

# Victorious

MAGAZINE FOR FRIENDS AND ALUMNI OF VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON



## SPRING 2003

**Biomedical coup**  
Malaghan moves to Victoria

**Ladies of the night**  
Prostitution and public policy

**Preserving the past**  
Technology to the rescue

**Earthquake discovery**  
Groundbreaking research

**Victoria**

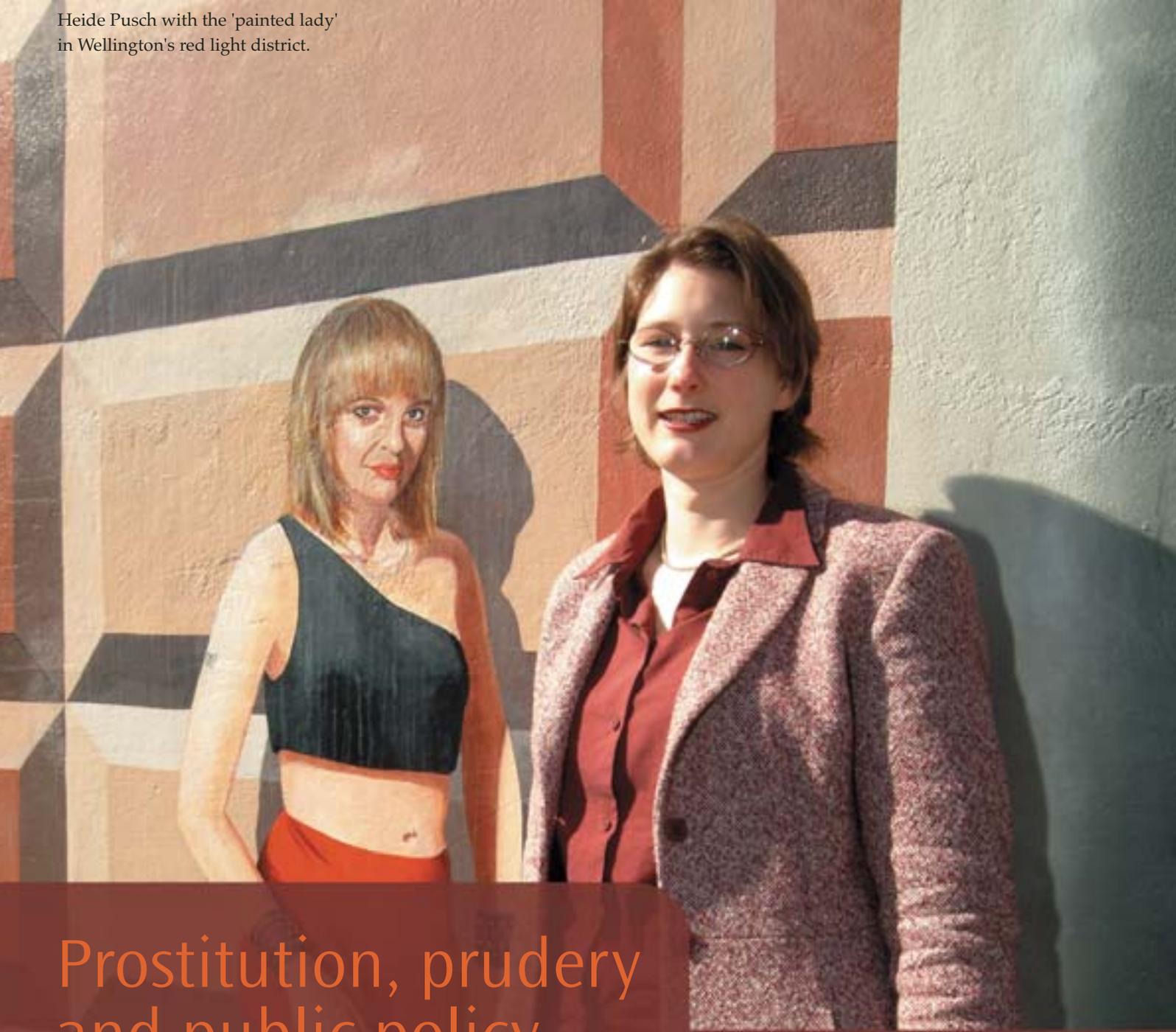
UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

*Te Whare Wānanga  
o te Ūpoko o te Ika a Māui*



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Heide Pusch with the 'painted lady' in Wellington's red light district.



## Prostitution, prudery and public policy

When Heide Pusch won a World Council of Churches scholarship last year to travel to New Zealand to study at Victoria University, examining the theological issues surrounding prostitution was not the OE she had in mind.

Heide was attracted to Victoria by its Women's Studies Programme and the chance, by completing a Graduate Diploma of Arts in Women's Studies, to examine public policy as it related to women.

Having just completed a Diploma in Theology at Hamburg University, Heide, 28, was keen to explore New Zealand and catch up with a Kiwi friend she had met in Germany.

Victoria's diploma programme involved an internship, and Heide's supervisor, Women's Studies Senior Lecturer Alison Laurie, arranged an interview for her with MP Tim Barnett, who was shepherding the Prostitution Law Reform Bill through Parliament.

"A lot of the submissions opposed the change for religious reasons and Tim thought it would be good to do some research from a theological perspective. At first I was quite reluctant because I didn't know if I supported reform and was a bit sceptical. Tim

said it was ok to be sceptical and gave me some space to find my own opinion."

Heide, who had a strong church background, read widely and interviewed people from various church groups as well as reform supporters. She eventually changed her mind, becoming actively involved in the successful campaign that saw Parliament change the law in July.

Her theological analysis showed the Bible, right from the story of Adam and Eve, portrayed women as seducing men rather than men creating a demand for sex. But she also found that Jesus lived with society's outcasts and didn't condemn them, and even had his feet washed by a prostitute.

"It's fair enough for feminists to say there should not be prostitution and to point out the power imbalances between men and women that give rise to it. But as long as it exists, we need to give human rights to sex workers and support them so they'll have the chance to change their lives and feel empowered to exit the industry, if they wish."



There is a myth in policy circles that universities do not collaborate, which is often cited alongside policy rationales affecting our autonomy, funding or operations. Tertiary institutions and research centres do actively collaborate and have always done so: at individual academic, discipline and strategic or structural levels.

So, to debunk the myth, some recent successful partnerships that have involved Victoria include the innovative Library consortium CONZULSys, a shared library system providing a web interface to four university library catalogues—Auckland University of Technology, University of Otago, University of Waikato, and Victoria where we go 'live' in December.

Further shared academic programmes and services are under development with the Wellington College of Education. Following a public consultation process, our respective councils have agreed to the names for the four Wellington-based campuses either owned or leased by Victoria or the College: Karori; Kelburn; Te Aro; and Pipitea.

Another consultation process has resulted in the councils of Massey and Victoria universities agreeing to the formation of a new Joint School of Music from 2004. This establishes a unique centre of excellence, with undisputed national strengths and an international reputation in musical education, research, composition and performance. New degree programmes will be developed during 2004 and the new School will look for a suitable building in the central city area. Initially, the School will work from the existing dual locations, but timetables will be adjusted to ensure co-ordination of key courses. Some streamlining will occur and existing areas of specialisation will create further benefits for students.

Finally, our new strategic partnership with the Malaghan Institute will result in a centre of research excellence in biotechnology and biomedical science that is of benefit to us all.



