

SEPTEMBER 2010

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

## AUT fashion grads continue winning streak

AUT fashion graduate Sandra Tupu has pulled off a first, winning both the supreme award and the runner-up prize at the Westfield Style Pasifika fashion show held this month.

Tupu won the overall prize with a three-piece outfit called *Tatau*, and was announced runner-up for her menswear collection of the same name. The collection is based on the Samoan tatau (pe'a) and includes coats made of recycled woollen blankets with interior features using old cotton flour bags.

Tupu, who graduated from AUT in 2009 with a Bachelor of Design specialising in menswear, debuted *Tatau* at last year's Rookie – a fashion show by AUT third-year fashion students.

Westfield Style Pasifika judge Denise L'Estrange Corbet described Tupu as a 'stand-out winner', saying that her collection was very commercial and could go straight into a store and sell.

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## Running man helps Auckland athletes

**THERE IS** an extra spring in the steps of many Aucklanders this month as they prepare for the upcoming adidas Auckland Marathon on October 31.

To help get these athletes in form, Kelly Sheerin, one of AUT's leading sports scientists and manager of the AUT Running Mechanics Clinic, has been leading a series of running workshops and seminars in partnership with adidas, the event's key sponsor. The series of workshops and seminars provide both recreational runners and elite athletes with training techniques that can enhance performance and

assist in the prevention of running-related injuries.

These special clinics, which have been running since July, have proven popular with marathon participants getting geared-up for the event.

"We've had a high demand for the workshops and seminars in preparation for the Auckland Marathon, with over 300 people attending so far. Our workshops and seminars will assist all levels of runners, whether they are beginners, intermediate or advanced," says Sheerin.

The final seminar prior to the Auckland Marathon takes place on

September 25 and will look at tips, tricks and special techniques to prepare for the event.

The AUT Running Mechanics Clinic, based at AUT's North Shore Campus, is open to everyone all year round. The purpose of the clinic is to provide a specialist service for enhancing athletic performance while also considering prevention or rehabilitation of running-related injuries, says Sheerin. Assessments take into account the strength, flexibility, injuries and goals of the individual.

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## AUT fashion grads winning streak

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Former fellow AUT classmate Blair Archibald was runner-up to Tupu in the three-piece collection of day-wear category. Archibald also showed his designs at last year's Rookie show, and earlier this year won the Miromoda emerging designer and overall winner awards for his menswear collection. Part of his prize was the opportunity to show at New Zealand Fashion Week in September.

For her prize as supreme winner, Tupu receives \$3,000 and two return tickets to the Pacific flying Pacific Blue. She also won \$2,000 for the runner-up prize.

Her win builds on earlier success this year at the iD Dunedin Emerging Designer Awards when Tatau took the

Otago Institute of Design sustainability award worth \$2,500.

The iD Dunedin 2010 awards were also successful for another AUT alumnus, Glenn Yungnickel, who graduated in 2008. Yungnickel, an honours graduate who now works as assistant designer at Crane Brothers Auckland, won the *Pulp* magazine fashion culture award, which guarantees editorial coverage for his striking menswear collection, *In the Red*.

This is the second year in a row that a former AUT fashion student and ex-Rookie has won the supreme award at Westfield Style Pasifika.

Last year Nadeesha Godammune, who graduated from AUT in 2008, took the overall award with her *Trompe L'Oeil* collection.

## New executive training programme launched

**ROLE PLAYING** and being filmed are just two of the methods used in new interactive executive training programmes offered to business professionals which launched this month.

The courses, in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch, include training in dealing with conflict, advanced sales skills, learning how to win pitches and developing emotional intelligence.

The executive training programme has been jointly created by human resources recruitment company Talent2 and AUT University. Courses are being taught by specialist industry professionals and AUT Business School academics.

"The demand for professionals to stay at the top of their game is tough so our courses are designed to be engaging with practical outcomes in mind," says Talent2 business development manager Mark Rigby, who co-founded the business partnership with AUT.

"This is fast-paced, exciting and interactive learning," says Rigby. "From the moment participants walk through the door, they'll be actively engaged, practising new skills while being filmed and reviewing each other's work."

