

INSIDE | AUT

NEWS FROM AUT UNIVERSITY | TE WĀNANGA ARONUI O TĀMAKI MAKAU RAU



Why is television not working?

The link between childhood TV watching and unemployment cannot be ignored according to a recent study co-authored by an AUT University academic. The next step is to look at why children prefer television to other activities.

Lecturer Erik Landhuis, from the Department of Social Sciences, was the lead author of a study on the association between childhood and adolescent television viewing and unemployment in adulthood.

Data from the study came from Otago University's Dunedin Multidisciplinary Health and Development Study, where Landhuis was a research fellow prior to coming to AUT, and looked at the television viewing of 1037 children born in Dunedin.

Researchers looked at television viewing, educational achievement, family socioeconomic status, cognitive ability and early behavioural problems during the course of the study.

Results showed most study members reported at least some unemployment between the ages of 18 and 32 years. In assessing the association between childhood television viewing and unemployment the study found that watching television as a child predicted a period of at least six months continuous unemployment.

Of those that watched less than two hours a day, 18% went on to spend 12 months continuously unemployed and for those that watched more than three hours a day 32% would be unemployed for over a year.

Landhuis and the researchers of this study always thought there would be a link between childhood television viewing and unemployment as adults, but they thought this would be explained by education.

"TV is known to reduce educational achievement and that in turn leads to increased unemployment. However while education partially explained the relationship this wasn't the whole picture," he says.

"In fact, we introduced many control variables in numerous analyses and we couldn't make the link between TV and unemployment goes away."

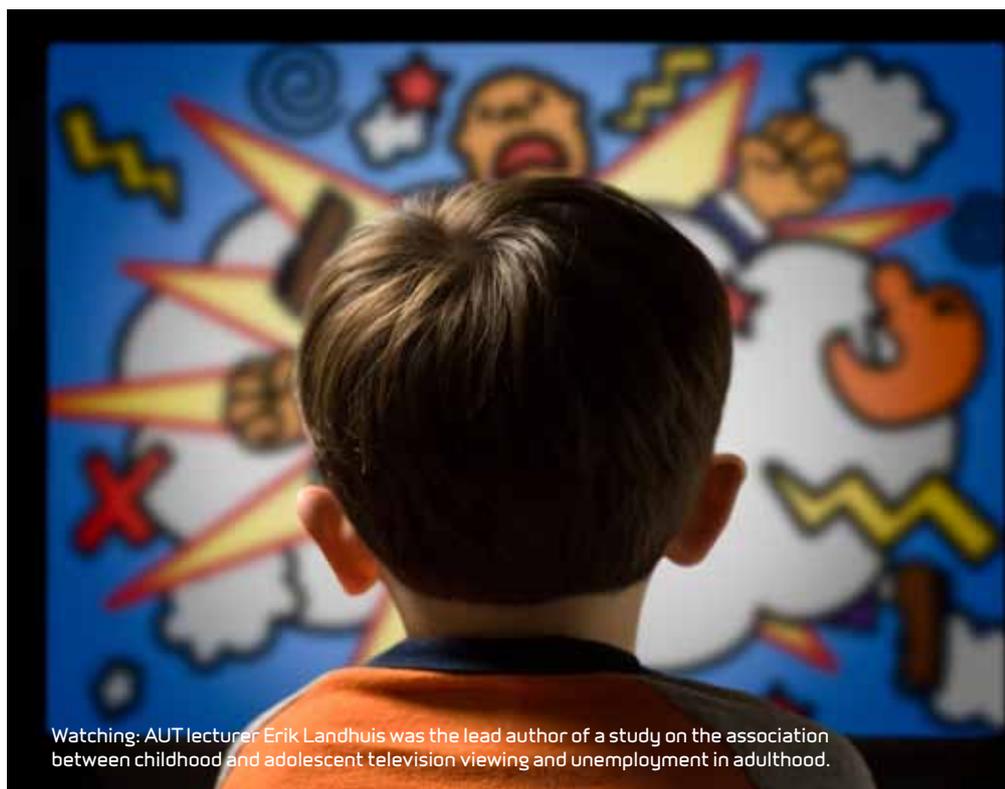
For Landhuis the question is: why is television so much more interesting than other kids activities?

He says it is no secret that watching television is "bad" for children and the reasons why they do it is intuitively quite easy to answer. "It stimulates our pleasure centres and it does it really well. But that doesn't really explain anything. The more interesting and difficult question now is why is watching television more attractive than playing games, reading stories, playing in the mud or with toys?"

Landhuis is addressing this question with AUT colleagues; Dr Stephen Reay, Senior Lecturer, Product Design and Professor Grant Schofield, Director of the Centre for Physical Activity and Nutrition (CPAN).

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Watching: AUT lecturer Erik Landhuis was the lead author of a study on the association between childhood and adolescent television viewing and unemployment in adulthood.

Letter from the VC



Welcome to the first issue of Inside AUT for 2012.

We began the year by becoming a smoke-free university, a change that will contribute to a better environment for work and learning. The transition seems to have been without problem.

We also started with enrolment numbers that mean we should readily reach our year's Equivalent Full Time Student (EFTS) targets. I want to thank the recruitment and marketing staff for securing strong numbers of applicants, the academic registry and faculty staff for much improved admissions processes, and the AUT and AuSM staff and student volunteers for a great orientation programme setting us up for a promising teaching year.

In April, all staff members will receive a copy of the new AUT Strategic Plan which sets out AUT's directions for the next five years. It is the product of considerable consultation with staff, and so it is a shared vision that we will need to work together to achieve. The new plan confirms much that AUT is already pursuing. Little will be surprising to AUT people. However, priorities are sharpened and redefined and some are opened up to new and creative approaches. Look for greater emphases on achieving student success for all groups and all levels, building active engagements with business, industry and the professions, and promoting research and scholarship.

In this issue of Inside AUT, we celebrate research excellence, presenting the recipients of the 2011 Vice-Chancellors Research Awards. The 2012 Performance Based Research Fund (PBRF) round for the evaluation of academic quality is also keeping our focus firmly on our individual and collective research strengths. Preparing an individual PBRF portfolio has become an extremely detailed and time consuming task that academic staff members have been approaching with dedication and determination for several months now. Our hope is for a dramatic increase in the number of research active academics over our 2006 result. More research active staff will, amongst other things, ensure a substantial increase in the PBRF income we receive adding millions of dollars to our research-related revenues.