**Stuart N McCutcheon**  
Vice-Chancellor

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*Cover photo: The Malaghan Institute of Medical Research moves to Victoria University in early 2004. In the Hunter Council Chamber are, from left: Dean of Science Professor David Bibby; Malaghan Research Director Professor Graham Le Gros; Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon; and Malaghan Chairperson Graham Malaghan. Photo: 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](mailto:Mike.Doig@vuw.ac.nz) Tel: +64 4 463 5072

## Musical odyssey

Music PhD student Paul Wolfram built a house, a canoe and a solar-panelled power supply on a tropical island—all in the name of research.

In 2001, Paul was awarded a Claude McCarthy Fellowship allowing him to live and work on a remote island in Papua New Guinea for more than a year, recording and filming the unique music of its inhabitants.

After completing an Honours degree at Victoria in English Literature and Ethnomusicology, Paul decided to expand his studies and focused on the people of New Ireland for his doctoral research. He had to build his own house out of logs and bamboo, decide how to recharge his equipment in a village with no electricity, learn two new languages and get used to travelling for days by truck and foot to reach the nearest shops and post office.



▲ Paul with his adopted family in New Ireland.

Paul recorded more than 60 hours of audio and video footage during his time on the island and focused his research on the songs and dances associated with death customs.

When he returned to New Zealand, he produced a catalogue of his recordings using phonetics and has developed an extensive reference tool for the music of the area. He is now writing his thesis.

"The research was challenging, because of the isolation and the physical demands of living in the jungle for 16 months, but it was also a hugely rewarding field experience because of the fascinating and beautiful nature of the indigenous music I experienced."

Paul plans to return to the island in 2004 to finalise his research and show the villagers some of his footage.

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▲ Emeritus Professor Frank Evison likens earthquake patterns to conception, gestation and birth.

## Earthquake patterns may point to the 'big one'

Like it or not, a new way of determining where, when and how big an earthquake will be has been unearthed at Victoria's School of Earth Sciences and the Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences (GNS).

Emeritus Professor Frank Evison and Dr David Rhoades discovered that earthquake lists published by seismological observatories in many countries provide a key to understanding the generation of large earthquakes.

Their findings are a radical departure from the idea that large earthquakes occur in regular cycles.

"Long before each large earthquake, a pattern of smaller earthquakes shows approximately where, when and how big the large earthquake will be," says Frank.

He likens the process to conception, gestation and birth, with the diagnostic pattern of small earthquakes serving as a pregnancy test.

"A tiny earthquake can produce conception, followed immediately by a remarkable jump in the number and size of small earthquakes. A gestation period of roughly 15 years follows before the birth of a magnitude 7 earthquake, and 40 years for magnitude 8."

The August magnitude 7.1 earthquake off the coast of Fiordland matched this pattern. Other recent examples include the disastrous earthquakes at Loma Prieta and Northridge (California), Kobe (Japan) and Assisi (Italy).

With the help of colleagues in Greece and Japan, the pair has begun the difficult task of applying their discovery to future earthquakes.

"The goal is to produce annual forecasts based on expected locations, times and magnitudes of earthquakes that are in the process of being generated," says Frank.

"This should allow a substantial reduction in earthquake risk by focussing the community's readiness, rationalising the response, and minimising the cost of recovery."

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# Malaghan moves to Victoria

Victoria's growing reputation for biotechnology is set for a major boost with the University forming a unique partnership with the Malaghan Institute of Medical Research, New Zealand's internationally recognised private biomedical research centre.

The relationship, announced at a function at Government House in August, will see the Malaghan leave its rented premises at Wellington Hospital in Newtown early next year and move to Victoria's Kelburn campus.

The Institute is New Zealand's only independent biomedical research facility with scientists involved in world-class research to unravel the nature, origin and causes of cancer, asthma, multiple sclerosis and infectious diseases.

It is recognised worldwide for its leading-edge scientific research discoveries and development of novel therapies for treating disease, and in particular its work to harness the powers of the human immune system to defend against a host of diseases.

Founded in 1979, the Malaghan secured almost \$2.5 million in grant income in 2002 and supported six doctoral candidates.

Malaghan Director, Professor Graham Le Gros, says the strengthened relationship will allow the Institute to build on its existing collaborations with Victoria.

"We see the relationship as a natural fit. We are both very confident that our new partnership will enhance research, education and biotechnology in the Wellington region. Even so, we see opportunities for continued collaboration with other partners including Otago University and the Wellington School of Medicine and Health Sciences."

The search for new premises in Wellington is the result of the Institute's growth, he says.

"The breadth of our research has widened, we've taken on new staff and postgraduate students and we've bought a host of highly specialised equipment that is vital to our work. We have simply outgrown the space and we felt it was essential we gained a new and permanent home."

Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon says the Malaghan's move reflects the University's growing strength in biomedical research.

"Three years ago, we took the bold step of establishing a unique degree in biomedical science to provide a link between learning in the fundamentals of modern molecular and cell biology and the clinical practice of health services. The Bachelor of Biomedical Science programme provides majors in human genetics, molecular pathology, and molecular pharmacology and medicinal chemistry—all areas that are the focus of research by the Malaghan."

There are 239 students studying towards a BBmedSc while a further six are studying towards an Honours or Master degree. The programme's first graduates received their degrees in December last year.

Pro Vice-Chancellor and Dean of Science, Professor David Bibby, says the partnership will better position both parties to gain from the massive growth in biotechnology.

"The Government already invests \$130 million a year into research and its Biotechnology Taskforce earlier this year recommended this level increase to \$300 million over the next five years. Biotenz, a group of leading New Zealand providers of biotechnology, pharmaceutical and biological products and services, estimates that research organisations will need to



▲ At the announcement at Government House of the new Victoria-Malaghan relationship were (from left): Stuart McCutcheon; Malaghan chairman Graham Malaghan; Governor-General Dame Silvia Cartwright; and Graham Le Gros.

increase the number of tertiary qualified staff by 50 percent in the next five years.

"But the major player in the sector is the pharmaceutical industry with total world sales of almost \$US 1 trillion, of which 20 percent is reinvested in research and development, making it the largest funder of research and development world-wide.

"Researchers in our Science schools have long-standing collaborations with colleagues at the Malaghan. This includes projects as varied as the anti-cancer properties of a toxin in a marine sponge to understanding why people living in the tropics rarely suffer from inflammatory diseases.

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▼ The Malaghan Institute's new home from 2004 at Kelburn.



# Honours for design and architecture students

Students in the Schools of Design and Architecture have scored top honours in major competitions with their work displayed at exhibitions in New Zealand and overseas.

Industrial design students took top honours in two major competitions, winning all the prizes on offer. The *Metaform* design competition saw all six prizes go to Victoria's third year (2002) industrial design students, designing products that used cellulose impregnated pine developed by the Forestry Research Institute.

First prize went to James Whitta, who won an all-expenses paid trip to the Milan Furniture Fair in September, for his bench seat, *Logg*, made of wooden slats turned in such a way that they flex when sat on to create a comfortable seat. The work was exhibited at the Auckland War Memorial Museum until September before travelling to Lower Hutt's Dowse Art Museum.

This success came on the back of a competition sponsored by the New Zealand Plastic Manufacturers Association, for industrial design students in Wellington. Again, Victoria's current third year students took all eight prizes with Hamish Dooney taking first prize with his plastic umbrella, *Halo*.

Professor Simon Fraser says the School's new approach to design education is reaping benefits. "It's also confirmation that after only three years the School is already developing a special character and philosophy in terms of design education that sets it apart from others."