Trainers include Suzanne Moore, an international facilitator and coach who has consulted to organisations such as UBS and Unilever; Cherri Holland, who has held senior management positions in South Africa; and Al Dickman, writer, art director and former managing director of a major UK advertising agency.

Academics include AUT senior lecturer Russell Harray, who taught players and staff from both the Blues and Warriors sports franchises; and Lee Walker who, as well as teaching on the Blues and Warriors programmes, comes from a media and television background in South Africa and the US.

## Running man helps Auckland athletes

From page 1

Sheerin, a qualified physiotherapist, modelled the clinic on the University of Calgary's Running Injury Clinic in Canada, where he spent time helping to develop their research programme and analysing running mechanics.

In conjunction with adidas, Sheerin has also been undertaking a nationwide running survey of over 800 runners

in recent months, where information on running techniques, frequency of training and the nature of injuries sustained has been collected. Results of the survey will be released before the end of the year, and Sheerin anticipates this will help identify patterns of injury and improve overall health and habits of the country's running population.

**Below: (Left to right) Kelly Sheerin, Moon Lee, Ruth Wagenaar, Lisa McDonnell, Steffa MacLintock, Lyle Barnes, Marissa Downes**



## Serving up gold

**WITH THREE** gruelling days of competition, the New Zealand Culinary Fare represents the most prestigious hospitality competition in the country, and one of the largest in the world.

This year's competition was fierce, with training providers like AUT footing it with their education counterparts and the industry's best restaurants.

AUT University's School of Hospitality and Tourism was awarded gold for training team of the year. The team comprised of two chef students, Kevin Puyat and Teresa Joe, as well front-of-house student Andy Hsu. The team's task was to serve six portions of a three-course lunch.

Day two of the competition featured the premier tertiary cookery and food service competition – the Nestlé Toque d'Or, where hospitality skills are put to the test in an intense 150-minute cook-off. Each year, students from

training institutions across New Zealand battle it out in pursuit of the 'Golden Hat' trophy.

AUT students Jordan MacDonald and Mykhel Latosa competed in the Toque d'Or and prepared a four-course luncheon for prestigious guests in the arena, served by Elisabeth Young. The team were awarded two silver medals.

AUT staff were also involved with judging at the fare including Arno Sturny, Robert Haddock, Renny Aprea, John Kelly, David Green, Christine McDonald and Suzanne Bliss.

The event, held at the ASB Showgrounds, comprised 60 competitions covering both the kitchen and restaurant sides of the hospitality industry. It provides a platform for hospitality participants to match themselves against their counterparts to compete for prestigious industry awards and prizes.



## New education buildings blessed

**THE SCHOOL** of Education recently blessed the latest addition to its group of buildings on the North Shore Campus. The buildings will be home to education students as they train for early childhood education, primary and secondary teaching.

AUT called on its long-term community

partners, local Kaumatua Bert McLean, supported by Arnold Wilson, and Awataha marae members, to officially bless the buildings.

Features of the new buildings include a central resource core, specialist Montessori and Steiner rooms and a large

studio that incorporates flexible furniture for art, music, dance and drama.

Dean of Applied Humanities, Professor Nigel Hemmington, says the architecturally-designed buildings were well-deserved by the school. "This investment reflects the importance of the university's commitment to the School of Education and to its portfolio of programmes that are unique. I'm pleased the university has been able to respond in such a positive way."

Vice-Chancellor Derek McCormack said he was pleased the School of Education is continuing to grow. "It's great to see it growing and developing and every year it seems there's something new happening here."

This month the School of Education also hosted an evening for people to view the new building with a talk from Emeritus Professor Ivan Snook whose topic was *Teaching: A Challenging Profession*. He discussed the deliberate tension between a profession facing challenges (of various kinds) and one which ought to challenge students and society.



## Leadership profile: Professor Rob Allen

To kick off our leadership profile series, Professor Rob Allen provides some insight into life as a Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

**PROFESSOR ROB ALLEN** is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor at AUT. From 2003 to 2008 he was Dean of the Faculty of Applied Humanities and Pro Vice-Chancellor for Learning and Teaching. Prior to that he worked at the University of Greenwich in London for nearly 20 years, initially as a lecturer in social sciences but subsequently in a number of academic managerial positions.