Research and post-graduate study has also become a significant part of the work at the Manukau Campus, now entering its third academic year. A full research group, the Centre for Geo-Informatics and Geo-Computation, is located there as are a number of research professors including Pro Vice Chancellor Philip Sallis and Professor of Pacific Studies Peggy Fairburn-Dunlop. Dedicated post-graduate and research offices are being renovated and extended, and post graduate study options have been expanded. This year Manukau awarded its first PhD scholarship to Salainaoloa Wilson whose research is on Samoan language maintenance and preservation.

Award-winning methods of rehab for MS sufferers

Dr Nicola Kayes was awarded one of the Vice-Chancellor's Individual Emerging Researcher Awards in 2011 for her research into the rehabilitation of people with multiple sclerosis (MS).

Her research looked specifically at how people with MS responded to engagement in physical activity.

She believes the findings of her work challenged some of the basic assumptions of many existing theories of behaviour and informed the development of a theoretically-driven, evidence-based approach to activity engagement for people with MS.

Dr Kayes says she is very honoured to have won the award. "It serves as an acknowledgement to those who have supported, supervised and mentored me in particular Professor Kathryn McPherson. They have made what I do possible." "The fact that the emerging researcher award was jointly-awarded to three researchers is a sign of the significant growth that AUT has seen from a research perspective and I am grateful to be a part of that growth," she says. "I get such a lot of satisfaction out of the work that I do, and so to be acknowledged by the university is the icing on the cake!"

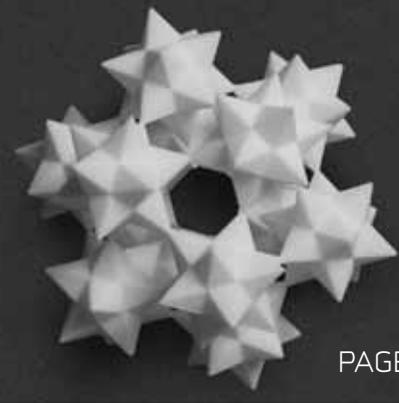
The research has been well-received within the sector, however there have been some hurdles to overcome. "Some physiotherapists have found it challenging to deliver due to the paradigm shift required as well as the perceived threats to their scope for practice," she added.

Dr Kayes' background is in health psychology and the research she does focuses on the intersection between health psychology and rehabilitation. She wants to understand how rehabilitation practitioners can draw on health psychology to enhance the way they can contribute to the rehabilitation process and improve rehabilitation outcomes.

She has been working in the Health and Rehabilitation Research Institute since 2005 as a member of the Person Centred Research Centre and is currently contributing to both research and teaching in her role as Senior Research Officer within these teams.



Dr Nicola Kayes has been improving the lives of MS sufferers through exercise.



Energizing award for Elaine Rush

An AUT researcher who won the 2011 Vice-Chancellor's Individual Excellence Research Award is helping to improve the health of Kiwi kids.

Professor Elaine Rush is the lead academic on Project Energize – a programme running in 242 Waikato Primary Schools that provides professional development for teachers and opportunities to improve children's physical activity and nutrition and improve overall health.

Professor Rush says she was humbled to receive the award, "I also feel really supported by AUT and all the people that I work and network with".

The programme is a unique collaboration between researchers from AUT, the Waikato District Health Board and Sport Waikato.

Energizers employed by Sport Waikato work closely with teachers at the schools to make healthy eating and exercising fun for kids. To get an objective measurement of how the programme is working, the children were weighed and tested over a 550 m running course.

Substantial differences were seen in weight (-0.5 kg for 7 year olds, -2 kg in 10 year olds), body mass index (-0.4, -0.6 kg/m²) and waist measurements (-2cm, -4 cm). There was also a significant decrease in the proportion of children classified as overweight and obese as well as an improvement in running speeds.

These results were so compelling that the Waikato District Health Board decided to continue funding the programme into the foreseeable future.

It was a successful year for Professor Rush who was also named as a finalist in the 2011 Next Women of the Year award for, amongst other things, her work with Project Energize.

Professor Rush says her evolution as an academic and researcher is linked with AUT's history and mission of service to community. "I have always believed that what you know should be able to be translated into doing, and the accumulative success of Project Energize epitomises this."



Alyson Young Photography

Professor Elaine Rush with the Vice-Chancellor's Individual Excellence Award.

Researcher aims to improve the decision making abilities of computers

Dr Jiamou Liu is New Zealand's youngest expert in his field of computer science. His unique combination of skills places him at the forefront of research in the area of game theory.

Last year he was awarded the AUT Vice Chancellor's Emerging Researcher Award and received Marsden Fast Start funding. Both these awards rolled off the back of a three-year NZIDRS scholarship from Education NZ and a 2008 Microsoft Asia Fellowship.

Dr Liu's research focuses on theoretical computer science and its applications; particularly on algorithms. The modern development of logic was pioneered by great thinkers such as Gödel, Tarski and Turing, and has deep connection with philosophy, mathematics and computer science. By applying the logical theory about games to the problem, Dr Liu believes we may be able to teach a computer to (in essence) think for itself. The result would be more efficient computers with faster response times.

Dr Liu says this type of research demands not only solid mathematical background, but also the ability to investigate and connect a range of different disciplines such as logic, computer science, algebra and the theory of computation.

Understanding whether computers have the ability to adjust their own problem solving strategies without external help has significant implications for industry.

Dr Liu says that this study is motivated by a mixture of both theoretical and practical interests. From the theoretical perspective, games are an important tool in the study of the relationship between computation and logic. From the application perspective, games are used to model reactive systems such as control systems and communication networks.

The second aspect of Dr Liu's research looks at the complexities of 'structures' within computer science. Examples of structures include; databases, XML documents, programs, transition systems, networks, tables and lists, graphs and trees. Dr Liu hopes to understand the inherent aspects of these structures so he can design better ways to represent them, creating more efficient systems.

Believing he has a role to play in growing New Zealand's next generation of computer scientists, Dr Liu always considers how he can incorporate his research expertise into his teaching at AUT.

Hospitality Research Reaps Rewards



Completing his own research in a hospitality and tourism context and raising the profile of research in the school of hospitality and tourism saw BeomCheol (Peter) Kim awarded a Vice-Chancellor Emerging Researcher Award for 2011.

Kim, who has a postgraduate degree in hospitality and tourism management from Virginia Tech in USA, came to AUT last year.

His most recent accolades include several research papers published in prestigious journals along with 10 published articles and 12 refereed conference papers, three of which received best paper awards.

At AUT he is a senior lecturer, teaching hospitality sales and marketing, and accounting and finance papers to undergraduate students, and supervising several postgraduate students for their theses in the school of hospitality and tourism.

