

Alumni Newsletter July 2010

Tena koutou

Welcome to the 2nd alumni newsletter.

As mentioned, we would like to profile different alumni each newsletter. Most of us will know Adele through her commitment to Awhina over the last decade. She was recently profiled by the Iwi Fisheries Unit of Ngati Kahungunu:

“Adele was born in Hastings and grew up in Napier attending Napier Girls High School. After completing her schooling, Adele went to Victoria University of Wellington and completed a BSc majoring in Ecology & Biodiversity and Genetics. In 2000 with the support of her whānau, Adele was awarded the first of two prestigious scholarships to complete her Masters and then her PhD research. Adele’s master’s research investigated the origins of Maori and Pacific peoples using DNA. For her PhD research she investigated the use of mussels as indicators of marine pollution. Adele is a long-term mentor for Te Rōpū Āwhina – whānau for Māori and Pacific students studying science at Victoria.”

It’s great to see the Awhina word getting about!

Facebook

The facebook group is now properly up and running. Just search “Te Ropu Awhina Alumni” and get tagging photos of yourself from way back! There was a bit of a hiccup with access to the group, but this is now sorted.

Careers Evening

The date for the careers evening has been set for one night on the week 13 -17 of September . I will be getting in touch with you shortly to see if you are available and keen. The vision is to have our alumni give a brief talk on what they do and what they studied and then to take questions. It should be a fun night!

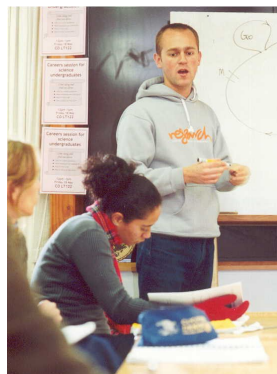
Awhina Birthday!

The Awhina birthday last week on the 22nd of July was a great success. There was a lot of fun had by all, and we welcomed a special guest speaker to the event. More news on the birthday will follow in the next newsletter.

Questions or comments on the newsletter?
Success stories or notices to add?
Send us an email!
Na
Te Ropu Awhina Team

Some alumni success!

Eli Mrkusich (Te Ngati Paea) has recently published his research in the leading A* scientific journal Development. The findings appeared on the cover of issue 13 of the journal (see below/wherever the picture is placed) and describe a novel biological process whereby a non-neuronal ‘accessory’ cell dictates the morphology of a sensory neuron. Eli has been working at the University of Melbourne researching neural development since the completion of his PhD at Victoria Univeristy in 2004.



Eli doing what he does best

Te Ropu Awhina Website

Did you know we have a website?
Check out the whanau at:
www.vuw.ac.nz/science/awhina
for the latest Awhina photos and success stories!