

VILP Update

21 October 2011

This update is sent weekly, with details of Speaker Events, Seminars, Diplomatic Dialogues, Experiential Activity opportunities and general news. Please also check the VILP organisation on [Blackboard](#) regularly, as information will be added during the week.

Speaker Events

You do not need to book Speaker Events on [CareerHub](#). However, please check the II. Speaker tab on [Blackboard](#) for more details, such as whether a RSVP is required, and for new events added during the week. A reminder about upcoming speaker events:

<b>SPK804</b>	Venturing out of narrow seas	Brian Easton, 2008 JD Stout fellow	Wednesday, 26 Oct	4:10-5:30pm	Stout Research Centre, 12 Waiteata Rd, Kelburn
<b>SPK796</b>	Climate Change and the End of Exponential Growth	Pieter Tans, Earth System Research Laboratory, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Boulder CO, USA	Wednesday, 26 Oct	6pm	Govt Bldgs, Lecture Theatre 1, Pipitea
<b>SPK787</b>	House as Product	Tom Daniell, architect	Wednesday, 26 Oct	6pm	Theatrette 10A02, Museum Bldg, Massey Univ, Wellington
<b>SPK797</b>	Local Government Debt and Reform of Public Sector Financing in China	Dr Dongang Wang, China Centre Visiting Fellow, China Univ of Political Science and Law	Thursday, 27 Oct	noon	NZ Contemporary China Research Centre, 18 Kelburn Parade, Room 204, Kelburn
<b>SPK808</b>	Maori Environmental Philosophy: how it can guide us to a life sustaining culture	Rt Reverend Bishop Muru Walters, community leader	Thursday, 27 Oct	5:30-6:30pm	Cotton 304, Kelburn
<b>SPK801</b>	Durban: Deal or Deadlock? Prospects for the international climate change negotiations	Dr Adrian Macey, chair of Kyoto Protocol negotiations	Friday, 28 Oct	12:30-1:30pm	Railway West 315, Railway
<b>SPK805</b>	O le Tulafale: The Orator - Cast and Crew Panel Discussion	film cast and crew	Saturday, 29 Oct	1-2:30pm	Soundings Theatre, Level 2, Te Papa
<b>SPK758</b>	Preparing for White Swans: Climate Change and Opportunities for the Economy	Dr Jim Salinger, climate change scientist; Prof Caroline Saunders, Prof of Trade and Economics; Rod Oram, financial journalist	Tuesday, 1 Nov	4:30-6:30pm	Hunter Council Chamber, Kelburn
<b>SPK806</b>	Whither Brussels? The EU and New Zealand	Peter Kennedy, Special adviser MFAT	Wednesday, 2 Nov	5:45pm	Govt Bldgs, Lecture Theatre 1, Pipitea
<b>SPK807</b>	Stealing Beauty: Art Crime during War	Judge Arthur Tompkins, Dist Court Judge	Friday, 4 Nov	6pm	Govt Bldgs, Lecture Theatre 3, Pipitea
<b>SPK798</b>	Perspectives on International Dispute Settlement form a Participant	Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Palmer SC, Barrister, Distinguished Fellow Faculty of Law and NZ Centre for Public Law, VUW	Monday, 14 Nov	12-1pm	Rutherford House, Lecture Theatre 2, Pipitea

Message from the VILP Team

Meet some more of this Trimester's VILP finishers on page 2. We'd also like to congratulate those Study Abroad and Exchange students who have completed the tailored programme this Trimester. A complete list will be published once the deadline closes on 31 October.

Seeking a few experiential points and a worthwhile cultural activity? Celebrate Somalia will be held 26 November and is in need of volunteers. See Blackboard for details.

Go the All Blacks and have a great weekend!

*Amber and Cara*



**Miriama Cribb**  
**BA (Hons) Education & BCA**  
**Management & Maori Business**

Miriama was born and bred in Whanganui and was educated at a small Maori school up until Year 13. During her secondary schooling, she completed an AFS Student Exchange to Colorado, USA. This was the beginning of her international experience and upon return, Miriama knew she wanted to learn and be more involved in the

international arena.

It wasn't until embarking on her exchange to Lancaster University that she learnt of the VILP. Being both a Management and an Education student, Miriama especially enjoyed the seminars and speaker events which had a social and cultural focus.

'The VILP experience has been a very moving intellectual journey that I hope will translate into practice in the near future. The programme has allowed me to seriously and critically evaluate and review not only international issues, but the positive effects that globalisation has presented. I have gained positive insights and have shared and learnt of amazing leadership stories from speakers ranging from finance to the environment. In seminars, we have turned major issues on their backs and have analysed them in order to suggest possible solutions.'

This year, Miriama will complete an honours degree in Education whilst slowly integrating into the workforce. In the future, Miriama would love to travel to countries where indigenous education frameworks have been analysed and inter-cultural projects have been established to better meet the needs of indigenous peoples.



**Jiawen 'Alice' Pan**  
**BCA Economics**

Alice came to New Zealand from China in 2007 and moved to Wellington to attend Victoria University in 2009.

Alice learned of VILP during her first trimester, and by her second year, she had exceeded the number of Experiential Points necessary to complete the programme. 'I was worried that I would not reach the required points which pushed me to

get more involved with international organisations.' Among the organisations and activities Alice was involved with include the United Nations Youth Association of New Zealand (UNYANZ), the Wellington Region Committee, Victoria University of Wellington Students Association (VUWSA), Global Enterprise Experience (GEE), AIESEC and was a language buddy.

Alice says that the seminars and speaker events were also very useful. 'They helped me to have a deeper understanding of the world and me. The opportunity to engage in global issues through the VILP has been invaluable. It has also made my university life more busy and interesting.'

Alice has taken away a number of lessons from her VILP experience. 'During my journey with VILP, I found that leaders need to be passionate and determined, and flexible. I have learned there is no perfect in the world for leadership. You can't really get perfect solutions for everything or be the best leader all the time. Leadership involves a lot of knowledge which can't be fully explained by words.'



**VILP Alumni Focus**  
**Gordon O'Neill writes:**

Since returning to the UK, I have been fortunate to have been able to reflect upon the activities I have undertaken during my time in the Victoria International Leadership Programme, and think, what next?

Fortunately, skills I have picked up in the VILP, such as leadership, cross-cultural communication, global awareness and teamworking have allowed me to pursue career goals that I may not have been able to achieve otherwise. On my return, I spent two

months in an internship in Central London in a small trend consultancy. I was responsible for researching potential new business in South-East Asia, and my contacts and knowledge I gained made during my time as an ELTO conversation partner and GeeBiz Team Leader made this far easier.

I am now finishing my final year reading BSc (Hons) Business Economics, and I find in tutorials I am often able to draw from knowledge picked up in the numerous seminars and speaker events put on by the VILP team, along with events organised by the NZIIA. I feel incredibly lucky to have been involved with such a prestigious programme that is recognised and valued by employers, even here in the UK. I would encourage everyone at Vic to get involved with all the events and enjoy the opportunities that are offered through the VILP.

**Seminars**

**Note: Please prepare for these seminars!** More information can be found under the **I. Seminars** tab on [Blackboard](#). Booking is essential for all seminars and is done via [CareerHub](#).

\*\*\*The VILP Seminar Series for Trimester 2 has finished.

**VILP Team**

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