"My research perspective is based on both industry work experience and scholarly endeavours and my interests are in strategic human resource management and service management," says Kim.

Current projects for Kim include research into hospitality students' attitudes towards employers in the timeshare industry, the impact of psychological empowerment for industry service workers and work-family conflict and its job consequences in the hospitality context.

On receiving the award Kim said he was humbled and said contributing to AUT's community through academic endeavour was a personal goal.

This is not the first research award Kim has received or undoubtedly the last, but Kim says he still finds it challenging to describe what he thinks makes a good researcher. "I believe a good researcher has the ability to pick out the important phenomenons in society and apply the passion and drive needed to further explain it. A general all rounded passion for knowledge also plays a key role."



CPAN was a winner of the 2011 Established Research Team Award.

Home grown talent approach comes up gold

The Centre for Physical Activity and Nutrition (CPAN) was one of two winners of the 2011 Vice-Chancellor's Established Research Team Award.

CPAN was conceived in 2004 with the objective of enhancing the health and wellbeing of our communities through high quality and innovative research.

The centre epitomises two important elements of AUT's Strategic Plan 2012-2016 in that it produces world-class research while engaging with the community.

Its research specialises in the assessment, prevention, and treatment of lifestyle-related diseases. Current projects include programmes in primary care, the workplace (in New Zealand and the Pacific region), schools, and the 'built' environment.

One such programme, Healthy Homework, is a \$1.2 million project involving 20 primary schools and kura kaupapa throughout New Zealand. A nationwide curriculum-based homework module it promotes healthy eating and the benefits of being active for children and their families. The programme was designed by CPAN Associate Director Dr Scott Duncan.

Project Energize is another success story for CPAN. Led by established research Professor Elaine Rush, who also received the Vice-Chancellor's Established Researcher Award, it has demonstrably improved the health of primary-aged children in the Waikato region.

CPAN Director Professor Grant Schofield has been active in research and the promotion of urban design which is conducive to a healthy and active society.

Professor Schofield says CPAN has a deliberate strategy of growing our own talent. "This strategy has been rewarding for our staff and students as we have all grown together in our capacity to deliver world-class health research which makes a difference to the lives of New Zealanders."

He says that in addition to the research outputs of 2011, the centre had completed two PhD theses in the area of nutrition.

CPAN will be relocating from AUT's North Shore Campus to its Millennium Campus, and will be rebranded as the Human Potential Centre.

Supervision a research priority for professor

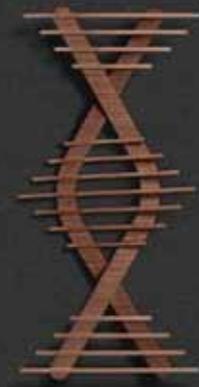


John Bitchener.

Professor John Bitchener has been awarded the 2011 Vice-Chancellors Award for Excellence in Postgraduate Research Supervision for his dedication to growing great research talent at AUT.

Bitchener is a Professor in Applied Linguistics and a great example of dedicated teaching staff. Aside from

Research melting pot yields life saving technology



The Institute of Biomedical Technologies (IBTec), winner of the Research Team Award, has developed medical equipment which helps people with breathing and other medical problems around the world.

Over the past 12 years IBTec, led by Professor Ahmed Al-Jumaily, has completed more than 70 projects with local and international companies including work with Fisher & Paykel Healthcare. This led to a \$2 million project of Technology Business Growth funding from the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology (the largest grant contracted by Fisher & Paykel Healthcare to a New Zealand university) to develop a new generation of devices to help premature babies breathe.

Asthma research is a strong area for IBTec with several staff and students travelling to the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine to conduct further validation studies in the future. This collaboration has already resulted in a six-month stay at the Clinic by AUT PhD and post doctorate graduate Dr Gijs Ijzema.

Another project is the development of computer models of blood pressure transmission through the arm which can help predict heart attack risks.

Professor Al-Jumaily considers training and education one of IBTec's core responsibilities with more than 65



Professor Ahmed Al-Jumaily.

postgraduate students having completed their degrees with the Institute. Students come from a wide variety of backgrounds ranging from engineering (mechanical, electrical and biomedical), physics and chemistry to biological sciences and from more than 25 nationalities from Europe, Asia, North and South America and Africa.

Although the institute has a wide research background, current activities are clustered in three centres; the Centre for Respiratory Therapy, Cardiovascular Diagnostics and Biomedical Materials.

IBTec truly encapsulates the concept of 'team' with its multidisciplinary and inter-faculty operation. Hosted by the Faculty of Design and Creative Technologies, it comprises of academic and research staff from the School of Engineering and the Faculty of Health and Environmental Sciences as well as collaborators from other national and international universities, hospitals and medical institutes.

He is happy to share these secrets to success too; having clear dialogue with his students, the ability to negotiate expectations, providing specific and constructive feedback, understanding what constitutes an effective argument and the skills to clearly articulate what the academic community expects.

Professor Bitchener will add his Vice-Chancellor's Award to the Faculty Researcher Award he took home in 2010, along with numerous other awards and grants including an Ako Aotearoa National Fund Project to "investigate best practice in supervisor feedback to thesis students" which was completed at the end of last year.

supervising a number of postgraduate students he can also be found giving seminars to students across the University on behalf of the Postgraduate Centre.

He is frequently invited to talk to students and supervisors at tertiary institutions and his globetrotting has taken him to the USA, Europe, Australia, Singapore and China. In 2010 he published a book on thesis writing and clinching the win ensures he can continue his supervisory role on a four-year global supervision project.

With collective skills in research supervision, teaching about supervision and mentoring supervisors the reasons for his success are clear.

Exploring equity issues in employment

In 2010, AUT introduced the Vice-Chancellor's Emerging Research Team award to identify emerging research that was establishing a profile for itself outside the university and gaining recognition through external funding.

Scoping the award at the end of 2011 was the Gender and Diversity Research Group based in the Faculty of Business and Law. The Gender and Diversity Research Group was established as an independent group in 2009 and is a multi-disciplinary research team that holds regular seminars. It operates according to an egalitarian ethos and uses a feminist non-hierarchical decision-making model.

Judith Pringle, Professor of Organisational Studies, is the co-ordinator of the Gender and Diversity Research Group and is the mentor for the Marsden Fast-Start research being carried out by another group member, Dr Irene Ryan.

Although the Group is located in the Faculty of Business and Law, its 13 members come from a range of disciplines across three faculties.

The team has an impressive publication record, with its members obtaining several research grants from the Ministry of Women's Affairs. One study investigated the potential place for women in the emerging industries, entitled "Closing the gender inequality gap: Do emerging industries hold the answer?"

