

Victorious

MAGAZINE FOR FRIENDS AND ALUMNI OF VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON



AUTUMN 2003

Serial Offenders

Mapping their movements

Mind your language

Keeping a watch on New Zealandisms

The ants come marching

Marauding Argentine ants

Ink tales

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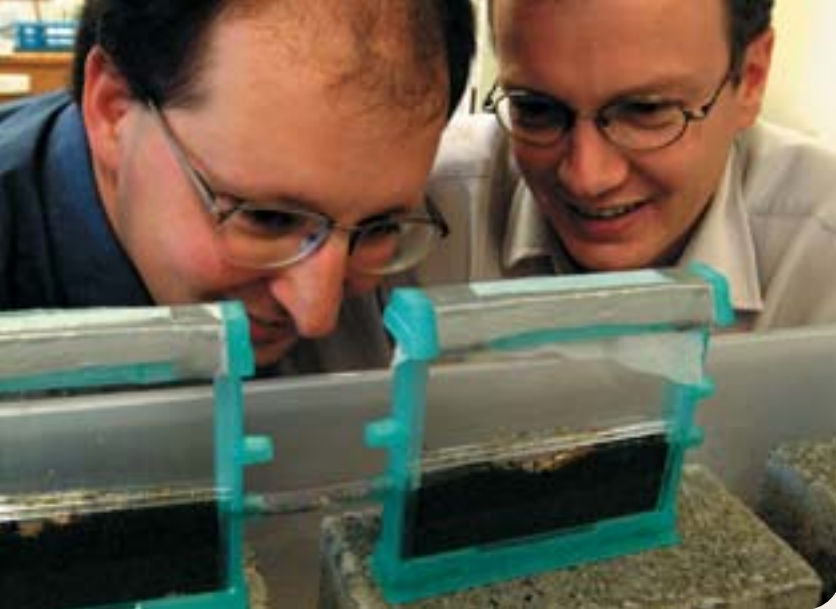
Victoria

UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

Te Whare Wānanga
o te Ūpoko o te Ika a Māui



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Stephen Hartley (left) and Phil Lester examine Argentine ant farms in their laboratory.

Invading Ants

The ‘Genghis Khan’ of the ant world is tightening its hold on New Zealand and Victoria researcher Dr Phil Lester is leading the charge to hold the ants at bay.

Phil, an entomologist in the School of Biological Sciences, is studying the spread and control of the Argentine Ant that first appeared in New Zealand in 1990.

“Because all of the Argentine ants here are closely related genetically they don’t fight each other, but when attacked or seeking food, nests will act together as a giant army just like the hordes of Genghis Khan.

“In a one-on-one fight between an Argentine ant nest and a native species, the natives will knock the pants off them. But the Argentine ants will group together and will win the battle through sheer numbers.”

As “tramp” insects, the Argentine ants are closely associated with people, being transported to new homes with furniture and pot plants.

Phil and postdoctoral fellow Stephen Hartley have mapped the spread of the ants and believe they may not be able to survive in the wild any further south than Hawke’s Bay. They’re also looking at biological control but the exact variant of its main South American enemy—the phorid fly that lays its egg inside the ant—has so far proved elusive.

“These ants have already caused damage to horticulture. They ‘farm’ other insects, such as aphids, for their honeydew, and defend them from predators. The result is the aphids also profit and end up devastating trees. Orchardists can spray to kill them off but there is little organic growers can do.”

The jury is still out on the damage they could do to native plants and animals, he says. Overseas they are known to attack and kill baby birds and lizards soon after they hatch.

Phil backs the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry’s strong response to recent biosecurity threats. “I’ve recently returned from Tokelau where several atolls have become infested with the yellow crazy ant, so named because they run around madly if disturbed. That ant—which has been intercepted by MAF at New Zealand ports and has so far not established here—is causing major problems in Tokelau.”



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In April this year I was delighted to be Master of Ceremonies at the Alumni Association's University Challenge Quiz. It was an excellent evening where, amidst munching of chocolate fish and sounding of the gong, could be heard a lot of laughter and conversation from the 165 alumni, staff and friends who participated. Networking is an important part of the life of the University and connecting alumni and friends is a key focus for the Alumni Association. I do encourage you to participate in our activities, and to join the Association or one of its Chapters.

Working with others is something we are very proud of at Victoria. There have been some new myths created in the past decade or so, chief among them the view that universities do not co-operate with others in the sector. Our academic and general staff work with their colleagues in other institutions on a regular basis. As an example, our strategic partnership with the Wellington College of Education has taken us further along the path of jointly taught programmes and shared facilities. The Polytechnic Pathways Programme has been a successful means of working with pre-university providers, and our international partnerships continue to develop well.

This year we have advanced our partnerships further. A partnership has been formed with Academic Colleges Group to teach Victoria University pre-University programmes to international students in Auckland, who will staircase to undergraduate programmes in Wellington.

A new partnership with Massey University to establish a joint School of Music and national centre of music excellence in the Capital is under consultation.

We continue to look for new opportunities to maximise our strengths and to ensure that quality educational outcomes are achieved.

Stuart N McCutcheon
Vice-Chancellor

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Cover photo: Criminologist Samantha Lundrigan is assisting the New Zealand Police Criminal Profiling Squad in tracking down criminals with geographic profiling. Photo and computer enhanced graphic: Bruce Foster Photography.

Victoria's academic staff are leaders in their fields of research expertise. If you have a project that requires the skills and knowledge of our staff, contact Mike Doig at VicLink. E-mail: Mike.Doig@vuw.ac.nz Tel: +64 4 463 5072

X marks the spot

Knowing what criminologist Samantha Lundrigan knows about serial sexual offenders makes talking to her a vaguely unnerving experience.

But it is also reassuring, knowing that Sam is undertaking a major research project to fine-tune a powerful tool that helps identify and catch those same offenders.

She is working through the New Zealand Police Criminal Profiling Squad's historical database of convicted sexual offenders to find out how far criminals travel to carry out their attacks. This information is integral to a technique called geographic profiling.

Unlike criminal profiling, which aims to understand the individual committing the crime, geographic profiling aims to find out where the individual lives by studying environmental and geographic factors surrounding a crime. This data is fed into Dragnet, a complex computer database, which calculates where the criminal is likely to be based.

“We operate in environments that are known to us—we shop in places we are familiar with, we meet friends in cafes that we know. We all have these ‘mind maps’ that help us get around. By studying the environmental and geographic factors around a crime, we hope to get to know more about the criminal and why they carried out the crime where they did.”

The version of Dragnet currently available to New Zealand investigators is one that is populated with data from the northern hemisphere. Sam's project will see the data she gathers bring the database into line with the New Zealand environment.

Although the project is not complete, Sam has already discovered that serial rapists in New Zealand tend to travel greater distances to commit their crimes. Feeding this information back into Dragnet will help with better pinpointing of criminals.

Sam immigrated to New Zealand three years ago to work at Victoria and found that her skills, and the reputation of her PhD supervisor and profiling expert Professor David Canter, preceded her.