In the UK, Allen worked for over a decade with the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) and is now an auditor for the New Zealand Universities Academic Audit Unit.

Allen's research interests are in radical movements of the 19th century. He is currently preparing a book on agitation and indignation in the UK in the 1870s.



**AFTER** five years as Dean of the Applied Humanities faculty, taking up the role of Deputy Vice-Chancellor was a natural progression for Professor Rob Allen, who jokes that he “came to New Zealand for five years and forgot to go home”. Allen firmly believes in laying good foundations and then making way for new leadership, so he was ready to relinquish his role as Dean – but he wasn't ready to end his service to AUT.

“I felt I had made my contribution as a Dean and that it was time for someone new to take over and continue developing the faculty,” he says. “However I still had a deep interest in contributing to such an exciting university. The role of Deputy Vice-Chancellor allows me scope to help build and shape AUT as part of the leadership team.

“Since my appointment I've developed the role. I'm working with the circumstances of the time and helping AUT as it is now, with what's required now. So the job morphs over time. I sit on a number of committees and do a lot of things that to other people would look bureaucratic, but in actual fact it's all part of developing the most exciting university I've worked in.”

Allen spends a lot of time deputising for the Vice-Chancellor, and sees this as one of the key elements of the role.

“It's illuminating to work across AUT and meet and talk to people and get involved in things from all the areas of the university.”

“Vice-Chancellors are extremely busy people so it's very easy for things to fall through the cracks. Derek's doing a fantastic job and it takes a number of people, including myself, to come in behind him to support what he's trying to do. It's quite a ‘behind the scenes’ role, but it suits my experience and strengths, so I'm happy with that.”

Another important aspect of the role in Allen's view is helping to communicate the university's vision and direction.

“One of the jobs of people like Derek and myself is to help people understand what's going on in the outside world and the internal world, so that when events occur in their day-to-day working lives they have a context for understanding.”

The role doesn't come with a big budget or a lot of staff, which Allen finds refreshing after years as a Dean with wide budget and administration responsibilities.

“In general I have the freedom and flexibility to work out where people need support, where things need facilitating or precipitating – so I could be working on finance, HR or academic issues, it just depends where the need arises.

“Very often I start things moving and other people pick it up. I just put people in the right place at the right time to keep up momentum.”

Allen says he enjoys the opportunity to work across a wide range of people and issues. “When I took over I thought the job might be restricted in terms of working directly with people, I was worried that I'd be office-bound. But it's illuminating to work across AUT and meet and talk to people and get involved in things from all the areas of the university.

“For example, one of the things I'm most pleased with was the way I worked with the midwifery staff – who were fantastic – to get the midwifery programme through CUAP. We're now the only university able to deliver midwifery, and we had to battle. It was just great working with a group of people I wouldn't normally work with.”

Being part of the establishment of the Manukau Campus has also been a highlight, particularly because Allen says his experiences in the UK had left him with a degree of cynicism about the chances

of the success of a new campus. His role on the project was to oversee the academic aspects, ensuring that the right programmes went to Manukau as well as the development of the teaching and learning approach for the campus.

“It’s been the most successful establishment of a campus that I’ve ever seen, in terms of everything working from the beginning pretty well – there were lots of minor problems, but no majors.

“In the beginning, I was quite challenging about whether we should go there. But my view now is that in 20 years time – if we hadn’t set it up – people would not have forgiven us for the missed opportunity, and I think it will be one of the things this generation of management will be most remembered for.”

Allen helped to introduce innovative approaches to teaching spaces at Manukau, and is equally interested in bringing new ways of thinking to the WG precinct development.

“Over the years I’ve talked about taking the opportunity to see the campus as, not just buildings, but rather to view the whole environment as a learning space. I like this idea of bringing the physical structure and the virtual technology and the people together in a different way. I think WG is more than just a building, it’s a statement of how AUT wants to be.”

Allen says he likes the fact that his role allows room for academic pursuits, and is undertaking research that will culminate in a historical biography.