The Gender and Diversity Research Group is currently conducting two research projects on behalf of AUT - the 'AUT Gender Equity Study', which is assessing people's experiences of promotion processes across all faculties; and the 'Ethnicities in Universities' study which explores the lived-in and lived-through experiences of ethnic staff (Māori, Pasifika peoples, and Middle East, Latin America and Africa groups).

AUT student orientation

AUT's orientation and Tertiary Readiness Programmes provide our students with a friendly and personalised introduction to the University and a foundation for success.

All new students receive an individual invite to orientation followed up by a phone call from the Student Centre team. At orientation students meet their student mentors – who have all completed a minimum of one semester at university with an A-B average. Mentors are recruited and then trained to be able to engage with new students and offer them both a friendly face, along with peer support and advice on university services and facilities.

New students can attend a formal welcome by the Vice-Chancellor, campus tours, IT workshops, study skills and the library, as well as meeting their programme leaders.



2012 student mentors.

In semester one 2012, a tertiary readiness programme was piloted for new students identified as having potential risk factors to their study success. The programme consists of workshops that aim to develop study skills such as academic writing and note-taking, as well as providing information on support and financial advice. The primary goal is to improve the confidence and preparedness of the student. The programme content was also delivered in breakout sessions to all new students. The programme adds to the existing collection of tertiary readiness programmes for new Māori, Pasifika, Chinese and international first year students.

After orientation week, the Student Centre conducts follow-up calls with a

selection of students. Last year 96% of new students attended semester one orientation and 99% of students surveyed said they would recommend the experience to others. This ranks amongst the best university orientation attendance rates in New Zealand.

The Auckland Student Movement (AuSM) commenced its O-week festivities on Monday 27 February. This epic week of fun, food and music features some of New Zealand's best bands and heaps of events providing new students with a great social platform from which to step into university life.

AUT offers new students a unique and highly specialised programme to empower and inspire them with confidence as they begin their AUT journey.

2012 Parachute Festival

Adam Brand believes if everyone were to do something for one other person every day, the world would be a better place.

Adam was the winner of an AUT competition at the 2012 Parachute Christian music festival after stepping in AUT's Inspiration Room to answer the question: "What would you do to change the world?"

The promotion was a huge success with over 200 people being filmed sharing their views on humanity, health, religion, business, environment, science and technology.

Their thoughts were then shown to thousands on screens around the festival, in the AUT "Inspiration Room" and post-festival on the special AUT/Parachute Youtube channel.

Held at Mystery Creek Events Centre just outside of Hamilton between 27-30 January, Parachute is one of this country's biggest music festivals.

Over the three days around 20,000 people attended the festival enjoying a range of entertainment and activities including all genres of music, amusement rides, seminars and children's programmes.

AUT's involvement with Parachute is consistent with the University's ethos of engaging with a variety of communities across society. Parachute's values of promoting youth confidence, equity, respecting others and family values are also shared with AUT.

Adam, from Devonport on Auckland's North Shore, won an iPad with his winning entry described by the AUT judging panel as a stellar and inspired view on what the changing world should look like.

During the festival iPods were also awarded to Adam, Heather, Phoebe,



Adam Brand and AUT's Tania Kearns.

Metusel, Nick and Sia for their inspirational video submissions.

Adam's, and over 200 entrant's videos, can be viewed on Youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/autparachute>



Our sustainability journey

There is a recognised need to drive sustainability throughout AUT, which is now embedded in our Strategic Plan and appears as a key objective under the continuous development theme.

AUT is committed to a long-term programme of sustainable development covering the curriculum, research, facilities and operations. The programme will address the social, cultural, environmental and economic impact of our operations and will be benchmarked against national and international best practice.

The programme will complement the learning and research opportunities we offer our students and staff. To become a sustainable university, we need to educate staff and students about how to be sustainable and reflect this not only in the operations of the university, but within the curriculum and our research.

We are seeking to understand our impact on the environment, and to reduce our negative impact while making a positive contribution to our collective future. To achieve this goal, we have set up the Sustainability Taskforce. The taskforce's objectives are to:

- produce the sustainability strategy for the university that is aligned to our Strategic Plan;
- provide our staff and students with clear direction on how they can support the University's sustainability strategy;
- set measurable goals based on the sustainability strategy to be achieved by 2016; and
- monitor and report on the University's success in achieving our sustainability goals.

The members of the Sustainability Taskforce, as appointed by the Vice Chancellor, are:

- Jenny Bygrave, Head of Strategic Developments
- Aimee Driscoll, Director – Corporate Affairs
- Kate Kearins, Associate Dean – Research, Faculty of Business and Law (Chair)
- Tony Lanigan, Group Director – Estates
- Thomas Neitzert, Professor – Mechanical Engineering
- Joanna Scarbrough, Group Director – Student Services

There are things that we can all do now that will help make a difference on our sustainability journey. Below are some useful tips and websites from "Change the World – Inspiring people to use everyday actions to change the world":

Social, cultural and economic

Take public transport when you can – <http://www.maxx.co.nz/>

Write to someone who inspired you – www.nzpost.co.nz

Take time to listen – www.samaritans.org.nz / www.youthline.co.nz

Join something – www.community.net.nz

Have more meals together – www.parenthood.com

Give blood – www.nzblood.co.nz

Get fitter, feel better – www.sparc.govt.nz/getting-active

Volunteer – www.volunternow.org.nz / www.volunteeringnz.org.nz

Give your change to charity – www.unicef.org.nz

Learn mouth to mouth – www.stjohn.org.nz / www.redcross.org.nz

Smile and smile back – www.soulsmile.co.nz

Sing the national anthem both ways – www.mch.govt.nz/anthem/index.html

Environment

Excellent travel links into the Learning Quarter – https://thewire.aut.ac.nz/_media/intranet/pdfs/services/campus-development/CBD-Universities-travel-plan.pdf

Travel by more sustainable means – https://thewire.aut.ac.nz/_media/intranet/pdfs/services/campus-development/2012_Staff-Alternative-Transport-Programme.pdf

Be a tidy kiwi – www.knzb.org.nz

Use both sides of every piece of paper – www.greenoffice.org.nz

Decline plastic bags whenever possible – www.plasticshoppingbagfree.org.nz / www.reducerubbish.govt.nz/shop/index.html

Recycle your mobile phone – www.vodafone.co.nz/recycling / www.telecom.co.nz

Recycle your books – www.skills-exchange.org.nz

Recycle you specs – www.lionsclubs.org.nz / www.rotary.org.nz

Turn off unnecessary lights and computers – www.energywise.org.nz

All of us can make a difference every day. At AUT we want to ensure that our community can be a part of the change that makes a difference to our world.