“I'd only been in New Zealand a few weeks when the New Zealand Police contacted me saying they'd heard I was on my way. It was the beginning of an excellent working relationship that has resulted in some great collaborative research projects,” Sam says.

She has been asked by Police on a number of occasions to provide geographic profiles for serious crimes, most recently to help locate a serial sexual offender in central Wellington.

The geographic profiling process involves Sam studying the crime scene and then imposing the chronology and pattern of the serial attacks on a map. She then looks for clues including things like the proximity to significant geographical features such as parks, back streets, transport hubs and other things that may lead to understanding what she terms the serial offender's 'mind map'.

Sam says that New Zealand has the potential to be able to lead other countries in geographic profiling. “New Zealand is a manageable size in which to collect and process data and has the benefit of there being only one Police service.”

Victoria is the only university in New Zealand that offers a major in Criminology and has experienced a significant increase in enrolments in recent years, as well as taking on a number of new international staff. Last year the University launched the Crime and Justice Research Centre to focus cross-disciplinary research and to collaborate with related organisations.

[Samantha Lundrigan](#) ▼



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Research helps cancer patients breathe easier

Cancer patients will be able to breathe easier thanks to the research of nursing lecturer Helen Costello.

Helen, a lecturer in the Graduate School of Nursing & Midwifery, says breathlessness is a common and debilitating problem experienced by people with advanced cancer, particularly those with lung cancer. She has developed a booklet and CD to help those with breathlessness.

"The physical and emotional effects of not being able to breathe properly can greatly reduce a person's quality of life. While drugs are commonly used to remedy this situation, through my research I've developed, with other health professionals, a non-drug approach for managing cancer-related breathlessness."

Helen, who co-ordinates the Graduate School's palliative care programme, says when a person with cancer-related breathlessness becomes short of breath it can be a frightening experience.

"The body's response to episodes of being breathless is not in itself life threatening but the experience can feel like it is.

A sense of panic occurs when natural body mechanisms cause quicker shallow breathing, resulting in increased anxiety as breathing gets faster and less effective. Therefore, it's important to address both the physical and psychosocial aspects of the experience to help people manage this situation."

With the support of Capital and Coast District Health Board's community nursing service, the Wellington Cancer Centre, Wellington's Mary Potter and Te Omanga hospices, and external research grants, Helen was able to do the research that forms part of her PhD. Funding from the Genesis Oncology Trust, the Cancer Society's Wellington Division and the Wellington Medical Research Foundation, allowed her to produce a 28-page booklet as a guide for people living with cancer-related breathlessness and a CD to support relaxation. The CD was developed with Linda Miller, an occupational therapist at Mary Potter.

One person using Helen's booklet to assist with his breathlessness is Harry Elmy, who has lung cancer.

"When I first started with the strategies, my illness was not too bad. Now I find my breathing is worse and I use the techniques quite frequently," he says. "The booklet that Helen has developed is very useful and I am sure many others will benefit from using it."

Genesis Oncology Trust



▲ Helen Costello discusses her booklet and CD with cancer patient Harry Elmy.

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Dating Darwin

After 165 years and three colourful expeditions, one of Charles Darwin's earliest theories has got the nod from geologist Associate Professor John Collen—Darwin was right!

In 1838, Darwin published his belief that atolls formed when coral reefs grew upwards in the shallow waters above subsiding undersea volcanoes. Twenty years later when his controversial work, *The Origin of the Species*, was published, public fervour demanded that all his earlier theories be re-examined.

"Later in life Darwin didn't so much want to prove all his theories right as have them proven wrong or right," John says. For this reason in 1881 Darwin wrote in a now famous letter that he wished 'some doubly rich millionaire' would drill a hole on a tropical atoll to prove or disprove his ideas.

Between 1896-1898 three expeditions went out under the auspices of the Royal Society and drilled a number of bore holes on Funafuti Atoll, Tuvalu. John says that although scientists lacked the technology to conclusively prove Darwin's theory, they found enough evidence to suggest that Darwin's theory was probably correct.

The core material went largely forgotten until 1999 when Stephen Eagar of the School of Earth Sciences came across it at the Natural History Museum in London. He let John know that there was also material in Sydney, and using the Australian National University's uranium dating technology, John was able to finally confirm that the Funafuti core supported Darwin's theory.

"The results show progressive increases in age downwards, then a dramatic increase in age by about 200,000 years at about 30m depth in the core. This leap is explained by the changing sea levels between ice ages and warmer periods, creating and eroding the coral growing in the shallow waters above the subsiding volcanoes.

"Although Darwin had been shown to be correct from deep drilling at places like Bikini Atoll, the present dating is pleasing evidence from the Funafuti core that Charles Darwin was right 165 years ago and the vision of the Royal Society has been justified," John says.

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As Kiwi as number 8 wire

Boiling the Zip, the DPB, up the boohai, hot water cupboard, wintering over on the ice. Chances are if you use these terms outside of New Zealand, you may be met with a bewildered stare.

Keeping track of these and thousands of other 'New Zealandisms' has been a long-standing academic tradition at Victoria for more than 60 years. That activity has been focused in the New Zealand Dictionary Centre since its establishment in 1997 and financially supported through a partnership with Oxford University Press



(OUP). In March, OUP signed an Agreement with the Centre to extend the relationship and increase funding for at least another five years.

Professor Graeme Kennedy, Director of the New Zealand Dictionary Centre, says that among other things, this continued support will allow completion of the *New Zealand Oxford Dictionary*. This major work, due for completion in 2004, will include up to 12,000 entries of New Zealand words and phrases, as well as encyclopaedic information. Every Oxford dictionary produced at the Centre goes out carrying Victoria's logo as well as that of OUP.

Notable lexicographers to come out of Victoria include Dr Harry Orsman, Dr Robert Burchfield, who became editor in chief of the great *Oxford English Dictionary*, and Drs Grahame Johnston and Bill Ramson, who made their mark editing dictionaries of Australian English. They all developed under the tutelage of Professor Ian Gordon, Chair of English Language and Literature at Victoria from 1937 to 1974.

The tradition of dictionary scholarship is alive and well at the Centre with two Research Fellows currently completing doctoral projects. Staff keep track of new words and new meanings entering New Zealand English, and work with sophisticated databases developed at Victoria. The work of the Centre also contributes directly to the *Oxford English Dictionary*.

◀ Graeme Kennedy

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Switched on Solution

Tomas Sandoval's research has provided an illuminating revelation to locals and visitors to the Peruvian city of Cusco.

When commissioned to light the city's historic main plaza, he was unable to find guidelines on how best to light large urban spaces. Tomas, a Master of Architecture graduate and a trained electrical engineer with a number of high profile lighting projects on his CV, developed an equation in response. He provided an integrated lighting solution to transform the plaza into a dynamic and safe space.

His work, which won an award at the recent Australian and New Zealand Architectural Science Association conference, provides city planners and lighting practitioners with a formula that dictates the light needed to light buildings and their surroundings.