Meanwhile, the designs of five fourth-year architecture students took centre stage at London's Florence Nightingale Museum in



◀ James Whitta's award-winning design, *Logg*.

the first half of the year. *Architectural Visions* displayed innovative plans by Jack Ayre, Blair King, Carolyn Walker, Jeanette White and Lauren Wong for a new museum.

Lecturer Judi Keith-Brown says the exhibition came about when she visited the museum and met the director who asked for the students to create plans to publicise the need for the institution's refurbishment. It's planned to take more student work to London next year.

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## Dinosaur death—the Kiwi connection

A Danish geology student's postgraduate study at Victoria has contributed important New Zealand evidence to the global debate around dinosaur extinction at the Cretaceous-Tertiary (K/T) boundary.

Pi Willumsen recently completed her part in a three-year Marsden Fund multi-disciplinary K/T boundary project led by Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences palaeontologist, Dr Chris Hollis.

The project aimed to determine changes across the K/T boundary in geological sections from terrestrial swamp to open ocean.

With most research in this area based in the Northern Hemisphere or in deep ocean, the team's work examined New Zealand's geological record of the K/T boundary, testing competing hypotheses on mass dinosaur extinction.

Popular opinion suggests the dinosaurs were wiped out by a meteorite impact 65 million years ago. Others argue climate and ocean circulation changes led to the extinction.

Pi's study involved North and South Island fieldwork with close sampling of the K/T boundary in a number of sections. Time-consuming lab work followed where rock samples were treated with strong acids, extracting microscopic organic remains—or palynology.

These remains were examined under high magnification to gauge changes in sea level, organic productivity, climate shifts and develop high-resolution age scales based on fossil marine algae.

Pi's findings suggest climate fluctuations occurred before and for up to one million years after the asteroid impact due to a combination of factors, including recovery from impact, long-term climate trends and likely significant effects from major volcanic eruptions in India.

Pi's work also has commercial application with palynology used to help oil exploration.

With her contribution to the dinosaur debate in the process of being reviewed and published, Pi has returned to Denmark.



▲ Pi Willumsen

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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](mailto:Tertiary-Policy@vuw.ac.nz)  
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## Shifting sands of tertiary strategy

By Professor Stuart McCutcheon  
Vice-Chancellor

The Government's announcement of its fees maxima regime confirmed the only certainty about tertiary funding policy in New Zealand is that it's neither coherent nor sustainable.

In the last four years, we have moved from a system of unrestrained fee setting, to three years of fee stabilisation and we are now faced with a new fees maxima system. The scheme that finally emerged—a month late—was considerably different from the original proposal. As the course fees for an undergraduate course cannot now increase by more than five percent a year up to a maximum limit, the fees maxima are largely irrelevant for institutions like Victoria, whose fees are well short of the maximum. We are now faced with a hybrid system of fees maxima and fees stabilisation.

The Government has effectively taken away our Council's freedom to make the funding decisions necessary to maintain quality and remain competitive in the global education market. It is not clear how we can be expected to meet significant increases in staff salaries, insurance, library costs and the like when our publicly funded revenue can increase by little more than the rate of inflation.

The only choice we have to insulate ourselves from the vagaries of Government policy is to continue to diversify our income by seeking new revenues from commercial partnerships, research grants, donations, and international students.

Inevitably, the reality of Government control over Council's funding decisions will impact on the quality of tertiary education. While I'm determined to see Victoria maintain its standards, the reality is we operate in an international marketplace for researchers, postgraduate students, equipment and library resources. If we cannot offer competitive salaries and the best research environment, we will not be able to attract and retain the best researchers and postgraduate students.

The tertiary policy landscape looks certain to provide an increasingly bureaucratic and complex system laden with overheads that do not offer institutions the ability to improve quality or competitiveness. While we have no choice but to continue to meet the Government's policy demands, we will continue to give feedback about the process and its effects on our University.

## Governance and charters

By Rosemary Barrington  
Chancellor

The recent review of the governance of tertiary education institutions (TEIs) has revived the debate about the autonomy of universities.

The review by Australian academic Professor Meredith Edwards could find no systematic failure of governance by TEIs or any instances of 'seriously flawed' governance. Professor Edwards makes many worthwhile recommendations to improve governance by suggesting national principles that are then developed for implementation by each institution.

However, the University Council has opposed two significant recommendations that would change the relationship between TEIs such as Victoria and the Crown. While Professor Edwards says we should be classed as "Crown entities" for limited purposes, she also says councils should be made accountable to the Minister of Education for efficient and effective governance.

Our Council believes governance and accountability should be addressed through the Education Act rather than through any general legislation.

This proposal is unnecessary because accountability already exists through the Minister's approval of our Charter and Profile. It's confusing because our Annual Report is already reviewed by the Auditor-General and tabled in Parliament. It cuts across existing accountabilities in that the Education Act requires the autonomy of institutions to be preserved and enhanced and the Council and Vice-Chancellor are required to give effect to this intention.

Finally, I'd like to thank alumni who participated in the development of Victoria's new Charter, which was required by the Government as part of its new tertiary education strategy.

The Charter firmly sets Victoria's distinctive character as New Zealand's Capital City University and highlights the particular advantages for research and our students that flow from being based in Wellington, such as the series of lectures from the diplomatic corps or the School of Music's association with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. In addition to Victoria's long-standing commitment to Māori and the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, the new Charter also seeks to strengthen relationships with Wellington's Pasifika community.

The new Charter can be viewed at:  
[www.vuw.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/charter.html](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/charter.html)



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](mailto:Course-Advice@vuw.ac.nz) Tel: 0800 VIC UNI

Dr Geoff Bertram ► with the 'Moniac' machine in Venice.

## Venice hosts Kiwi invention

Dr Geoff Bertram, Senior Lecturer in the School of Economics & Finance, played an important role in the *This is the Trekk* exhibition of two New Zealand inventions at the 50th Venice Biennale that opened in June 2003.

Geoff was responsible for the assembly and operation of the 'Moniac' machine, a hydraulic machine that uses water to represent how the national economy works. The 'Moniac' formed part of New Zealand artist Michael Stevenson's installation piece at the exhibition, by providing a visual display of how New Zealand's economy was understood in the 1970s when the Trekk—New Zealand's answer to the Land Rover—was built.

Designed by New Zealander Dr Bill Phillips in 1949, the machine pumps coloured water around a series of mechanisms that represent aspects of consumer, business or government behaviour. These interlinked mechanisms control the flow of water inside the machine

and demonstrate how various decisions within an economic system can affect each other.

Geoff's personal connection with the 'Moniac' began when he was a research fellow at Corpus Christi College, University of Cambridge. The donation of one of the original machines to the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research in 1992 enabled Geoff to begin demonstrating the machine to his first-year economics students.

Geoff has maintained the 'Moniac' over the years and earlier this year completed a refurbishment of the machine just in time for it to be pulled apart and packaged up for a trip to Italy to the world's oldest international forum for contemporary visual art.



The exhibition, which runs until November, is housed in La Maddelena, an 18th Century neo-classical church—a space which has provided an intriguing backdrop for one of the most influential economic inventions of the 1950s.

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## International developments

Victoria's international work continues to gather strength—and awards—despite the vagaries of terrorism, SARS and the rising New Zealand dollar.

While some providers have seen international enrolments taper off this year, Victoria's international student numbers have increased by 54 percent.

As of August, 661 more international equivalent fulltime students (EFTS) are studying at Victoria compared to the same time last year. This contributes to a record total of 1,885 international EFTS. In the same period, domestic EFTS have risen 5.3 percent to 11,850.

Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) Professor Neil Quigley says this success was highlighted by Victoria being named Education Exporter of the Year in June.