Correction

An artwork by Paul Cullen was incorrectly captioned in the last issue of *Inside AUT* (p 4, Nov/Dec 2011). The correct caption for the artwork is "A Garden" on the sculpture deck of Te Papa Tongarewa, The Museum of New Zealand, 2009/2010.

Smoke-Free

AUT University became smoke-free on 1 February 2012, a change intended to create a healthier and safer environment for all staff, students and visitors. All three teaching campuses and all student accommodation are now smoke-free, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To find out more about the smoke-free policy, including how to get free help quitting and maps of the smoke-free campuses, go to the AUT smoke-free web page: <http://www.aut.ac.nz/about-aut/aut-smoke-free>

Learning and teaching environments for the changing world

A \$435,000 investment into learning and teaching research will enable each of the 17 staff recently named as 2012 AUT Learning and Teaching Fellows (see side bar) to lead a research project into a specific area of practice, funded with a share of \$300,000 from the total Learning and Teaching Development Fund.

Six of the research projects will also share an additional fund of \$62,000 provided by Liz Gosling (Director of ICT Services) for research on the integration of mobile devices into learning.

"AUT students expect that staff will be up to date with advances in learning technologies and new approaches to teaching. This major investment demonstrates our commitment to our students' learning based on sound research into the design of learning environments for the changing world," says Pare Keiha, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Learning and Teaching.

A wide range of research projects have been funded, with subjects including the integration of mobile devices in communications and design, inter-professional education in health, communities of practice in engineering, green and smarter computing, saving



LTD FELLOWS, BACK ROW L TO R: Liz Gosling, Carol Neill, Helen Sissons, Daniel O'Brien, Chris Webb, Jackie Gunn, Stanley Frielick, Averill Gordon, Pare Keiha. FRONT ROW, L TO R: Andy Ballard, Deb Spence, David Sinfield, Kim Fraser, Laurent Antonczak, William Lu. ABSENT: Jenny Fleming, Andrew Withell, Tek Tjing Lie, Angie Finn, Muiris Ó Laoire.

endangered languages online and co-operative education in sport and business.

"The research made possible by the fund will enhance AUT's reputation as an institution dedicated to providing students with the best possible learning experiences," says Dr Stanley Frielick, Director of Learning and Teaching.

Each research team will be partnered by an academic staff member from the Centre for Learning and Teaching and the research groups will collectively develop a knowledge base of resources that can be widely shared. Social media channels and on-campus seminars and workshops will be used to document progress, and communicate results to the AUT community and beyond.

Frielick says the main measure of success for the 16 research projects will be the production of peer-reviewed research outputs. "We hope that the fellowships will continue in the future so that the university can build up a network of innovative teachers and an evidence-base for good practice," says Frielick.

A second component of the Learning and Development Fund is the Learning and Teaching Enabled by Technology (LATENT) grants, for smaller-scale local initiatives (total of \$135,000). Recipients of those grants will be announced in March 2012. For more information visit the CfLAT website <http://www.cflat.aut.ac.nz>

2012 Learning and Teaching Fellowships

16 projects in total, led by:

- Andy Ballard – Centre for Business Interdisciplinary Studies
- Dr Carol Neill – Institute of Public Policy
- Helen Sissons – Journalism
- Averill Gordon – Public Relations
- Laurent Antonczak – Graphic Design and New Media
- Andrew Withell – Product Design
- David Sinfield – Graphic Design
- Angie Finn and Kim Fraser – Fashion Design
- Professor Tek Tjing Lie – Engineering
- Dr William Liu – Computing and Mathematical Sciences
- Daniel O'Brien – Akoranga Integrated Health Clinic
- Jenny Fleming – Sport and Recreation
- Dr Deb Spence – Nursing
- Jackie Gunn – Midwifery
- Chris Webb – Paramedicine and Emergency Management
- Professor Muiris Ó Laoire – Te Ara Poutama

Recognition for mobile learning expert

Dr Thomas Cochrane, a senior lecturer in educational technology at AUT's Centre for Learning and Teaching, has been named a fellow of the Australasian Society for Computers in Learning in Tertiary Education. The Ascilite Society aims to encourage and support quality research into, and exemplary use of, technologies for teaching and learning in tertiary education throughout Australasia. Ascilite fellows are individuals who have made an outstanding contribution in the exemplary use of, or research into, those technologies. Cochrane's research interests include mobile learning, web 2.0 and communities of practice. He has managed and implemented many mobile learning projects, with a recent focus upon Android and iOS smartphones, and the iPad.



Over half way there ...

The changing shape of AUT's City campus continues to surprise with major progress on the WG precinct over the summer break.



What was once a muddy site of steel and concrete is now a fully recognisable university building with many levels in place, a number of glass panes secured, the escalators to the tower installed, and the mains power switched on.

By the end of May the construction of the main tower block (including each of the 12 floors) will be complete – marking a major milestone in the development.

By June the roof to the theatre block will be laid and the exterior walls installed. The large cranes that govern the site will slowly disappear, and by close of July the glazed glass roof that will form a dominating atrium in the precinct will be in place.

August will mark the completion of the installation of the tower walls and the brand new screen, performance, digital media and audio studios for the Communications School on level two.

By 15 November the Fletcher Construction workers will have migrated from the site and the WG precinct will be handed over to AUT to complete its fit-out with furniture and specialist equipment. The full complement of brand new spaces – including lecture theatres, forum spaces, social areas, a student kitchen and café, academic offices, a brand new media centre, exhibition and function areas, a green quad and dozens of new teaching and learning spaces will all be open for business from the first semester in 2013.



Top: The WG site this time last year, February 2011.

Above: A year on the WG site last month, February 2012.

Building by numbers

- 11,650 m³ of soil has been excavated from the WG site.
- 1300 tonnes of reinforcing steel and 860 tonnes of structural steel brace the building.
- More than 7000 m³ of concrete has been pumped into the building.
- The gross floor area is 19,500 m².
- To date the façade comprises 2700 m² of panels and 3600 m² of curtain walls.

AUT's emergency responsiveness put to the test



AUT's ability to manage and respond to a major emergency was put to the test recently, when the university's emergency response team spent a day responding to a simulated emergency.

The purpose of the exercise, which is run annually, is to test how the university's emergency management plan works in practice and to look closely at the roles, responsibilities and actions required in the event of an emergency.