Tomas' work differs from what we see in many urban areas. In place of traditional street lighting and lamp posts, his lighting

design depends on light reflecting off buildings and onto the spaces around them. This integrated approach, he says, is more cost effective and aesthetically pleasing than lighting the buildings and the streets independently, and it offers a safer environment.

Only months after the integrated plaza lighting was installed in Cusco, Tomas returned and was amazed at the transformation. "Previously, the plaza had been deserted after 9pm. When I went back it was still full of people at 12 and 1 in the morning. The bars and restaurants around the plaza were full—I think they owe me a drink!"

Since presenting at the conference last year, Tomas has received many queries from lighting professionals, looking to fill the gap in knowledge on how to light large urban spaces.

If many of New Zealand's public spaces were built again today, the lighting design would be very different, Tomas says. "Electrical engineers, civic planners and architects are all a lot more aware of the need for integrated lighting."



Tomas Sandoval ▶

Life at 85 plus

Victoria's New Zealand Institute for Research on Ageing has challenged stereotypes surrounding New Zealand's oldest citizens.

Director Dr Judith Davey, who co-authored with Deputy Director Dr Susan Gee, *Life at 85: A Statistical Review*, says it's vital to look at the 85 plus group separately from those between 65 and 84 whose lifestyles and needs are different.

"It was often believed that the 'older old' are in ill-health, find it difficult to manage and are socially isolated. But actually many rate their health positively and remain active. While many have chronic health issues, they are receiving medical attention to ensure their conditions are controlled or monitored.

"They generally do not smoke or drink much alcohol and most are supported well in housing they usually own. But they do have the highest average health costs of any age group and this includes the cost of residential care. A higher proportion also have various disabilities."

By 2051 an estimated 290,000 people will be over 85, a 600 percent increase on the numbers living today. They are the fastest growing part of New Zealand's ageing population and will account for a quarter of all people over 65 by that time.

"Government policy is to promote positive ageing, which they describe as living independently and being involved in the community. We would like to follow up this research with face-to-face interviews with people over 85 so their voices can be heard and we can find out what makes it easier or harder to remain independent."

Judith says the research has been welcomed by groups such as Age Concern, Greypower, general practitioners and district health boards. The Hon Lianne Dalziel, Senior Citizens Minister at the time of the publication's launch, described the research in her foreword as, "a valuable resource that will have enduring relevance."

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Crime and Punishment

Criminologist Dr John Pratt wasn't surprised when judges started handing down hefty jail sentences to murderers and violent criminals. It was yet another sign New Zealand was caught up in a maelstrom about crime and punishment he has watched sweep the western world.

John, a Reader in Criminology, has researched changing patterns of punishment and observed the call for harsher penalties in Britain, New Zealand, the United States and Canada.

Following recent law changes, the minimum non-parole period for the most violent murders in New Zealand has been increased from 10 to at least 17 years. William Bell, convicted of murdering three people at the Mt Wellington-Panmure RSA, was recently sentenced to a minimum 33 years in prison—a New Zealand record.

John says demands for harsher penalties, and the rise of groups like the Sensible Sentencing Trust, have their roots in the social, cultural and economic changes of the last 30 years.

"Western societies were buffeted by social upheaval as the welfare state begun to unravel and governments told people to take responsibility for their own lives. An insecure public, alarmed at rising crime rates, grew dissatisfied with bureaucrats who were seen as out of touch and inefficient, and has demanded a greater say in penal affairs as shown by the 1999 referendum."

This was a marked change from modern trends up to the 1970s during which punishment was effectively divorced from public input and hidden from view. John, who last year published *Punishment and Civilisation*, says this largely anonymous form of punishment came to be seen as one of the features of the 'civilised' world.

John sees a bleak and expensive future. In 2001–2002, New Zealand spent \$230 million in imprisoning convicted prisoners and the amount keeps rising. About 150 out of every 100,000 New Zealanders are in jail and it is extremely difficult to reintegrate people who have been jailed for so long. This then adds to problems of security within the prisons with a population that may have little to lose from further conflict.

In the US, the situation has become so extreme that, with 'three strikes' laws, people are being jailed for life for minor crimes. To control such a burgeoning prison population—709 out of every 100,000 people are in prison, often in the most appalling conditions—'Supermax' prisons have appeared where prisoners are kept in small cells for 23 hours a day with little guard or inmate contact.

▼ John Pratt is keeping an eye on lengthy sentences.

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If you are interested in sharing your views or supporting Victoria on issues of tertiary education politics and policy, contact us. E-mail: Tertiary-Policy@vuw.ac.nz
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Tertiary Changes

The establishment of the Tertiary Education Commission Te Amorangi Mātauranga Matua (TEC) has been an important milestone in developing New Zealand's knowledge society and economy.

According to TEC Chair Dr Andrew West, it signals a fresh commitment to equipping New Zealanders with the skills, imagination and learning opportunities to confidently take their place in the world.

- negotiating and approving profiles, or parts of profiles, of tertiary education providers, for the purpose of funding;
- allocating funds to organisations; and
- building the capability of organisations.

“One of the biggest challenges for universities and the entire tertiary sector will be considering the tertiary sector as a whole instead of as a system of individual parts”

TEC was established under the provisions of the *Education (Tertiary Reform) Amendment Act 2002*. This Act provides the TEC with a mandate and steering instruments to implement the Tertiary Education Strategy 2002/07 and subsequent tertiary education strategies.

TEC has two fundamental roles: to build the capability of the tertiary education system; and to steer that system to better achieve national goals.

TEC has a key role to play in the implementation of the Tertiary Education Strategy and the associated Statement of Tertiary Education Priorities. Its role includes:

- negotiating charters with tertiary education organisations;

Work is underway to develop a system to:

- specify the Charters and Profiles process and requirements; and
- evaluate and monitor Charters and Profiles.

Regular updates will be sent directly to tertiary education organisations and posted on the TEC website (www.tec.govt.nz) as decisions about the Charters and Profiles process and requirements are made.

A shift in the way all the players in the tertiary education sector interact is needed to ensure the success of the tertiary education reforms. In the next 18 months TEC's focus will be on building and strengthening existing relationships with the tertiary sector and developing a framework for change that is robust and reliable.

“One of the biggest challenges for universities and the entire tertiary sector will be considering the tertiary sector as a whole instead of as a system of individual parts,” says Andrew.

“Our vision of the tertiary education sector is one which links directly and explicitly with economic and social goals. We would like to see universities develop strategic partnerships with organisations such as other Tertiary Education Institutions or industry. This will offer opportunities to access strategic funds.”

TEC is committed to helping the Government achieve its vision of a knowledge society.



▲ Andrew West

A history of collaboration

By Professor Stuart McCutcheon
Vice-Chancellor

Pre dating any Government-driven pushes for tertiary institutions to collaborate, Victoria has been out there building bridges.

For example, in the 1990s Victoria worked with Waiariki Polytechnic and Nelson Polytechnic for the teaching of Social Work, and the Graduate School of Nursing & Midwifery has longstanding partnerships for nurse training with polytechs and hospitals. More recently we have strengthened our ties with the Wellington College of Education, our School of Government is part of the Australia and New Zealand School of Government, and with Massey University we have developed a proposal to create a joint School of Music. Many of our staff also have research collaborations with colleagues in other institutions.