"Our strong international reputation means our international student numbers have not been curtailed by SARS, the rising Kiwi dollar and the threat of international terrorism."

Meanwhile, a groundbreaking new venture with the Asia-Pacific Institute of Business at the Chinese University of Hong Kong will

allow students living in Hong Kong to complete a Victoria MBA without leaving home.

Launched in September, the International MBA will be taught in Hong Kong by Victoria Management School academics in collaboration with the Institute.

This is the first Victoria University qualification to be wholly taught in a foreign country using face-to-face lectures. The involvement of staff from the Chinese University of Hong Kong will allow Victoria academics to develop research links with colleagues in one of Asia's top universities.

Victoria is also expanding its international links in a co-operative agreement that will see students from five Asian countries able to gain New Zealand PhD degrees while allowing New Zealanders to study in Asia.

The programme is a project of the Greater Mekong Subregion Tertiary Education Consortium, a Victoria-led initiative that combines the resources of leading universities in New Zealand, Australia and the Greater Mekong area.

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## Lab session provides ‘real world’ experience

White lab coats as far as the eye can see—at least that’s the illusion when 600 Wellington-region 7th form biology students received hands-on laboratory experience in molecular biology in June.

School of Biological Sciences Lecturer, Dr Darren Day, says the course enables students to undertake techniques many of them only read about in textbooks and can’t do outside an advanced research lab.

For 11 days during the University’s mid-term break, 50-60 students and teachers each day attended an intensive, six-hour long lab session.

The purpose of the course is fourfold—to train teachers; show students what goes on at Vic in biology and molecular biotechnology; raise the profile of the School; and recruit future science students.

“The whole course is designed to be visually high-impact. For example, students isolate DNA and bacterial plasmids, perform a genetic sex determination, and prepare human chromosome spreads on slides. When students think of biology or molecular biotechnology we want them to think of Vic.”

Darren says the course took considerable time to plan and organise, but the collaborative effort was well worth it.

“We worked hard to get lower-decile schools involved, and buses were put on to bring students in from Porirua. Schools are ‘fighting’ to get more students and teachers involved.”

The course, part of the School’s community programme, is to become an annual event.



▲ Lecturer Darren Day shares his expertise with students from Sacred Heart and St Oran’s colleges.

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## Pressed for an award

Biscuits, hand-operated printing presses and a flair for innovation won Dr Sydney Shep, Director of Victoria’s Wai-te-ata Press, a \$20,000 award in this year’s prestigious Tertiary Teaching Awards.

Her award marks the second year in a row that Victoria has been represented, following Dr Nicholas Ashill, a senior lecturer in the School of Marketing & International Business, winning a Sustained Excellence Award in 2002.

A Victoria alumna, Sydney returned to the University in 1995 as a postdoctoral fellow and took the mothballed Press and revived it as a historic teaching printing press. From a relatively small number of students, enrolments have grown as word of her interesting and varied courses has spread.

The Press operates using 14 manually operated printing presses. The oldest, on loan from Cambridge University Press, is an 1813 Stanhope Press of which only 16 remain in the world.

Sydney, who is also a Senior Lecturer in Print and Book Culture at Victoria, says using historic communication technologies like a letterpress as a vehicle for learning is at the heart of her teaching philosophy.

“For students immersed in the digital environment, the Press is a visible connection with the pre-computer past. By the end of their time in the printery, they have a better understanding of the eye and mind’s physical relationship to the printed word and deeper insights into this technology’s relationship to oral, manuscript and electronic culture.”

In a class about ephemeral type, Sydney hands out biscuits at the break and asks students to look carefully at them before they eat them.

“Consuming knowledge about type as we consume biscuits with corporate logos on them is my ‘party-trick’ but it still catches students off-guard and makes them think about the world around them in different ways.”



▲ Sydney Shep with the Stanhope Press

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## Managing trans-Tasman conservation

Koalas, gum trees and other Australian fauna and flora are the centre of attention for six Victoria University students completing the first Master of Conservation Biology degree.

In late July, the pioneering biological sciences students crossed the Tasman to spend five months at Macquarie University in New South Wales for the jointly taught degree. In 2004, the first Australians will reciprocate the exchange.

The concept grew out of discussions three years ago between Victoria's Professor Charles Daugherty and Macquarie's Professor Des Cooper.

Today, it is held up by the Committee on University Academic Programmes as a model of how jointly awarded qualifications with overseas institutions should be structured.

Dr Tim Markwell, degree co-ordinator and lecturer in the School of Biological Sciences, says the programme introduces a number

of firsts, including a jointly recognised, co-labelled degree from the two universities.

"The Masters degree gives the students the opportunity to study conservation and see conservation in practice in New Zealand and Australia."

While in Australia the students will complete modules including: wildlife management and animal handling; fieldwork in several of Sydney's national parks; and the opportunity to study the interaction between Aboriginal people and the Australian environment.

"The programme will give our students a wider perspective than they might otherwise get with a New Zealand-based degree," says Tim.



▲ Dr Tim Markwell, left, with four of the first six Victoria students to head to Macquarie University.

As a recognised Master's degree, the qualification is a stepping-stone to a further research career.

Tim says domestic and international students are already signed up for next year's programme including students from India, Hawai'i and Germany.

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## Fellowship fuels work interests

Strong support from whānau and staff helped Master's student Paula Collins become the first Victoria University commerce graduate student to win a FoRST Tūāpapa Pūtaiao Māori Fellowship.

Paula, 32, of Ngā Rauru and Ngāti Ruanui descent, received \$18,333 to complete her Master of Communications thesis: *Technological Innovation – Virtual Contract Management in Māori Communities*.

Her research explores a Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori, Māori Language Commission contract management system providing funds for Māori communities to access Māori language initiatives.

Through her career, Paula has been involved with groups applying for and receiving the Commission's funds.

In 2000, while managing the radio portfolio for Te Māngai Pāho, the MComm caught her eye, sparking interest in ongoing study.

"I wanted to take a close look at the way the contract management system operates and how it could be improved," Paula says.

For the past 10 years, Paula has completed social science papers part-time in between motherhood and holding down public and private sector senior management roles.

With the recent arrival of her second child, the Fellowship will enable her to employ home help so she can focus on studying.

Paula believes the support of her husband, mother, sister and Victoria staff helped her through the FoRST application and interview process.

Deputy Dean (Equity) in the Faculties of Science and Architecture & Design, Liz Richardson, says Paula is most deserving of the Fellowship.

"This positive outcome is a result of the faculties' experience and success with these fellowships being used to benefit Māori students in other faculties," she says.

Michael Sexton Photography



▲ Paula Collins with her husband, Holden Hohaia, and daughters Piata, left, and Aria.

While Paula's immediate focus is on completing her thesis and caring for her two children, she plans to return to contract work.

Her longer-term ambition centres on securing a high-level communications and strategic management role.

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## Who's new?

### Brenda Porter

Chartered Accountant and academic, Professor Brenda Porter, is the new Head of the School of Accounting & Commercial Law.

She returns to New Zealand from her most recent position as Reader in Accounting at the Warwick Business School—one of the top three UK business schools. Before that, Brenda was Director of Accounting Research at Cranfield School of Management, Cranfield University.

She takes a leadership role in further developing the strong teaching and research programmes in the School, building on the work underway in the Centre for Accounting, Governance & Taxation Research.



### David Mackay

Professor David Mackay, the University's new Deputy Vice-Chancellor, is no stranger to Victoria.

A Victoria alumnus, David has had a distinguished academic career, completing a PhD at University College, London, in 1970. He is author of *In Wake of Cook* and *A Place of Exile: The European Settlement of New South Wales*.