AUT's emergency response team comprised 24 staff working in strategic and operational sub-teams, including representatives of ICT Services, People & Organisation, Estates, Health & Safety, Security, Student Services and Communications. Leading AUT's response as Director of Operations on the day was Richard Hall, General Manager Corporate Services.

"As a large organisation, AUT needs to be ready to respond quickly and effectively to any emergency, ranging from a natural disaster to an electrical or gas outage to disruptive activity on campus. The emergency exercises are a vital part of our emergency readiness work, giving the team a realistic idea of how we would need to work together in the event of an emergency, and helping us to identify areas for improvement," says Hall.

The two scenarios for the recent exercise were a student occupation at the Manukau Campus and disorder at student accommodation in the city. External facilitators provided simulated media and twitter feeds and regularly escalated the emergencies, creating a realistic sense of the immediacy, pressure and the occasional piece of misinformation that can exist in an emergency situation.

"Since the 2010 exercise we have continued to develop and refine our approach to managing an emergency, this work was reflected in how we handled the exercise scenario this time. Because we are constantly looking to improve our emergency responsiveness, I was very pleased that the external facilitators noticed a significant improvement in our performance compared to the last exercise," says Hall.

Postgraduate progress at Manukau campus

AUT's capability in postgraduate study has just been extended with the completion of a dedicated research and postgraduate facility at Manukau campus.



Salainaoloa Wilson, PhD student.

Manukau campus awards its first PhD scholarship

The impact of AUT University in Manukau is already being felt, with AUT awarding its first Manukau PhD scholarship to a recipient whose research is set to benefit part of the local community.

Recipient Salainaoloa Wilson will commence her PhD this year into Samoan language maintenance and preservation, with Professor Peggy Fairbairn-Dunlop as her supervisor.

"Through my Masters research I found that the Samoan language is increasingly at risk" says Wilson. "I worry about what's going to happen in the future – if we lose the language, especially with our younger people coming through if we don't make changes now, what's going to happen in the future? That's what drives me."

Wilson, who is fluent in Samoan and English, grew up in Wellington with her Samoan mother and European father, both of whom speak fluent Samoan and encourage the language to be spoken regularly at home.

"I can see language loss occurring in my own family, with cousins and so on, and this is the main reason why I started researching into this area. Many Samoan parents work multiple jobs, and shift work, so there is little time to spend enriching the language at home. I hope that my research will identify some initiatives that we can implement as part of a revitalisation strategy."

Winning the scholarship has confirmed to Wilson that moving to Auckland and pursuing an academic career was the right thing to do. "It was so hard to leave my family behind in Wellington, but winning the scholarship has shown me that this is where I'm meant to be; that there are opportunities here for me. It was so exciting to win – my family is so happy for me."

Masters and doctoral students will now have access to extended postgraduate study spaces, IT equipment and breakout rooms. Research staff from several faculties have office space and facilities for student supervision, and research groups such as the Pacific Island Families Study, Pacific Studies research with Professor Peggy Fairbairn-Dunlop, and Child Health research will be based there.

"Our academic plan to 2020 reflects the university's aim for the Manukau campus to reach out to the community with high profile, current research," says Associate Professor Marion Jones, who is also Dean, AUT University Postgraduate Studies and the Academic Leader for the Manukau campus.

Professor Peggy Fairbairn-Dunlop says "With these facilities, we will be able to further develop a postgraduate research community here at Manukau. I have heard some excellent discussions occurring, and can see that our students are building a sense of what research is."

Student Dan Tautolo, who recently completed his PhD at the campus, says "Having 24 hour access to the area has been really good, as it provides the flexibility and opportunity to work and write whenever we are able, especially for those with children and families at home. The camaraderie and collective nature of the space has been really positive and

motivating. While we are all working towards our individual academic goals, this postgraduate space reduces the feeling of isolation which can sometimes be felt as a student, and instead promotes a sense of collective support and encouragement."

Developing research strengths that respond to the community is a critical part of the Manukau strategy. Annette Dickinson, lecturer on the Postgraduate Certificate Health Science in Child Health says "We know that children are an important and significant part of the future of the Manukau area and health professionals working together in an interdisciplinary approach offers the best opportunity to improve the health outcomes for children and their families".

Alongside its undergraduate programmes, the campus now offers postgraduate qualifications in computing, education, child health, physical activity and nutrition, and arts. It is anticipated that more undergraduate and postgraduate programmes will become available at the campus over ensuing years, in a way that supports a seamless transition for students to move from undergraduate to postgraduate study.

With the campus hitting its EFTS targets again in 2012, the future is bright for undergraduate and postgraduate success at Manukau.



Postgraduate space at Manukau campus.



Psychiatric 'bins' doco to screen in main centres

A documentary by television and screen production lecturer Jim Marbrook about survivors of New Zealand's old psychiatric units will screen in cinemas nationwide at the end of the month as part of the World Cinema Showcase.

MENTAL NOTES is a heart wrenching, irreverent and often funny portrait of five people dealing with a past that many people would find hard to imagine today.

Despite the grimness of the subject with its images of ECT trolleys and "seclusion rooms", Marbrook set out to pay tribute to the strength and resilience of these survivors who still managed to positively confront their past.

Having co-produced a television piece in 2007 for TVNZ's *Sunday* programme about psychiatric abuse claims, Marbrook wanted to take a different approach with *MENTAL NOTES*.

"It's not an investigative journalism piece but more a human study of a medical-social system that didn't really work. These are hidden stories that need to come out. I hope people can say, 'Let's not go back there'. It's clear that people are better off in the community and this requires continued commitment to support and funding by the government."

This is Marbrook's fifth major film and took three years to make. He says the advice and experience of other AUT television and staff and technicians was invaluable.

MENTAL NOTES will screen at cinemas in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin.



Top: Lecturer and film maker Jim Marbrook filming at Carrington.
Above: A still from Marbrook's documentary *MENTAL NOTES*.



Memorandum of Understanding between AUT and the Government of the Cook Islands

Derek McCormack, Vice-Chancellor, and the Hon Teina Bishop, Minister of Education, Government of the Cook Islands, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to facilitate and promote co-operation and the development of educational opportunities for government officials, public servants and students in the South Pacific region.

The MOU will provide opportunities for Cook Islands students to study part-time and full-time through AUT, with a particular emphasis on utilising indigenous research methods. It will provide new study opportunities for New Zealand-based Cook Islands students studying at AUT, particularly in the areas of Pacific Arts, Pacific Development and Pacific Natural and Cultural Resource Management. The MOU furthers AUT's goal of 100 Pasifika PhDs by 2020, with five Cook Island PhD candidates currently studying at AUT.