Current reforms to the tertiary sector are simply a refinement of what universities have been doing as a matter of course. With this formalisation come increased compliance costs. For example, there is not a corner of the University that has not been touched by the demands of providing TEC with information for the PBRE. This draws staff away from their core roles of teaching and, paradoxically, research.

Charter Consultation

The University is required to develop a new Charter, which must be submitted by 30 September 2003 in order for the University to remain eligible for Government funding in 2004. As this will require the input of our alumni and friends, we have established a Charter Consultation web page at



The PBRF: Challenges and Opportunities

By Professor Pat Walsh
Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research)

Four letters—PBRF, short for Performance-Based Research Fund—have weighed heavily on the minds of people in the tertiary sector this year.

The PBRF, being implemented by the Tertiary Education Commission, is a key plank in the Government's tertiary sector reforms and aims to reward research. It's the commitment of academics to research that makes universities special and it's good to see that recognised.

Currently, under the Equivalent Fulltime Student funding system, universities receive a 'top-up' that recognises research and postgraduate degree completions. From 2004 to 2007, this will be progressively whittled away and replaced by PBRF money. By 2007 this will be worth \$134 million and includes a welcome \$60 million of new funding the Government has promised to contribute.



▲ Professor Pat Walsh

and attracting the best staff and graduate students and improving our revenue.

The PBRF poses opportunities, challenges and costs for Victoria. The costs stem from the enormous administrative work required to implement it, none of which is being reimbursed.

The money will be allocated to universities based on an assessment of research performance between 1997 and 2002, and the number of thesis degrees completed and external research income earned during 2002.

The PBRF poses opportunities, challenges and costs for Victoria. The costs stem from the enormous administrative work required to implement it, none of which is being reimbursed.

The opportunities lie in Victoria gaining more systematic knowledge of its research and, armed with that information, the ability to take a more strategic approach to its development. Gaining a high overall ranking will have a positive impact on staff morale and make Victoria an even more attractive place in which to work and study, retaining

But the challenges lie on the other side of the coin. A poor ranking will affect morale and make Victoria a less attractive place in which to work and study. As an increasing proportion of our funding will be determined by the 2003 PBRF exercise—jobs could be at risk if Victoria fares badly.

Victoria is determined to do well in this process as it is vital to our research income and for recognition of our areas of research excellence. But we're also keenly aware that our focus on the PBRF must be balanced with a continuing commitment to quality teaching.

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The reforms fail to acknowledge that the fundamental problem New Zealand universities face is a continuing relative decrease in funding. At US\$6,000 per student, New Zealand universities have an average income per student well below that available to universities in the United Kingdom (US\$9,700), the United States (US\$19,800) and Australia (US\$11,500). This low level of funding impacts right across the University, from our ability to offer globally competitive salaries, through to the purchase of quality research equipment and library resources.

A key issue is the extent to which we should centrally manage the balance of programmes students will take. I place considerable faith in the ability of the diverse group of people who study at Victoria to make decisions on their education and the form it takes. We do them a disservice to think that any one central organisation can know their needs better than they do.

It is encouraging to me that university graduates end up in a wide range of roles that they may not necessarily have completed a dedicated qualification for. It means that universities are delivering to their traditional reason for being, and that is progressive academic thought free of predetermined ends. In short, we are—and must remain—educators, not training establishments.

www.vuw.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/charter.html Subject to the release of the Government's requirements, we aim to have a draft available on the site no later than 30 June 2003. We invite you to check the website at this time to view the proposed revision and to make a submission.

If you are interested in finding out about the dynamic courses and qualifications offered by Victoria for yourself or to share with others, contact our Course Advice team. E-mail: Course-Advice@vuw.ac.nz Tel: 0800 VIC UNI

Māori hungry for business skills

“Māori are big players in the economy and their interests are growing daily. To look after and administer their resources, Māori need to know how the Māori business world operates,” says Matene Love, Senior Lecturer in the Victoria Management School and co-ordinator of the Certificate in Māori Business.



Until recently, the Certificate in Māori Business has been offered only at Victoria's Wellington campus but last year it was offered for the first time in a local community. A model has been developed that sees Victoria University partner with polytechnics or other quality learning institutes around the country to deliver the Certificate.

Students are taught the basics of a business qualification by their local education institute and then take part in intensive block courses held by Victoria University academics over a series of six weekends in their community. The three Victoria-taught courses focus on Māori Authorities, Māori Small Business and Management of Māori Resources.

At the end of last year the first group to complete the Certificate did so at the Eastern Institute of Technology in Taradale, and graduated with a Victoria qualification at the University's May ceremonies.

Matene says the success of the community initiative has already attracted interest from several other iwi, including Ngāti Tuwharetoa and Ngāti Porou, which will see partnerships with local institutions develop in the near future.

Māori Business can also be taken as a major in the Bachelor of Commerce & Administration.

◀ Matene Love

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Voyage of science success

Evangelene Daniela, Clinical Psychologist in training, believes Pacific people have a natural affinity for science and wants to see an increase in the number of students in the area.

“Our ancestors navigated by the stars as they made their way around the Pacific. They understood their environment and relied on this knowledge of the natural world to produce food, to travel and to prosper.

“I think that Pacific people of today inherently possess that same enquiring mind that leads to an affinity with science. There are so many exciting opportunities—it's real cutting edge stuff, pushing the boundaries of knowledge.”

And there is no need to look further for a model Pacific science graduate than Evangelene. Now into her sixth year of study and with another four ahead, Evangelene already has a BA in Religion and a BSc in Psychology with first class honours from Victoria. Thanks to winning a coveted \$94,000 Health Research Council scholarship, she is now on track to complete a PhD in

Psychology. She'll follow her PhD with a further year of study to become a registered Clinical Psychologist.

She is working in the laboratory of psychologist Professor Susan Schenk, one of the few laboratories in the world to be studying the illegal party drug ecstasy. Her research focuses on the interplay of behavioural and biological triggers that cause ecstasy users to keep using. Evangelene hopes her research will eventually be used to produce a set of guidelines for people who have kicked their chemical dependencies in order to avoid relapse.

As a Clinical Psychologist, Evangelene wants to work with Pacific adolescents with substance dependency problems. Aware of only two Pacific Clinical Psychologists practising in New Zealand,



▲ Evangelene Daniela in the Psychology whānau room.

and only one other in training, Evangelene is committed to increasing those numbers to boost the support provided specifically for Pacific people.

Evangelene is already involved in creating bright futures for younger Pacific students. She is an active member of Te Rōpū Āwhina Pūtaiao, the mentoring scheme for Pacific and Māori students of Architecture, Design and Science at Victoria.



Who's new?

David Bibby

Professor David Bibby brings a wealth of science knowledge to his role as Pro Vice-Chancellor and Dean of Science and Dean of Architecture & Design.