A Nuffield Fellow in Britain in 1976, on returning to Victoria he has served three periods as Chairperson of the History Department and two as staff representative on the University Council. He has been Dean of Humanities & Social Sciences since 1995 and in 2001 was appointed Pro Vice-Chancellor and a member of the University's senior management team.



### Susan Schenk

Professor Susan Schenk is the new head of the University's School of Psychology.

An expert in drug abuse, before joining Victoria in February 2001, Susan was a Professor in the Psychology Department at Texas A&M University in the United States. Prior to joining Texas A&M in 1987, she worked at Concordia University in Montreal, Canada, as a Lecturer and Assistant Professor of Psychology.

A Canadian, Susan has a BSc from McGill University in Montreal, an MS and a PhD from Concordia.



## New programmes

New programmes are regularly provided by Victoria University to meet the demands of employers, students and developing disciplines. A selection includes:

### Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Teaching (Early Childhood Education)

The conjoint BA/BTeach (ECE) degree programme has been developed by Victoria and the Wellington College of Education to provide a specialised early childhood teaching qualification. Students have the opportunity to study a variety of BA papers while completing their early childhood major, and work towards a BTeach degree at the same time. The BTeach equips graduates with the skills to teach in New Zealand's diverse early childhood education sector. This programme has been developed to produce teachers who have a wide knowledge base and are capable of continuing their self-development independently.

E-mail: [Carmen.Dalli@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Carmen.Dalli@vuw.ac.nz) Tel: +64 4 463 5168

### Master of Teaching

The Master of Teaching (MTeach) is a unique teaching qualification taught jointly by Victoria and the College of Education. Aimed at those who have qualified for provisional teaching registration, but who have not yet begun teaching in the classroom, the MTeach allows students to focus on improving their understanding of a subject and how to teach it. It offers students the chance to take part in an internship and a research project, and special emphasis is placed on enhancing knowledge of literacy, numeracy and the education needs of Māori and Pacific students.

E-mail: [Bruce.Carey@wce.ac.nz](mailto:Bruce.Carey@wce.ac.nz) Tel: +64 4 924 2165

### Master of Education

The Master of Education provides a professional postgraduate qualification that appeals to a range of people including teachers, educational administrators and public servants. This course is run in conjunction with the College of Education and from 2004 some courses will be offered online, giving students in the jointly taught MEd a choice of a wider range of courses. This course will appeal to people interested in specialising in a particular area of education such as educational leadership and management, human development and counselling studies, curriculum and assessment, literacy or information technology. It offers those who have a wider experience of education an excellent opportunity to hone their expertise.

E-mail: [Gillian.Hill@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Gillian.Hill@vuw.ac.nz) Tel: +64 4 463 5074

Where will you be in six months' time? Contact us now for more information on the world of learning options available to you at Victoria University.

E-mail: [Course-Advice@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Course-Advice@vuw.ac.nz)

[www.vuw.ac.nz/home/subjects\\_degrees/index.html](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/subjects_degrees/index.html)

Tel: 0800 VIC UNI and press 2

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

## Victoria Events online

Knowing what's on at Victoria is now just a few clicks away thanks to the University's latest website, Victoria Events ([www.vuw.ac.nz/events](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/events)).

Victoria Events online enables alumni and friends to discover and access the wide range of public events on offer at Victoria.

The University runs and hosts a multitude of music concerts, theatre performances, hostel and club reunions, international alumni reunions, public lectures, debates, sports tournaments, art tours and international conferences, to which alumni are invited.

Today, tomorrow and for months ahead, it's these special occasions Victoria Events will provide a focus for.

Upcoming events include:

### New Zealand's Role in World Affairs

The Fourth Wellington Conference on World Affairs

Keynote speaker, Professor Roderic Alley, who retires at the end of this year, will reflect on the conference theme in light of his lifetime of academic experience. The conference also includes sessions on *New Zealand in a Globalising World*, *New Zealand's role in the Pacific*, and *Transtasman Relations*. For information contact Adrienne Nolan, phone +64 4 463 5351.

Date: Thursday 4 (conference dinner) and Friday 5 December, 9am–5pm.

### Salon di Virtuosi

Early music ensemble Chrome (Penelope Evison, 6-keyed flute; Euan Murdoch, classical cello; Douglas Mews, fortepiano) performs a repertoire ranging from the Baroque to the Romantic era at the City Gallery Wellington. Tickets (\$18/\$15/\$9) are available from City Gallery phone +64 4 801 3017.

Date: Friday 28 November, 6.30pm

### Final Recital – Thomas Hecht and Albert Tiu

Former Head of Piano Studies Thomas Hecht returns with Singapore Conservatory colleague Albert Tiu to perform a stunning programme of works for two pianos. For tickets and information contact the School of Music phone +64 4 463 5369.

Date: Friday 12 December, 7.30pm

### 10th Anniversary of Graduate School of Nursing & Midwifery

2004 is the 10th anniversary of the appointment of the School's inaugural Professor. To celebrate, alumni are invited to a seminar and black tie dinner. If you have not received an invitation contact Kate Duke, email [Kate.Duke@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Kate.Duke@vuw.ac.nz) or phone +64 4 463 6156.

Date: Thursday 11 December

## 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.

The Alumni Association continues to grow. There are two types of members—all graduates are automatically members while a smaller number of graduates are deemed 'subscription-paying members'. We are working on a less cumbersome and serendipitous description of the latter group. Clichés such as Gold Members abound, and Financial Members could be seen as an unhappy reflection on non-financial members. Titles from Te Reo may not meet with a general acceptance although Tangata o te Whare Wānanga o te Ūpoko o te Ika a Māui has a certain ring about it. Suggestions can be e-mailed to [alumni-association@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:alumni-association@vuw.ac.nz)

The Association's Law Chapter is growing too. All Victoria law graduates are being invited to join. We are also inviting all Wellington-based lawyers to join. Even if they did not graduate from Victoria's School of Law, they should have the opportunity to support the Law School of New Zealand's Capital City University. In that way all legal graduates in Wellington can have a stake in legal education and practice in the Capital and incidentally enjoy an increasing number of more tangible benefits. The Law Chapter is another opportunity for building and nurturing professional relationships, something that is becoming even more important because of the uncertainty regarding the future of district law societies.

Among the many changes that have taken place since the formation of the Alumni Association 10 years ago is the increasing number of graduates who have multiple degrees in complementary disciplines. Indeed, about 80 percent of Victoria law students are double graduates. The traditional favourites of political science, finance, languages and classics have been joined by science, management, government and public policy.

Victoria has become a very successful university and for the last few years has been on something of a roll. Increasing enrolments and building projects are evidence of this. Subscribing to the Alumni Association and, if appropriate, joining the Law Chapter are just two of the ways you can be part of it.