This agreement brings together the best attributes of both parties and is a great opportunity to contribute to the social and economic development of the Cook Islands and New Zealand.

For more information please contact the Office of Pasifika Advancement.

Science stars shine at astronomy conference in Auckland

An array of top international scientists converged on Auckland in February for the SKANZ 2012* conference hosted by AUT University.

First encounters with lost tribes

The phenomenon of so called "lost tribes" who have never had contact with modern man was brought to the fore recently with the discovery of the Mashco-Piro clan in the jungles of Peru.

Now an exhibition at AUT's ST PAUL St Gallery is looking at whether the phenomenon is fact or fiction.

The Tasady, a supposed lost tribe, was discovered living in caves in the Philippines in 1971. Fifteen years later, a journalist found the tribe living in houses, wearing western clothes and smoking western cigarettes which led to the suggestion the whole thing was a government hoax to drive tourism.

The controversy is still playing out today and inspired the German artist Clemens von Wedemeyer's work 'The Fourth Wall'.

For Clemens it does not matter whether the tribe was real or not, because either way they were actors playing a role in our fantasies and representing our need for the existence of primitive tribes unsullied by the modern world. His film "The Gentle Ones", part of the film-based installation 'The Fourth Wall', brings this notion to life.

"Maybe this unspoiled existence fitted very well with hippies and the flower people in 1968 and the beginnings of the 70s but the theory of the hoax fitted very well with the 1986 theory of the tumbling of ideologies," he says.

The show presents National Geographic alongside B grade movie posters, along with the artist's own hoaxes to disorientate the viewer. Another film against death provides the climax of the work.

The Fourth Wall is showing at ST PAUL St Gallery from 24 February to 4 April. It was commissioned by the Barbican in London in 2009 and will be shown at the Paris Triennial.

More than 80 participants, from 10 countries, attended the conference and were treated to a high-calibre line-up of speakers who offered pathways to the next level of challenges in receiver technology, fibre networks, signal processing, software and computer power generated by SKA.

Highlights included Wi-Fi inventor Dr John O'Sullivan of Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation and Dr Ron Ekers, the man who was instrumental in downgrading Pluto as a planet in 2006 in an historical International Astronomical Union general assembly in Prague.

Conference goers took time out from the busy schedule to visit the 300 m high coastal cliffs at Leigh, north of Auckland, where Australian and New Zealand scientists John Boulton and Gordon Stanley conducted New Zealand's first radio interferometry in 1948. Both scientists were in New Zealand to mark the occasion. The trip home included a visit to AUT Telecom New Zealand's 30 m radio telescope site in Warkworth.

The SKA is an internationally funded \$4

billion project to build the world's largest radio telescope comprising 3000 radio telescope dishes spanning thousands of kilometres. This telescope will be capable of looking so far into deep space that it will essentially look back in time, to the origins of the universe.

New Zealand and Australia are shortlisted with a Southern African consortium to host the telescope which would provide hundreds of science and IT jobs and boost local IT and telecommunication industries. A decision on where SKA will be hosted will be announced in March-April this year.

Over the past six years New Zealand and Australian radio astronomers and engineers have been working together on a SKA prototype, experimental observations and correlating resulting data in real time. At the conference they will further discuss various pathways to SKA science in Australasia.

* Pathways to Square Kilometre Array. (SKA) Science in Australasia.



Top international scientists Dr Ron Ekers, Dr John O'Sullivan and AUT's Professor Sergei Gulyaev in front of the 30 m radio telescope located in Warkworth.



Excess vitamin C impairs athletic performance

Olympic athletes over-dosing on vitamin C may be hindering their chance of a place on the dais at the London Olympics according to an AUT researcher.

Dr Andrea Braakhuis recently completed a thesis that looks at the link between the consumption of vitamin C and athletic performance.

She found that consuming over 1000 mg per day was the level at which athletes performance started to be adversely affected. The study was carried out with female runners over a three-week period.

The primary supervisor for Dr Braakhuis's thesis was Professor Will Hopkins from the School of Sport and Recreation, with Professor of Nutrition Elaine Rush acting as secondary supervisor.

Dr Braakhuis, who is currently working as a nutritionist with the United States' Olympic team in the build-up to the 2012 London Olympics, says vitamin C supplementation is very high among elite athletes.

"In an earlier study conducted on 113 elite New Zealand rowers 64% took anti-oxidant supplements, 48% took vitamin C," she says.

Adding that while the dosage of vitamin C consumed by the rowers varied, many were taking 1000 mg every day.

"Interestingly, in the US it's difficult to purchase a vitamin C supplement that is less than 1000 mg a day, so the intakes [among athletes in the US] is typically much higher."

Dental demands lead to clinic expansion

Your general health is directly linked to your oral health and hygiene says Naomi Heap, Manager of AUT University's Akoranga Integrated Health (AIH) Clinic.

"It's more than having good teeth. There is increasing evidence of the relationship between oral disease and a range of serious health issues such as heart and circulatory conditions, stroke, cancer, diabetes and complications in pregnancy."

Due to the demands for access to oral health care nationally and increased student numbers in AUT's Bachelor of Oral Health programme, the North Shore campus' integrated health clinic is currently undergoing an expansion with the addition of three more dental units in the oral health clinic.

Currently AUT is one of only two universities in New Zealand that delivers an Oral Health degree and the on-campus clinic is one of a kind.

"The AIH clinic is unique in New Zealand, given it is a training facility dedicated to educating a range of health professionals at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. It also provides a number of cost effective health services for the community," says Mrs Heap.

The oral health clinic at AIH offers hygiene services for patients of all ages and dental therapy for school children from 9 to 18 years of age.

"Once the extension is completed the clinic will have 15 dental units in discreet bays. It is a state of the art clinic with digital X-ray, and is purpose built to cater to the needs of patients of all ages. These additions will benefit both students and members of the public using the service."

Other services provided by AIH include, physiotherapy, podiatry, nurse lead assessments, occupational therapy, counselling psychology and speech language therapy for acquired dysfunction.

During their second year of study, the students work with patients in the Auckland Regional Dental Service, the AIH clinic at North Shore campus and also AUT's Buckland Road Community Dental Clinic in Mangere.

Mrs Heap says there needs to be an increased awareness of the health benefits of maintaining oral wellbeing in both adults and in our children.

"A nationwide oral health in 2009 highlighted the poor state of our nation's teeth. Of the 3000+ people surveyed it was revealed that dental decay remains the most prevalent chronic and irreversible disease in the country."