With PhD and DSc degrees from Britain's Loughborough University, David has a distinguished record in research and many years' experience in the management of science, most recently at Industrial Research Ltd (IRL), where he was general manager of science policy.

Victoria and IRL have a long history of collaboration and are partners in the MacDiarmid Institute for Advanced Materials and Nanotechnology.

David took up his new role in April, replacing Professor Peter Englert, who was appointed as Chancellor of the University of Hawai'i at Manoa.

Gordon Holden

Professor Gordon Holden started in February as the new Head of the School of Architecture. He comes to Victoria from Queensland University of Technology, Australia, where he had been Head of the School of Architecture, Interior & Industrial Design since 1993.

Gordon has been associated with the School of Architecture since 1991 when he chaired its professional accreditation process. He was a strong voice in encouraging the School to move to its current Vivian Street site to foster closer ties with the architecture community.

Gordon believes that graduates from the School will continue to make important contributions to New Zealand and increasingly more of them will practice in other countries.

Bob Klepper

Professor Bob Klepper's appointment as the Jade Professor of Electronic Commerce in the School of Information Management is a sign of ongoing growth for e-commerce at Victoria.

Bob's research interests centre on the acquisition and implementation of new technology in organisations and the role that trust and reputation play in fostering business-to-consumer electronic commerce.

Bob, who has a PhD in economics from the University of Chicago and was previously Professor of Computer Management and Information Systems at Southern Illinois University, took up his new position in January. He replaces inaugural Jade Professor of Electronic Commerce, Brian Corbett.



Sarawak relationship grows

Earth Sciences students are learning first-hand of an innovative project to help the indigenous people of the Malaysian state of Sarawak to become commercial farmers through the work of two Victoria researchers.

Associate Professor Philip Morrison and Dr Warwick Murray from the School of Earth Sciences, along with Dr Dimbab Ngidang of the Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) are investigating a scheme that attempts to transform subsistence rice farmers into commercial farmers of crops such as chickens, fish and coffee.



▲ Sarawak government officials discuss contract poultry farming with Dr Warwick Murray (centre, back) and Dr Dimbab Ngidang (centre front).

Philip says many agricultural industries, such as chicken farming, are dominated by large businesses making it difficult for indigenous small holders to break into the market.

"What the Sarawak State Government has done is establish a protected market allowing indigenous farmers to sell poultry to the schools and police department. The farmers are given training and a small number of day-old chicks to start with. If they do well, they are allowed to grow their business."

About 60 farmers are involved so far and Philip says it's too early to judge its success in commercial terms. Dimbab, who visited Victoria to give guest lectures in May, Philip and Warwick, are writing a paper on the scheme that will provide a valuable case study for graduates in their Development Studies programme and undergraduate human geography students.

The research also furthers the growing relationship between the School and UNIMAS involving regular graduate student exchange programmes and several joint research projects although an institutional relationship was not formalised until 1997. With support from the Asia 2000 Fund, and more recently the Chair of Malay Studies Professor Yaacob Harun, eight geography honours students have been able to do field visits and complete research projects.

Philip says all the students have found the experience highly rewarding. "A common comment is that after having studied development in Asia in the lecture theatre, that it was fantastic to witness some of the ideas and concepts operating in a practical setting."

E-mail: Phil.Morrison@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: +64 4 463 5645

If you are interested in joining the Alumni Association of Victoria University or the Wellington College of Education. Email: Alumni-Association@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: +64 4 463 5128, www.vuw.ac.nz/alumni or www.wce.ac.nz/alumni

Victoria Events

Alumni and friends of the University are warmly invited to these events.

Opera Victoria Orpheus in the Underworld

Victoria School of Music presents this opera in three centres.
Written by Jacques Offenbach; Music Director, Kenneth Young;
Director, Bernd Benthak.

Friday 1 & Saturday 2 August, 7.30pm

Venue: Opera House, Wellington

Tickets: available from Ticketek phone +64 4 384 3840

Tuesday 19 August, 7.30pm

Venue: War Memorial Theatre, Gisborne

Tickets: available from Stephen's Photoplus, 119 Gladstone Rd,
or phone +64 6 868 8288

Alumni who attend this performance are also invited to supper with the Vice-Chancellor.

Thursday 21 August, 7.30pm

Venue: Hawke's Bay Opera House, Hastings

Tickets: available from Ticketek outlets phone +64 6 873 5526 or
phonecharge +64 6 876 3173

Tickets are priced from \$21.50, and includes PAF levy. Booking fees may apply. For more information contact the School of Music phone +64 4 463 5369 or email: music@vuw.ac.nz

Alumni Breakfast at Weir

Former residents are invited to celebrate the 70th anniversary of Weir House with a Champagne Breakfast at Weir. To ensure you are sent a detailed invitation to the breakfast, please contact us at alumni@vuw.ac.nz or fax +64 4 463 5208. Make sure you include your name (and maiden name if appropriate), current address and the message 'I'm a Weir House alumnus'. As we may not have current addresses for many of your colleagues, please feel free to pass on this information.

Date: Saturday 23 August 2003

Venue: Weir House

10th Anniversary of Graduate School of Nursing & Midwifery

This year commemorates the 10th anniversary of the appointment of the School's inaugural Professor. To celebrate, alumni are invited to a seminar and black tie dinner coinciding with the December 2003 Graduation. An alumni network is being formed to assist graduates to keep in touch with the School and each other. Formal invitations will be sent soon. To ensure you are on our invitation list please contact Kate Duke, email: Kate.Duke@vuw.ac.nz or phone +64 4 463 6156.

Date: Thursday 11 December



The Weapons of Maths Instruction competing for ▲ the inaugural University Challenge Quiz cup.

From the Alumni Association

By Philip McCabe
President, Alumni Association

Being a member of Victoria's alumni community can mean much more than framing your qualification, paying off your student loan and receiving Victorious. There are plenty of opportunities to continue your participation in the life of the University.

Participation was the name of the game when 26 teams competed in the Alumni Association's inaugural *University Challenge Quiz*. The quiz is open to Victoria's alumni and staff and will be a permanent feature on the Association's calendar of events. The handsome first prize cup went to a team from the Law School with alumni team, *The Brainy Bunch*, coming in second and *Brown's Superstars*, *The Fluffy Bunnies* and *Salient "A" Team* sharing third place. Specially branded *University Challenge* wine was also awarded and all contestants and supporters (some sporting colourful accoutrements) received brain food in the form of chocolate fish. It is not too soon to start forming a team and getting into training for 2004!

Kiwi Connections, the volunteer friendship programme for international students run by Victoria International and the Alumni Association, got off to a tasty start recently at its fish and chip 2003 Icebreaker event. The international students and their hosts enjoyed meeting each other, sharing a meal and competing for chocolate fish while getting to know each other.

The Kiwi Connections programme links international students with Victoria alumni, staff or final year student volunteers. Unlike other hosting programmes, Kiwi Connections does not involve the students living with their hosts. Instead, Kiwi Connections encourages hosts to involve their international student in everyday New Zealand activities. The Association is always recruiting hosts so if you want to be involved please contact us. This is a simple and practical way of promoting New Zealand to the international students, requiring very little beyond the friendliness and hospitality for which New Zealanders are well known. It is also great fun, so do get involved.