“I’ve always felt that if you claim to have responsibility for an academic area, you should be able to demonstrate that you know how to help people learn, how to teach, or how to write.

“I need that academic aspect to my professional life and I quite enjoy that the university occasionally expects me to disappear and do some research.”

As for the future, Allen sees himself as part of the process of establishing and building AUT and providing a strong platform for a new generation of leaders.

“One of the pleasures of this job is that when I go outside and I’m representing my university I don’t have any trouble claiming that it’s the best university in New Zealand. People see AUT in an extremely positive light and I can easily promote it in that light. It’s somewhere you can be proud of.”



PHOTO: NEIL SATORI

## Revolutionary fashion

**SECOND YEAR** AUT fashion students have been busy creating revolutionary fashion in response to an Auckland Art Gallery exhibition, *Local Revolutionaries – Art & Change – 1965-1985*. The exhibition celebrates a period in New Zealand’s art history where a commitment to personal freedom of expression was reflected in

new approaches to materials and form. The AUT students were asked to use an experimental approach to pattern cutting to create a garment in response to a chosen artwork from the exhibition. A selection of the student work will be showcased in a parade to be held at the gallery on Thursday 23 September.

## Foodies love AUT food

**AUT UNIVERSITY'S** top hospitality students showcased their talents recently for New Zealand's crème de la crème of restaurateurs, food critics and writers.

The *Cuisine* NZ Restaurant of the Year awards 2010 represent the best places to eat from across the country. This year's supreme winner was Riverstone Kitchen in Oamaru, the first time a South Island restaurant has taken out the top prize.

The cocktail event, hosted at Coutts Mercedes Benz in Auckland, hosted about 200 guests who represented well-known chefs, restaurateurs, food writers and judges.

AUT University culinary arts and hospitality management students came up with the mouth-watering menu for the canapés which were served at the awards.

*Cuisine* magazine editor, Sarah Nicholson, says the dedicated team at AUT contributed to a very successful awards ceremony. "The delicious party food was creative, fresh and well-cooked, and the service enthusiastic and friendly."

AUT University's School of Hospitality



and Tourism has two restaurants on campus – Piko and Four Seasons – where students train in the kitchens and the front-of-house. Both are open to the public for lunch and dinner during semester time, and are available to hire for functions.

The school offers programmes in culinary arts, hospitality management, pâtisserie, event management, and food and beverage. Catering for an event

such as the *Cuisine* restaurant awards is the ideal way to give students 'real life' industry experience before they graduate, says head of culinary arts, John Kelly.

"We aim to give students as much practical experience as possible and it was an honour for us to work with *Cuisine* at such a prestigious event. But I also think it shows the respect with which the industry regards our programmes and students."

## Virtual reality suite open for business

**AUT UNIVERSITY** has opened a research centre where businesses interested in virtual reality can collaborate with researchers and build the next generation of interactive, multi-sensory computer solutions.

Led by AUT's Dr Roy Davies (below), who set up a similar operation at the University of Lund in Sweden, the Virtual



Reality Suite (VRS) is available to students, staff and companies interested in using interactive 3D technology.

Dr Davies, an ex-CEO and chief science officer of the 3D visualisation research and industry catalyst firm Nextspace, is interested in everything from 3D visual technologies to ultimately using all the human senses to better interact with computers, to fully appreciate the complex data they hold.

"We're interested in how we can improve contact between computers and humans for use in areas such as scientific investigation, art appreciation, planning, design and education. The human is the expert, and we want to find how the computer can represent all the data it holds in a way that the human can best appreciate."

Dr Davies believes that in the future these computer systems will make their

way into peoples' homes and offices in the same way that stereoscopic TV and gesture-based video games are doing now.

"We're also interested in research with a commercial focus. We want the knowledge generated at the VRS to be useful. In the short term, I see our role as being a place of knowledge."

The VRS is part of AUT's CoLab; a multidisciplinary research centre that brings together art and design practitioners, media and technology developers.