Compared with Australian adults, New Zealand adults had poorer oral health across a range of clinical oral health indicators, and were less likely to have visited a dental professional in the previous year.

Akoranga Integrated Health Clinic appointments:
09 921 9155.

Kiwis on the internet more than ever

Kiwis have moved away from social media site MySpace and embraced Facebook with gusto, recording a 22% increase in usage over a two-year period, according to a recent AUT study which looks at internet usage in New Zealand between 2009 and 2011.

Of those New Zealanders that use a social networking site, the proportion who say Facebook is the site they use most has increased from 74% in 2009 to 96% in 2011. Facebook has captured our hearts (and time), while MySpace has disappeared off our radars!

This finding highlighted how New Zealanders are using the internet in the third bi-annual World Internet Project New Zealand survey, conducted by AUT's Institute of Culture, Discourse and Communication.

The report surveyed more than 1200 New Zealanders and found that the proportion using the internet has grown from 83% in 2009 to 86% in 2011.

The Director of AUT's Institute of Culture,

Discourse and Communication Professor Allan Bell says 91% of these users are now on broadband, a significant increase from 2007.

The influence of wireless networking has also contributed to a change in where the Internet is used in the home, with 54% of users accessing the Internet from communal home areas, up from 36% in 2007.

"These changes illustrate the increasing embeddedness of the Internet in everyday home life. More and more New Zealanders (58%) also affirm the overall importance of the Internet to their daily lives" says Professor Bell.

For more statistics please visit: wipnz.aut.ac.nz



Did you know?

- Use of the internet in New Zealand has continued to rise reaching 86% in 2011, up from 76% in 2007 and 83% in 2009.
- 69% of respondents rated the internet as an important source of information ahead of television, newspapers, radio and other people.
- 58% of New Zealanders feel the internet is important or very important in their everyday lives.
- 40% of internet users look up the definition of a word every week.
- 59% surf the web daily.
- Māori, Pasifika and Asian ethnicities are more likely to "make friends" online than NZ Europeans.
- More females (68% of those using the internet) use social networking sites (SNS) than males (59%).
- 64% of internet users say they belong to a SNS.
- SNS membership is highly stratified by age, attracting 87% of under-30s but only 34% of over-60s.
- Of those with a SNS membership, 96% say Facebook is the site they use the most.
- 72% of internet users buy things online.
- Almost half (48%) say they use the internet to sell things.
- 58% of internet users log onto their internet banking accounts at least once a week.

Business school to boost community and business engagement

AUT Business School has appointed two new staff to focus on business and community engagement.

Sarah Trotman is the new Director of Business Relations and Annie Gandar, the Manager of Business Relations.

Trotman is the founder of the Excellence in Business Support Award which will now be run by the Business School and known as the 2012 AUT Excellence in Business Support Awards. Entries open in March and the winners will be announced at a gala dinner in October.



Left to right: Sarah Trotman and Annie Gandar.

Apart from the awards, Trotman and Gandar will focus on monthly events bringing business and community leaders into contact with the school, connecting with not-for-profit organisations and producing a simple booklet to guide business and community groups on how to engage with the school.

To find out more about Business Relations for the Business School, contact Sarah (ext 5391) or Annie (ext 5330).



Director of the Ecole de gestion et de commerce, Céline Soviche.

Business School strengthens ties with Pacific region

Twenty-one business students from Ecole de gestion et de commerce in Noumea flew in to Auckland earlier this year to complete a credit-earning international study programme at the AUT Business School.

The students, who had completed two years of their business degrees in Noumea, were enrolled to study two papers at AUT over three weeks – one in Contemporary Issues in International Business (taught by Professor Peter Enderwick), and a second in Sustainability and Global Business (taught by Dr Scott Fargher and Dr Stefan Kesting).

This was the first year that the French-speaking business school had partnered with AUT to deliver the business programmes, having previously chosen to visit Australia.

Director of the Ecole de gestion et de commerce, Céline Soviche says the students benefited greatly from the experience, commenting on the high-calibre of teaching.

"It was a great experience for our students as they could practice their English, learn from business experts and discover new styles of teaching," she says.

The students are now enrolled in a six-week intensive industry placement, designed to help improve their English and give them some solid work experience.

AUT's Business School will be looking to continue the partnership over the coming years.

First Des Graydon Memorial Scholarship awarded

The AUT Business School has given its first Des Graydon Memorial Scholarship to Kelston Girls' College student Loraine Taulagi, in tribute to the memory of Professor Des Graydon.

Professor Graydon was Dean of the Faculty of Business and Law for 20 years and a highly respected leader of the AUT community. It was his request to set up a scholarship to assist students facing financial barriers to give them the opportunity to study business.

"The Business School is pleased to honour the significant contribution that Professor Graydon made over 20 years as its founding Dean, and this scholarship is an excellent way to do this as it reflects his commitment to providing opportunities for students to access Business study at AUT," says Geoff Perry, current Dean of the Faculty.

As the first recipient of the scholarship, Taulagi says she is very honored to have the opportunity to study for a Bachelor of Business this year at AUT.

"Winning this scholarship has been an absolute privilege. I have heard that



The late Professor Des Graydon.

Des Graydon was a great man, and I'm really grateful at his generosity because if it wasn't for him, I don't know if I would have been able to sign up for this degree."

The Des Graydon Memorial scholarship will be offered on a contestable basis each year, and covers the payment of the recipient's tuition and student services fees in the Bachelor of Business (up to a maximum of 360 points). Recipients are required to maintain a minimum B grade average in all their papers to ensure renewal of the scholarship each year.

Sue Heggie – our new director with a focus on school relationships

Sue Heggie is a well known figure in the education sector, with over 30 years' experience including teaching and management roles. She has commenced the new role of AUT Director of School Partnerships which sits in the Growth and Development Team, University Relations, and states that strengthening the university's relationship with secondary schools will be her top priority. Heggie's appointment signals the importance AUT places on communicating effectively at the secondary school level.



AUT graduate in final cut for Sony World Photography competition

AUT Master of Art and Design graduate Ivan Liang has been selected to represent New Zealand in this year's 2012 Sony World Photography Awards Student Focus competition. He is one of 10 finalists who were selected by a panel of World Photography Organisation judges from as far away as Russia, Denmark, Argentina and South Africa.

Ivan could win more than \$70,000 worth of photography equipment for AUT.

Sony World Photography Award Student Focus competition is the most high-profile student photography award and is open to universities offering photography programmes worldwide. The 2012 competition has attracted entries from over 200 institutions across six continents.



'Fleeting Life' by Ivan Liang