Participation by becoming a subscription member of the Alumni Association means you'll receive additional information on activities, guest lectures, other goings on at Victoria, and invitations to be involved with them.



Life After Vic

Thanks to the graduates and members of the University community who have sent in their news. For more alumni updates visit

www.vuw.ac.nz/alumni/lifeaftervic

Wendy Dawn Thompson BMus(Hons) 1999



Following in the footsteps of giants, Wendy won the 2003 Kathleen Ferrier Competition, a prize regarded as one of the most prestigious available to young British and Commonwealth singers. The prize, won last year by Jonathan Lemalu and in the past by Dame Malvina Major, represents enough income for Wendy to continue her study for another year. Lindy Tennent-Brown, who graduated with an Honours degree in Music in 1997, accompanied Wendy in the competition.

Wendy is currently studying for a Postgraduate Diploma in Opera with the Royal College of Music in London and is now preparing to perform in finals of three more competitions: the Young Concert Artists Trust Competition; the Royal Overseas League Final; and the Richard Tauber Prize. Wendy will spend the summer working with the British Youth Opera singing the role of Hermia in their production of Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Meanwhile the Royal College's third term is about to start and Wendy is straight into rehearsals for *The Magic Flute*, which also stars Ana James who graduated from Victoria with a BMus in 2000.

Suki Siriwardena MBA 1992, PhD 1988



Suki Siriwardena's energy and drive have seen her land in a position where those skills will inspire others. She's the manager of Technology New Zealand, a business unit within the Foundation for Research Science & Technology, charged with assisting New Zealand companies to create wealth by developing new export products and enabling companies to develop higher levels of technical capability. Suki is responsible for 15 staff and an investment budget of \$50 million.

After completing her PhD thesis in chemistry, under the supervision of Professor Neil Curtis, Suki gained hands-on experience with the DSIR. Keen to broaden her horizons she then completed an MBA. Management and business experience with the New Zealand Trade Development Board and in the private sector quickly followed, leaving Suki with a wealth of knowledge. On top of this demanding career Suki is married and has two young sons. She is also one of the 'Advisory Angels' at the WestSmart Business Incubator at Enterprise Waitakere.

Tuiloma Neroni Slade LLB 1969



Tuiloma Neroni Slade was sworn in as a Judge of the newly formed International Criminal Court (ICC) in March this year. Seated at The Hague, ICC judges will preside over serious crime cases of concern to the international community, including genocide, war and crimes against humanity.

Mr Slade's election to this international position, the highest ever held by a Samoan, is the latest achievement in his remarkable career. Since 1993 Mr Slade has served as the Ambassador of the Independent State of Samoa to the United Nations in New York, and concurrently as Ambassador to the United States, and High Commissioner to Canada.

Mr Slade's career began in the Magistrates Court and a private law firm in Wellington in the 1960s, and includes experience as Parliamentary Counsel and Attorney-General of Samoa, and Assistant Director in the Legal Division of the Commonwealth Secretariat in London.

John Duncan BSc 1976



Industry accolades and positive customer feedback have flowed for John Duncan's Nelson-based Founders microbrewery. In 2002, Founders was voted Champion Small Brewery at the Australian International Beer Awards. Acknowledged as an industry innovator, John creates beer that don't fit within the usual categories. He and his team address the challenge of being a small company in a large competitive market by focusing on their unique beer, and consistent quality and service.

John says that his science degree in microbiology has given him a very practical understanding of how yeasts work and problem solving and research skills. These skills not only help him achieve consistency but are also vital in the process of designing new beer styles. His sons, Sholto and Matt, recently graduated with BAs in environmental science and history respectively from Victoria. He is training them to become sixth generation brewers.

Alumni Support for Research Scholarships

As a graduate, you have the opportunity to apply for a Victoria University of Wellington Alumni Association Visa. With this card you'll be contributing valuable funds to Victoria's postgraduate student research and, ultimately, the next generation of knowledge. Westpac donates 1 percent per annum of the monthly interest bearing balance on your Visa card (or \$10 per annum, whichever is greater), to the Alumni Association's Scholarship fund — at no extra cost to you. Over the years, Alumni Association Scholarships

have supported a wide range of research projects, including: a history essay on Wellington's red light district; Vivian Street; science research on seismology and rock mechanics; and a marketing study on how the body image of fashion models influences the attitudes and purchasing behaviour of young children.

The card lets you enjoy low interest rates and hotpoints, and the card looks unique too! If you would like an application form, please call 0800 557 600 or visit your local Westpac branch.

If you are interested in supporting the students and staff of Victoria with a donation of funds, resources or time, we'd like to hear from you. For financial contributions contact the Victoria University of Wellington Foundation Executive Director, Tricia Walbridge.
E-mail: Tricia.Walbridge@vuw.ac.nz Tel: +64 4 463 5109

Scholarship provides a helping hand

A man's childhood memories of Wellington have proven a windfall for Honours student Kathryn Jones.

Kathryn is the first recipient of the Averil Brent Scholarship in Science administered by the Victoria University of Wellington Foundation.

The Scholarship, along with the Ralph Preston-Thomas Scholarship, was set up through donations and bequests totalling \$100,000 from Peter and Ruth Preston-Thomas, of Winnipeg, Canada, in honour of their children. Peter grew up in Wellington and retained a strong affection for the city.

Kathryn, who is studying for an Honours degree in cell and molecular bioscience, was delighted at the news she was to receive the \$1,200 scholarship. She hopes to do a PhD once she has completed her Honours degree.

"I'm really thrilled. It will help with buying books and just help with paying the rent. It's a fulltime course and so I don't have much time to work. The scholarship will keep me afloat."

Kathryn is investigating how opiate-based drugs, such as morphine, bind with cells in the brain to reduce pain.



▲ Scholarship winner Kathryn Jones at work in the laboratory.

Scholarships are vital for students, she says. "I think some students don't apply for them, thinking that they'll never get one but they can really help your study. If you can have some financial relief it allows you to concentrate on your work."

Foundation Executive Director Tricia Walbridge said Peter grew up in Wellington and moved to Canada in his youth. "He set up a scholarship in Winnipeg in honour of his daughter and he wanted to do something similar at the university in his old home town for which he had many fond memories."

Tricia says bequests are a key way alumni can support Victoria. "A bequest through a gift in a will is a wonderfully positive and enduring way for people to give significant support to an area that is important to them."

Tricia says to assist people wanting to leave a legacy in their will, the Foundation had appointed Victoria alumna, Rosaline Chamberlain, as its Bequest Manager.

E-mail: Vuw.Foundation@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: +64 4 463 6497

Unisys supports Computer Science

Victoria students are benefiting from a generous scholarship established by Unisys for Māori and Pasifika students.

The \$5,000 scholarships were established by Unisys this year to support Māori and Pasifika students enrolled in their second year of a Computer Science degree at Victoria.