## 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](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/alumni/lifeaftervic)

### Jonathan Wyatt

BBSc 1994, BArch 1997



For Jonathan Wyatt, three times World Mountain Running Champion, representing New Zealand at the Olympic Games Marathon in Greece next year is what drives him. The race will be run on the historic course, from Marathon into Athens, finishing in the ancient Greek Olympic Stadium. To qualify and train, Jonathan has raced all over the world. From his cross-country beginnings his running career includes long distance track events, mountain races and most recently, marathons. Combining study and work with training and competing is a constant challenge, as is maintaining motivation over a long racing career. Recently Jonathan became involved with New Zealand's bid for the World Mountain Running Championship for 2005 and event management is an area where he may increasingly spend his time. He is also often involved with schools and young runners in the sport. Jonathan likes to emphasise the enjoyment that sport brings as well as providing a clear goal to focus on.

highlight of his role it's entirely appropriate—he is the Chief Financial Officer at Telecom New Zealand Ltd. Marko is part of the senior executive team that sets Telecom's strategy and he is responsible for



corporate finance and treasury management, corporate strategy, mergers and acquisitions, investor relations, and financial reporting. Marko also represents Telecom on the boards of Sky Network Television and Hutchison 3G Australia and was recently acting head of AAPT in Australia until a permanent chief executive was appointed. A traditional start in chartered accountancy with PriceWaterhouse led to a long spell working in the United States. His diverse commercial experience includes sales and operational roles with Lion Nathan and Ansett as well as banking with Elders Finance in New York, and an MBA from the Harvard Graduate School of Business. To balance his demanding career Marko is married and has two sons.

### Clare Miller

BSc 1996, LLB 1996, MConSc 2000



Muddy, cold winter nights spent in the bush may not be everyone's idea of a dream job but that's how Clare Miller describes her role with the Department of Conservation's Biodiversity Recovery Unit. Enduring uncomfortable conditions is what it takes if you want to have kakapo eating walnuts from the palm of your hand or to view kiwi eggs in the wild. The job is

not all ornithological picnics as Clare is responsible for the project's logistics and support—making sure the staff and volunteers are happy and healthy, preparing recovery plans, captive management plans, and achieving good results within a fixed budget. Since graduating Clare has worked in a law firm, surveyed West Coast lizards and toiled for 15 months on the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry's biosecurity policy, but the need to get her boots dirty again drew Clare back to DoC's kakapo team.

### Henry Ivarature

MA 1991, PhD 1994



Henry is the Development Program Manager (Western Province) for the newly established Papua New Guinea Sustainable Development Program Ltd. The company is responsible for implementing development programmes throughout Papua New Guinea (PNG) and owns 52 percent of the copper mine, Ok Tedi Mine Ltd. The mine accounts for 10 percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and dividends from the mine fund the company's development programmes. With the mine set to close in 2010, Henry is faced with the challenge of maintaining services and finding alternative funding for vital economic development projects. Henry's responsibilities involve travel to some of the most remote areas of PNG. The Western Province, despite generating 10 percent of PNG's GDP, is without much of the infrastructure and basic services taken for granted in the urban areas. Henry is married to 'Ema Finau-Ivarature, a Victoria alumna, and has three children.

### Marko Bogoievski

BCA 1983

When Marko lists the challenges and rewards of good communication as the

Thomas Eichelbaum; John Fraser; Dr Patricia Grace; Rt Hon Sir Kenneth and Jocelyn, Lady Keith; Sir George Laking; Professor Alan MacDiarmid; Malcolm McCaw; Hon Justice John McGrath; Elizabeth Orr; Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Palmer; Dr Ian Prior; Ihakara Puketapu; Sir Paul Reeves; Sir Ivor Richardson; and Dick Simpson.

Life members are honoured because of the contribution they continue to make to the University's community of scholars. They enjoy all the rights and privileges of subscription members of the Association.

## Alumni honoured

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Stuart McCutcheon, took the opportunity of his visit to Gisborne in support of the School of Music opera, *Orpheus in the Underworld*, to present Sir Henare Ngata with life membership of the Alumni Association.

Elected to life membership of the Association in 2003 were: Verna and Denis Adam; Dr George Barton; Lord Cooke of Thorndon; Gillian and Professor Roderick Deane; Hon Justice Edward Durie; Rt Hon Sir



Gisborne Herald

▲ Lorna, Lady Ngata looks on as her husband Sir Henare Ngata is bestowed Life Membership by Vice-Chancellor Stuart McCutcheon.

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](mailto:Tricia.Walbridge@vuw.ac.nz) Tel: +64 4 463 5109

## Words of Antarctic wisdom

A NZ\$150,000 endowment from Singaporean philanthropist Dr Lee Seng Tee has bolstered the University's strong contribution to Antarctic research through a high-profile lecture series.

In August, Stanford University scientist, Professor Robert Dunbar gave the inaugural S.T. Lee Annual Lecture in Antarctic Studies at Victoria, presenting *Antarctica and Climate Change in the Century Ahead—Causes, Consequences and Surprises*.

His presentation featured examples of newly discovered rapid climate change events superimposed on the long-term trends from past records, furthering concerns about future climate.

Dr Lee's endowment, established through the Victoria University Foundation, recognises the University's tradition of Antarctic research since 1957, and is an opportunity to showcase Antarctic research by world experts to the New Zealand community.

## Golden age for Law Review

The *Victoria University of Wellington Law Review* celebrated its 50th anniversary in August and thanks to the generous and ongoing support of Judge Ian Borrin, it's looking better than ever.

The *Law Review* has a proud history of publishing significant legal articles and takes contributions from all over the world. Published four times a year, and distributed worldwide, it also produces special issues as part of its monograph series that cover significant events at the School of Law.

Katrine Evans, managing editor of the *Review*, says with a revamped cover design,



and plans to go online, the *Law Review* is aiming to increase its readership and ensure authors receive more recognition for their work.

"The 50th anniversary issue has been written entirely by students studying for Honours and Master degrees, which displays the commitment the *Review* has to encouraging and enabling student research to be published."

◀ Judge Ian Borrin, left, meets the people who put the *Law Review* together.

Judge Borrin, who is the Police Complaints Authority, and a committed supporter of the *Review*, praised the latest issue for its range of learning and scholarship. "The co-operation of members of the Faculty and students guarantees a quality product each time," he says.

Past and present involvement was recognised at the launch of the anniversary issue, which was attended by some of New Zealand's top legal figures, staff from the School of Law, and the 50th issue's student authors.

E-mail: [law-review@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:law-review@vuw.ac.nz)

Peter Barrett as pictured in the *Science for Survival* exhibition.

Royal Society of New Zealand



Today, Victoria's Professor Peter Barrett, Director of the Antarctic Research Centre, leads an internationally recognised group focusing on understanding Antarctic climate behaviour, including its likely response to global warming and its influence on New Zealand.

The group's success is largely attributable to its leading technical advances in drilling sea-ice and ice shelf platforms, as well as drilling frozen landscapes.

Dr Lee has followed his first gift with a commitment of NZ\$150,000 to establish the S.T. Lee Library in Antarctic Research at Victoria. A worldwide appeal is being made to the Antarctic Research Centre's alumni to establish a fund for the Library's ongoing operations.

Peter's international connections ensured the success of the inaugural S.T. Lee Lecture by arranging Professor Dunbar's New Zealand visit.

Peter has led the University's well-regarded Antarctic programme since 1969 and was chief scientist for the Cape Roberts Project (1993-2002)—exploring Antarctica's past climate by drilling off the coast for sediment cores.

His professional and personal work also features in a *Science for Survival—People Who Care* exhibition, publicising the efforts of New Zealanders to conserve the environment.

In association with the Royal Society of New Zealand, the exhibition runs at the New Zealand Portrait Gallery until February 2004.

E-mail: [Peter.Barrett@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Peter.Barrett@vuw.ac.nz)  
[www.geo.vuw.ac.nz/croberts](http://www.geo.vuw.ac.nz/croberts)  
Tel: +64 4 463 5336



## Young literary talent on show

New Zealand's future young writers rubbed shoulders with the nation's literary giants at the Bell Gully National Schools' Writing Festival held at Victoria.

