalism ...

Those who trumpet the mantra that the free market is the most efficient means of allocating scarce resources tend to disregard the impact of an unregulated market on the environment. Yet the true burden of environmental cost is not borne by those who profit from the usurpation of the planet's limited resources but by the community as a whole.

**Equality ...** equality must mean more than equality of opportunity. Certainly, everyone should have the opportunity to develop their talents to the full. But if equality means no more than that, it is simply the opportunity for those with a fortuitously superior genetic structure or fortuitously privileged background to advance their superiority and privilege ... the premise underlying equality of opportunity should be the existence of a level playing field ...

**Government intervention ...** The populace has been conditioned by mantras, myths and catch phrases to repel government intervention, whether beneficial or otherwise ... Take a sample: blind adherence to the private sector and an equal measure of disdain for the public sector (meaning

in reality a blind bias in favour of private enterprise, a blind disregard of the mixed record of private businesses, and an equally blind rejection of the contribution and worth of the public sector); "small government" (meaning in reality fewer government policies favouring the vulnerable and disadvantaged, and less governmental assistance for those in need); privatisation (meaning in reality a transfer of wealth from the many to the more affluent few); "flexible labour" (meaning in reality less pay and tougher conditions for workers); "choice" (meaning in reality choice for the better off); "market discipline" (meaning, in reality, more often than not, a savage reduction in the number of employees or the attribution of an artificial money value to an inherently unquantifiable quality of service); and the holy grail of endless growth (meaning in reality an ill-informed optimism that growth is an eternal principle).

... effective regulation is essential to curb the shortcomings of a free market and attain social justice.

**Taxation ...** society ... cannot exist without government and government, however large or small, requires funding. Those entrepreneurs and developers who utilise public infrastructure, public amenities and public services but do not pay their fair share of taxes are, in substance and effect, receiving a subsidy from the taxpaying members of the community.

**Unemployment ...** is increasingly seen as a necessary function of economic growth, an individual misfortune to be bartered to secure greater economic efficiency, and the unavoidable consequence of controlling inflation ... Full employment is all too often sacrificed to obtain cheaper goods by adopting technology or replacing local labour with cheap overseas labour ... Working people, it seems, have become expendable and their dignity irrelevant.

**Trade unions ...** Individuals cannot match the economic and political clout of their employers or the economic and political power employers yield in the structure of the economy. The imbalance is structural unless workers are able to act collectively, and society is dysfunctional as long as that imbalance remains. It will remain, and neo-liberalism will not have finally been routed, until trade unions recapture some of the influence they have lost, principally by the restoration of collective bargaining.

**Social injustice ...** underlying all these concerns is the seemingly dwindling commitment of the community to social justice. The central core of a society dedicated to social justice is empathy, not only individual empathy but also the empathy of a collective and inclusive community.

Debate on these issues is essential. However, this will not be enough in itself to reverse the impact of neo-liberalism. The community, or groups within the community, will need to take a more assertive, if not aggressive, approach to reversing extreme inequality. Economic, social and cultural rights are the key.

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