Lisa Morgan, University Alliance Manager and HR Advisor at Unisys, says the scholarships were established to address the relatively low number of Māori and Pasifika students training in computer science.

The successful students, Tim Browne, Michael Casey and Ben Wilson, were selected



primarily for their academic achievement but also for their longer-term goals and community input. They are all active in the Te Rōpū Āwhina Pātāiao mentoring scheme available to Māori and Pacific students of Science, Architecture and Design at Victoria.

Michael Casey (Ngāti Kahungunu) is studying for a Bachelor of Information Technology. He is involved in the Āwhina

◀ Tim Browne, Ben Wilson, Michael Casey collect their Scholarships

scheme as a mentor to first year Māori students as a way of encouraging those interested in a similar career path.

Ben Wilson (Ngāti Tahu) is also studying for a Bachelor of Information Technology, majoring in Internet Computing while Tim Browne (Te Ati Awa) is enrolled in a Bachelor of Science majoring in both Computer Science and Geology.

The Unisys scholarships are administered by the Victoria University of Wellington Foundation.

E-mail: Vuw.Foundation@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: +64 4 463 5109



New Family Centre off to a flying start

The generous support of Wellington businessman Sir Roy McKenzie has given a major boost to research at Victoria's new McKenzie Centre for the Study of Families.

Sir Roy, a former chairman of the JR McKenzie Trust, provided a grant of \$240,000 to the Centre, which was launched by the Minister of Social Services and Employment, the Hon Steve Maharey, in February.

Sir Roy, a former Victoria student, says the University was a natural choice.

"There are many important issues facing New Zealand families but before we leap headlong into trying to deal with them, we need good quality research to push for Government action. Victoria offered the key staff and skills in Centre Director Jan Pryor and her associates, the support of Vice-Chancellor Stuart McCutcheon, and the location in the Capital so close to the heart of Government and the Courts, particularly the Family Court."

Centre Director Dr Jan Pryor says the grant has enabled the Centre to more quickly embark on a range of research projects.

"Our families are becoming far more diverse but despite a lot of anecdotal talk there hasn't been much local evidence to back up the rhetoric. We're now underway with several major research projects due in no small part to Sir Roy and Lady McKenzie's support."

The Centre's research includes studies into the levels of commitment of married and unmarried couples, the experiences of children living in stepfamilies and conflict in families.

Jan says Sir Roy's backing is complemented by the support of the Family Court and former Governor-General Sir Michael Hardie Boys, who chairs the advisory board.

John Walden



▲ At the opening of the new Centre were, from left, Sir Roy and Lady McKenzie, Dr Jan Pryor and Sir Michael Hardie Boys.

The Centre aims to undertake research for both government and non-governmental organisations, including the Ministry of Social Development and the Commission for Families.

E-mail: Jan.Pryor@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: +64 4 463 6962

Victoria University Press

Under the Gun: The Small Arms Challenge in the South Pacific

David Capie



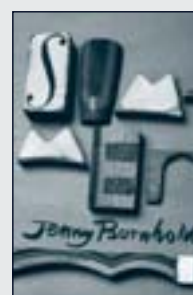
In the past 15 years, events around the South Pacific have highlighted problems with small arms and light weapons. This book examines the legal framework for the regulation of firearms in Pacific states, the legal trade in small arms in the region and the cross-border illicit trade in small arms and ammunition along with other issues. David Capie studied law and politics at Victoria and is currently based at the Centre for International Relations at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.

Daylight Elizabeth Knox



Set on the beautiful Mediterranean coast, *Daylight* takes us into a world the tourist never sees, a world of caves and passages, and secrets. A novel of hidden lives, vampires, myths and martyrs, *Daylight* combines Elizabeth Knox's greatest gifts—her wildly imaginative storytelling and her clear eye for atmosphere and place. She is a graduate of Victoria's MA in Creative Writing.

Summer Jenny Bornholdt



This new collection of poems from one of New Zealand's best-loved poets is warm, witty, engaging and accomplished. Two summers feature in these poems, one spent in Menton as the Katherine Mansfield Fellow and an earlier summer "that wouldn't go" when her father died. Jenny is a graduate of Bill Manhire's original composition course.

VUP books are available from all good bookstores or by contacting
E-mail: Victoria-Press@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: +64 4 463 6580

If you would like to be involved in the varied and exciting events available to members of the University community contact the Events Office. E-mail: Events@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: + 64 4 463 5810

Diplomatic Distinction

Victoria's status as New Zealand's Capital City University has been highlighted by hosting a series of public seminars given by members of Wellington's diplomatic corps.

The series, *Diplomatic Conclusions*, runs throughout the year and has so far highlighted the views of Ambassadors and High Commissioners from France, Russia, Chile, Iran, India, Brazil and Germany with presentations by the Ambassadors of Mexico, the United States, Canada and China still to come.

Series organiser Professor Ralph Pettman, in the School of History, Philosophy, Political Science & International Relations, says the series allows diplomats to visit the Kelburn campus and talk on any topic involving world affairs that they are interested in.

"As the Capital, Wellington is the home of more than 35 Embassies and High Commissions and this series allows us to tap into that resource and provides a great opportunity for staff, students and the general public to hear an Ambassador speak.



▲ Professor Ralph Pettman (left) and Iranian Ambassador Mohammad Ali Kormi Nouri in the Hunter Council Chamber.

"The talks so far in the Hunter Council Chamber have been very well attended and have also attracted considerable media interest. Many of the talks have been highly topical with the Iranian Ambassador Mohammad Ali Kormi Nouri speaking on the Iraqi War just days before Baghdad fell to American forces."

E-mail: Ralph.Pettman@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: +64 4 472 1000

Art online to you

It's the art tour you take when you're not in an art gallery.

Developed for senior secondary school students, the Adam Art Gallery's new *Online Art Tour* features nine major works from the University's impressive collection of New Zealand art.

The online tour, selected to replicate the 'highlights tour' that visitors to the campus can take, includes works by Colin McCahon, Gretchen Albrecht, Ralph Hotere, Robyn Kahukiwa and Philip Clairmont.

"The purpose of the *Online Art Tour* is to provide students—particularly those from rural and regional schools beyond Wellington—with access to works from the VUW Art Collection, which is an important cultural and educational resource," says Kate Griffin, Exhibitions and Public Programmes Officer at the Gallery.

Each work is accompanied by introductory information about the artist and their work. Students are invited to respond to the works and to answer questions relating to context, technique, subject matter, materials and process. The works relate to the Modern New Zealand Art component of Bursary Art History, NCEA Levels 2 and 3 and The Visual Arts in the New Zealand curriculum.



▲ Kate Griffin (centre, back) takes a tour through the Adam Art Gallery

"We hope the site will encourage students to examine and interpret artworks by important New Zealand artists, and help them especially to develop their knowledge of Modern New Zealand art," Kate says.

As well as offering images and informative texts, the *Online Art Tour* supports further research by providing a comprehensive bibliography of NZ art books and catalogues. All works featured in the *Online Art Tour* can be viewed around campus. Those interested in viewing the Collection can contact the Adam Art Gallery for information about tours.