The Festival, organised by the International Institute of Modern Letters (IIML) and supported by leading law firm Bell Gully through the Victoria University Foundation, attracted more than 200 students from 70 secondary schools to Victoria in late August.

The weekend-long festival opened with a Gala Poetry Reading featuring New Zealand's top poets. Television interviewer Kim Hill presented the inaugural Bell Gully National Schools' Poetry Award for 2003 to Epsom Girls' Grammar student Mia Gaudin, 16, for a poem about her best friend, Harriet.



She won \$500 cash and a \$500 grant for her school library.

The competition was a double win for Epsom Girls' with fellow student, Catherine Palmer, a runner-up. Other runners-up were: Sienna Smale-Jackson, Otago Girls' High School, Dunedin; Meg Waghorn, Rangi Ruru Girls' School, Christchurch; Joanna Wang, Pakuranga College, Auckland; and David Seaman, Taradale High School, Napier.

"Bell Gully has a long history of supporting the arts, schools and young people, so the award and the Festival were a natural choice for us," says Bell Gully Chief Executive

◀ Mia Gaudin, centre, receives her prize from Kim Hill, left, and Maggie Callicrate.

Maggie Callicrate. "I'm delighted our support will enable so many talented young people to work with New Zealand's leading writers, poets and playwrights."

IIML Director, Professor Bill Manhire, says Victoria was a logical place to hold the Festival, as home of the only IIML branch outside the United States.

"One of the Institute's chief objectives is encouraging emerging writers throughout the world and so we're doing our bit by helping senior secondary students to develop their potential by allowing them to discuss their work with leading practitioners."

E-mail: [modernletters@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:modernletters@vuw.ac.nz)  
[www.vuw.ac.nz/modernletters/festival.htm](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/modernletters/festival.htm)  
Tel: +64 4 463 6854

## Books

### Slow Water

Annamarie Jagose

This novel by Annamarie Jagose, who completed her PhD at Victoria in 1992, is based on a true story. In *Slow Water* (VUP), William Yates sets sail from London in 1836, bound for New Zealand's mission fields. A love affair with a member of the crew transforms him and tests all on board. It is a poised, elegant novel, with the *Sunday Star Times* saying: "Jagose has few peers as a prose stylist".



lyrics is followed by two major prizewinning long poems. Anna was awarded the Glenn Schaeffer Award for 2003 and is attending the creative writing school at Iowa University. The award is given annually to a graduate of Victoria's creative writing MA programme.

### The Adulterer's Bible

Cliff Fell

*The Adulterer's Bible* (VUP) by Cliff Fell contains several narratives of adultery, all stemming from an infamous edition of the Bible, which managed to omit the word 'not' from one of the commandments. Cliff won the Adam Prize in 2002, the first time it has been won by a poet. Each year the Adam Prize is awarded to the author of the best page-based portfolio for the creative writing MA.



### Snakes and Ladders

Peter Roberts

Based on his Master of Public Policy thesis, winner of the Holmes Prize for Public Policy Research, Dr Peter Roberts' *Snakes and Ladders* (IPS) focuses on enhancing human performance to establish a safety culture in public hospitals. Peter has been a specialist intensive care physician at Wellington Hospital since 1983.



### Good Luck

Anna Livesey

*Good Luck* (VUP) is an extraordinarily impressive first collection of poems by Anna Livesey. A section of superbly crafted short



Victoria University Press and Institute of Policy Studies books are available from all good bookstores or by contacting  
E-mail: [Victoria-Press@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Victoria-Press@vuw.ac.nz)  
or +64 4 463 6580 or  
[ipos@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:ipos@vuw.ac.nz) or +64 4 463 5307

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](mailto:Events@vuw.ac.nz)  
Tel: + 64 4 463 5810

## Valuable experiences

Recognising its significant potential as a training ground for students, the Adam Art Gallery has made a concerted effort to provide hands-on opportunities for Victoria students to get involved.

Since its inception in 1999, the Gallery has operated a volunteer programme that helps students gain practical experience in a world-class public gallery. Students provide assistance to the Gallery's staff by working on the reception desk, providing commentary for the public and assisting with installations.

The exhibition, *Before Added Art: The Graphic Art of Lionel Lindsay* (25 October 2003—February 2004), is the latest in a series of curatorial projects undertaken by Art History Honours students in collaboration with the Gallery. Bringing together 58 prints from the Museum of New Zealand, Te Papa Tongarewa collection, the exhibition and its

catalogue represents the research carried out by the students, who are also involved in publicising the exhibition.

Students have the chance to contribute to the research and interpretation of works in the University's Art Collection. This collection is displayed throughout the University's buildings and is managed by the Gallery. Students are invited to research individual works, produce interpretive labels and become involved with other collection activities, says Exhibitions and Public Programmes Officer at the Gallery, Kate Griffin.

"This experience is invaluable, because it offers students access to a range of practical experiences in a working gallery. When entering the workforce Victoria's students have a headstart—for many of our volunteers, participation in the Gallery's training programmes has led directly to employment in cultural institutions both nationally and internationally."

Kate Griffin, left, ► discusses Joyce Campbell's *L.A. Bloom* with volunteer Keryn Derby.



The Gallery works with up to 15 students each trimester and while most of their students are studying Art History, the scheme is open to all students at Victoria.

E-mail: [Kate.Griffin@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Kate.Griffin@vuw.ac.nz)  
Tel: +64 4 463 5229  
[www.vuw.ac.nz/adamartgal/](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/adamartgal/)



## Loving Latino languages

The growing strength of the Italian and Spanish programme has received a further boost by the appointment of two new lecturers.

Agustín Yague, who is employed by the Spanish Ministry of Education and Culture to promote the Spanish language and culture in New Zealand, has joined the programme as an Honorary Teaching Fellow, teaching 300 and 400 level students while

◀ Agustín Yague, left, and Gianni Atzeni have added authentic flavour to the Italian and Spanish programme.

Gianni Atzeni, the Cultural Attaché at the Italian Embassy, has joined the programme as the Italian Government Lector, teaching at all undergraduate levels.

Programme Director Dr Sarah Leggott says both appointments are signs of the standing and strength of study in both languages. "That the Governments of both countries have agreed to fund these positions is an honour for the programme and a boost to our teaching, as they bring the latest resources with them."

Both languages, and particularly Spanish, have seen a growth in enrolments. While Spanish had been taught at an introductory level for many years, the first graduates in Spanish received their degrees at the May graduation ceremony. From next year, students will also be able to do an Honours degree in the language, which is globally the third most widely spoken after Chinese and English.

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Tel: +64 4 463 5765



## ‘Scoop’ for IPS director

Dr Andrew Ladley, Director of the Institute of Policy Studies, scored a scoop any foreign correspondent would have been green with envy to gain.



Using a Victoria camera, Andrew and freelance Australian journalist Ben Bohane managed to interview Bougainville guerrilla leader Francis Ona in July. Footage from the interview ran on *SBS* in Australia and New Zealand’s *TV3*.

The significance of the footage was that Mr Ona has been in isolation from the international community and all journalists for five years and his Mekamui National Congress is the only armed group on the troubled island that refused to participate in the peace process.

The interview revealed Mr Ona’s claim that the United Nations was part of a plot to cause another civil war on the island—something the UN has strongly denied.

“He told me he wouldn’t actually attack the peace process but I believe he sees himself as the guardian of independence in case the Government in Port Moresby returns to armed conflict.”

In interviewing Mr Ona, Andrew visited the island’s vast Panguna copper mine, (pictured above) closed since 1989 and a flash point in the conflict. The mine once produced up to 50 percent of Papua New Guinea’s foreign currency.