E-mail: Adam-Art-Gallery@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: +64 4 463 5229
www.vuw.ac.nz/adamartgal/ed/artcollectiontour



Four Laureates and a conference

The significance of having a casual chinwag with three Nobel Laureates didn't seem to faze pupils from Kelburn Normal School.

Both parties joined the Hon Pete Hodgson, Victoria staff and others in February to celebrate the achievements of the 'third man of DNA'—Professor Maurice Wilkins. Along with Francis Crick and James Watson, he was awarded the 1962 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his role in the discovery of the structure of DNA. The first six years of his life were spent at 30 Kelburn Parade, now the site of the Murphy Building and although he has lived overseas since the 1920s, he still refers to himself as a New Zealander. To celebrate the 50-year anniversary of the discovery, the Nobel Laureates unveiled a plaque on the site and the Kelburn pupils released 50 balloons.

▲ Professors MacDiarmid, Heeger and Shirakawa are joined by pupils from Kelburn Normal School.

The Laureates, Professors Alan MacDiarmid, Alan Heeger and Hideki Shirakawa, were in Wellington to take part in AMN1—an international conference organised by the University's MacDiarmid Institute for Advanced Materials and Nanotechnology. The week-long conference brought together the Laureates, who jointly won the 2000 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for their discovery of conducting polymers, and many other leaders in the field of advanced materials science.

"Having the three Laureates and other top international scientists attend the AMN1 conference was a real honour and great for the popular profile of materials science in New Zealand," says Professor Paul Callaghan, Director of the MacDiarmid Institute. The conference and its associated events are part of the public programme that the MacDiarmid Institute, as a Government funded Centre of Research Excellence, has established to promote materials science.

Understanding terrorism

When Religious Studies programme director Dr Jim Veitch became interested in Islam many years ago, he didn't expect his knowledge would be called on to untangle the complex web of religion and terrorism.

Jim's insight and extensive international network have proved a valuable resource to Government officials by providing an expert understanding of the Islamic world order and threats to peace.

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet recently worked in partnership with Jim and the University to help train a core of senior Government officials involved in security functions.

The honours level course on terrorism and counter terrorism was delivered by Rohan Gunaratna, Associate Professor in Defence and Strategic Studies at Singapore's Nanyang University, and a highly regarded world expert in the field. His recent book *Inside Al Qaeda* has been hailed as the most authoritative analysis of this terrorist movement to date. Enrolled in the course were staff from organisations including the New Zealand Police, New Zealand Immigration, Customs, the Ministry of Defence, and the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.



▲ At the launch were (from left), Associate Professor Jenny Harper, Rohan Gunaratna and Jim Veitch.

The course offered students an in-depth understanding of terrorist organisations and the threats they pose. It drew particularly on examples of groups active in Southern Asia.

Jim will be working with Dr Gunaratna in the development of the core group and the University will hold the honours course and similar courses in the future.

E-mail: Jim.Veitch@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: +64 4 463 5394

Honours awarded

The University recognised three lifetimes of achievement when it awarded honorary doctorates to Jacque Baxter, Glenn Schaeffer and Gillian Whitehead at the May graduation ceremonies.



Photography by Woolf



Photography by Woolf



Photography by Woolf

Jacque Baxter

Jacque Baxter received an honorary Doctor of Literature for raising the visibility of Māori women in New Zealand literature. Affiliated to the Taranaki and Whakatohea iwi, she was one of the first Māori women to receive a degree, graduating from Victoria with a BA (1949) and later an MA. Short stories and articles she wrote for various magazines in the 1950s and 60s were published as *The House of the Talking Cat* in 1981. She has published two collections of poetry, the award-winning *Dedications* (1996), and *Postscripts* (2000). She has also enormously assisted those studying the work of poet James K. Baxter, to whom she was married.

Glenn Schaeffer

Glenn Schaeffer was awarded an honorary Doctor of Literature for his work in raising the profile of New Zealand writers. The American philanthropist provided base funding to establish the only overseas arm of the International Institute of Modern Letters (IIML) at Victoria. He also established the largest literary prize in Australasia, the biennial \$NZ60,000 Prize in Modern Letters, which is open to all emerging NZ writers. As well as his support for IIML in the United States, he has resourced and extended the City of Asylum programme founded by the International Parliament of Writers in Paris.

Gillian Whitehead

Gillian Karawe Whitehead received an honorary Doctor of Music for her contribution to music. The Victoria alumna graduated with an Honours degree in Music in 1964 followed by an MMus from the University of Sydney in 1966. She now divides her time as a freelance composer between Sydney and Dunedin. Her compositions have won several awards and in 2000 she became an inaugural Artist Laureate of the NZ Arts Foundation. Of Ngāi te Rangi and Tuhoe descent, she is also President of the NZ Composers' Association and was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit in 1999.

Ink tales of the Pacific

Tattoos have created a link over both time and the thousands of kilometres of land and sea between Europe and the Pacific.

Researchers from around the world will congregate at Victoria from 21-23 August to discuss progress on a Getty Foundation-funded global project on Pacific tattooing, led by Professor Nicholas Thomas of Goldsmiths College, University of London. The conference, *Tatau/Tattoo: Embodied Art and Cultural Exchange 1760-2000*, will be hosted by Victoria's Pacific Studies and Art History programmes. The conference will also include a team of Māori scholars engaged in another major research project on ta moko, under the direction of Professor Ngahuia Te Awekotuku of the University of Waikato.

In addition to scholarly presentations, the conference will feature an artists' forum where representatives from dance, literature and visual art will speak about the influence that tattooing has on their work.



Mark Adams



Mark Adams

Dancer/choreographer Neil Ieremia of Black Grace, writer Sia Figiel, and visual artist Fatu Feu'u are among the featured participants.

Coinciding with the conference, the University's Adam Art Gallery Te Pātaka Toi will open an exhibition on Samoan tattooing, featuring photographs by Mark Adams and a film piece by Lisa Taouma.

"This research is an important study of the role of tattooing in cross-cultural exchange between Pacific peoples and others, and amongst Pacific peoples themselves," says April Henderson, Lecturer in Pacific Studies and co-organiser of the conference. "Pacific tattoos can be deeply significant, but the meanings attached to them can be quite flexible and open to the interpretations of those giving and receiving them. This conference will provide a forum to explore some of those meanings."

Eighteenth century voyages to the Pacific brought Europeans into contact with tattooing. Many returned home with drawings of the designs they saw and sometimes with tattoos themselves. Missionaries, who followed the explorers and traders, sought to put an end to tattooing, and for this reason, the passing down of skills and designs was interrupted with dire consequences for the tradition.

Pacific tattooing is again attracting global attention, largely due to the significant revivals of tattooing in Hawai'i, Aotearoa, and French Polynesia and the rich continuing tattoo traditions of Samoa. Contemporary Māori tattoo designs are beamed around the world courtesy of pop stars like Robbie Williams and Ben Harper who have them.

E-mail: Tatau-Conference@vuw.ac.nz

Tel: +64 4 463 6026

www.vuw.ac.nz/tatau