Andrew visited Bougainville in a project funded by the New Zealand Agency for International Development to investigate New Zealand’s role in brokering a lasting peace. Tens of thousands of people died in fighting or from disease and starvation during the struggle for independence from PNG that raged from 1989 to 1997.

“New Zealand’s contribution has been extremely effective. The Māori cultural aspect of New Zealand’s foreign policy and military presence was one of the most significant factors, providing a critical point of difference that set New Zealand apart. New Zealand was trusted at a time that Australia, the former colonial power, was not and the Kiwi role thus helped build confidence in the process to the point that Australia could resume its major role.”

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Tel: +64 4 463 6834

## Law Professor honoured

Advancing the cause of French culture, education and the arts, School of Law Professor Tony Angelo has been named a Knight in the Order of the Academic Palms (*Chevalier dans l’Ordre des Palmes académiques*) by the French Government.

At a special ceremony in early August, Tony received the decoration from Université de la Polynésie française (UPF) President, Professor Sylvie André, particularly recognising his work in French Polynesia.

The honour acknowledges his long involvement with UFP, and its predecessor the Université française du Pacifique.

A comparative law specialist with a particular interest in the Pacific, Tony has published widely, contributing to UFP colloquia and conferences over many years and acting as a link between the French legal world and the rest of the Pacific.

He has also been involved in the codification and revision of the laws of Mauritius and with the law of the Seychelles.

Tony’s work with UFP includes his involvement with the *Revue juridique polynésienne*—a bilingual journal published in association with the *Victoria University of Wellington Law Review* and the New Zealand Association for Comparative Law. The journal is considered an important medium for spreading French culture in the Pacific. He has also set up a course with UFP entitled *Droit du Pacifique*, introducing students to the common law and legal systems in force in other Pacific states.

*L’Ordre des Palmes académiques* was established in 1808 by Napoleon and is the most prestigious decoration a scholar can receive from the French Government.

Dean of Law, Professor Matthew Palmer, says he is delighted that Professor Angelo received the award. “I understand this is the first time this honour has ever been awarded to a New Zealand legal academic.”



▲ From left at the Palmes académiques award ceremony: Victoria University Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon, Professor Matthew Palmer, Professor Sylvie André, Yves-Louis Sage and Professor Tony Angelo.

E-mail: [Tony.Angelo@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Tony.Angelo@vuw.ac.nz)  
Tel: +64 4 463 5634



## Meeting of the minds

Some of Victoria's top academics in information management, computing science, media studies and design shared their knowledge in a 'Meeting of the Minds' with key industry players.

Victoria is a strategic academic partner in MediaLab South Pacific, a research consortium that includes ICT (information, communication and technology) companies, tertiary institutions and other research providers.

Ian McIntosh, Manager Research and Commercial at Victoria and a MediaLab executive member, says the group aims to bring innovative ideas and opportunities to commercial fruition in the areas of information technology, telecommunications and digital media.

"MediaLab embraces a wide definition of ICT from creative interests, such as those involved in media, design and film, to hard-end technology interests, such as those involved in computing hardware, telecommunications and business solutions.

"Hosting this MediaLab event was an important opportunity for Victoria and its researchers to present their research capabilities to key industry players across the creative-technology spectrum and to allow MediaLab and its members to tell us about their activities and interests. It was in every sense of the phrase, a 'meeting of the minds.'"

Ian says academics at Victoria are keen to be involved in MediaLab's Mobile Research Group, which aims to bring together ICT developers to research and create new wireless technology concepts that are people-centred and demonstrate a strong understanding of consumers' needs.

The event, held in the Hunter Council Chamber in August, included briefings from Victoria managers and academics from four schools as well as MediaLab Chairperson Richard Bentley and MediaLab Chief Executive Michael Gregg.

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Tel: +64 4 463 5535

## Talk of home

Te Reo i te Whenua tipu or 'language in the homeland' was roundly discussed at the 7th Polynesian Languages Conference held at Victoria.

Delegates from 14 Pacific nations attended the mid-year conference organised by Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori—the Māori Language Commission, and Te Kawa a Māui—Victoria's School of Māori, Pacific and Samoan Studies.

Te Ripowai Higgins, Head of Te Kawa a Māui, says the conference involved those committed to language revitalisation.

Issues spanning Māori radio, television and dictionary development were considered alongside the struggle to maintain some Polynesian languages in their homeland.

A range of workshops considered language development strategies, including borrowing words from each other's languages rather than from English. Delegates also visited local kura kaupapa and kōhanga reo.

Te Ripowai says New Zealand is well advanced in language revitalisation compared to many Pacific nations.

"We looked at technology options to share information on language developments and access online resources," she says.

Te Ripowai believes Victoria's Te Herenga Waka Marae contributed to the hui's success, bringing everyone together in a place they felt comfortable. Speaking in their own languages, with simultaneous translations, also helped.



▲ Tahitian delegates express their language through song.

The Polynesian Languages Forum arose after concern was shown by a number of Polynesian language groups resident in New Zealand (other than Māori) for the plight of their languages.

In 1991, the Commission called representatives of Polynesian nations together to discuss those issues and establish a permanent group.

Presenters to this year's conference included Steven Chrisp, Senior Policy Analyst with Te Puni Kōkiri, the Ministry of Māori Development, who spoke on the Māori Language Strategy and Shane Jones, Chairman of Te Ohu Kai Moana, the Māori Fisheries Commission, who spoke on the Language of Economics.

E-mail: [TeRipowai.Higgins@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:TeRipowai.Higgins@vuw.ac.nz)  
Tel: + 64 4 463 5472

# The Pick of them all!

## Future technology preserves the past

A collaborative public and private sector relationship involving Victoria has established New Zealand's most technologically advanced centre for the preservation, archiving and retrieval of precious historical and cultural records.

The Heritage Materials Imaging Facility (HMIF) is a collaboration between the University's New Zealand Electronic Text Centre (NZETC), New Zealand Micrographic Services and the National Library.

The facility, based at the National Library, has installed a Cruse colour digitising camera, only the second in the southern hemisphere. Cruse scanners are in use in places as diverse as NASA's Johnson Space Centre and the Vatican Secret Archives.

The digitising camera greatly enhances the ability to reproduce artworks, photographs, letters, newspapers, manuscripts and fragile books. Apart from being the largest scanner of its kind in Australasia, weighing more than one tonne, its high-resolution images use the least invasive methodologies available.

NZETC director Elizabeth Styron says having such manuscripts in digital format will make them accessible to researchers worldwide.

NZETC was a logical partner to be involved with HMIF. Established in 2002, its primary goal is creating a searchable electronic archive of New Zealand texts. Works to date include the Print History Project, 30 letters by historian J. C. Beaglehole and the literary journal *Sport*.

A new project, digitising the *Official Histories of New Zealand in the Second World War*, has seen the first five volumes placed online. As a result, the public can now read more than 1.5 million words and examine 31 full colour maps, 328 historical photographs and 77 diagrams.

That initial work resulted in a major grant from the New Zealand Defence Force that, along with other fundraising support through the Victoria University Foundation, will help see the remaining 45 war history volumes placed online.

"They're an out-of-print series that is unparalleled in its scholarship and exhaustive coverage. When completed, it will create a fully searchable archive of more than 15 million words and represent a valuable national and global resource to students, the general public, and researchers alike," says Elizabeth.

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[www.nzetc.org/collections.html](http://www.nzetc.org/collections.html)

and [www.hmif.co.nz](http://www.hmif.co.nz)

1930s hand painted poster scanned by the Cruse Camera