Despite only being in operation for a few months, the VRS already has active students, and is supporting researchers working with projects ranging from 3D interactive marketing, visualisation of driving one of the world's fastest cars, and creating experiences for people with Down's Syndrome, to making rehabilitation after stroke more compelling.

## Cupcakes for a cause

**RENNY APREA** from the School of Hospitality and Tourism again led a team baking thousands of cupcakes for the SPCA's Cupcake Day last month. Cupcakes adorned with hundreds-and-thousands and chocolate ganache were sold in the CBD with the help of local celebrities.

SPCA national fundraising and sponsorship manager, Cressida Evans, says the SPCA Cupcake Day relies on individuals, schools, teams and businesses to get into the spirit of the campaign and get baking.

"The support of AUT was absolutely fundamental to the success of the campaign in Auckland. AUT once again baked thousands of cupcakes for the cause, which gave the SPCA an opportunity to turn the cupcakes into cash for the Auckland SPCA, and ensure



we continue the important work we do in the greater Auckland community. We are hugely grateful to the team at AUT for their support and their incredible baking skills!"

## Auckland's business leaders sleeping rough

**SLEEPING ROUGH** is a reality for over 100 Aucklanders each night, and this October some of the city's business leaders will experience what it's like first-hand.

AUT is supporting the Lifewise Big Sleepout on October 14. The event brings together business leaders to sleep rough for one night, learn from former homeless people, network, and raise funds to tackle homelessness in Auckland.

Richard Hall (pictured, left), Head of the Vice-Chancellor's department, and David Wilson, Director of AUT's Institute of Public Policy (right), are representing AUT in this worthwhile cause. "I'm taking part in the Lifewise Big Sleepout, helping

to end homelessness in Auckland by raising funds for vital support services for homeless people," says Hall.

"I'll swap my warm bed for a cold concrete surface, experiencing a little of what it's like to be homeless alongside other business and community leaders."

Lifewise is a community agency initiating new ways to solve challenging social issues and provides services to vulnerable and at-risk people of all ages.

All funds raised in the Lifewise Big Sleepout will go towards an exciting new project, the Lifewise Hub – a one-stop centre and community cafe for Auckland's homeless.

To sponsor their efforts, you can visit the following website: [www.bigsleepout.org.nz](http://www.bigsleepout.org.nz)



### ■ BRIEFLY

#### Fashion Week fast approaching

Three AUT fashion graduates will show at New Zealand Fashion Week this month as a result of their success in the annual Miromoda awards, run by the Indigenous Māori Fashion Apparel Board. Blaire Archibald (named overall winner and best emerging designer at Miromoda), Adrienne Whitewood (runner-up, emerging designer) and Ana Hau (winner, Haute Couture section) will show as part of the Miromoda show.

#### Knitting for a good cause

Staff from AUT's International House are 'stitching in' and helping to create knitted garments for children in need. Eight weeks ago staff got together in their spare time and created a knitting circle – not only to learn the art of knitting, but to create clothing for children in need from overseas and in New Zealand.



They're part of a growing number of groups starting up around the country who donate the finished products to families in need of warm clothing for the winter months. "It came to our attention that in parts of Africa newborn babies were being sent home wrapped in paper, as their parents could not afford baby clothes," says Anne Sweeney, a lecturer at International House who started the group. "Warkworth teacher Kate Marshall was one of the people who got the ball rolling and came up with the idea of knitting for these 'fish and chip' babies."

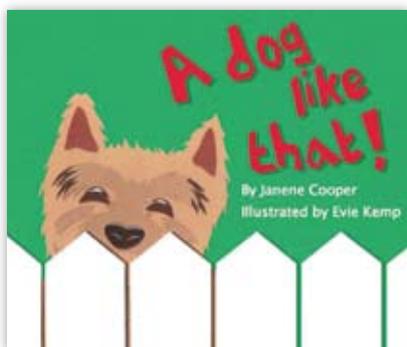
The first batch of knitted beanies and tops have been sent, and the group plans to keep up with their efforts. Other staff interested in joining the cause can contact International House for further information.

## Drawing on AUT's illustration talent

TWO children's books launched this month mark a big achievement for AUT graphic design graduates Renee Haggo and Evie Kemp.

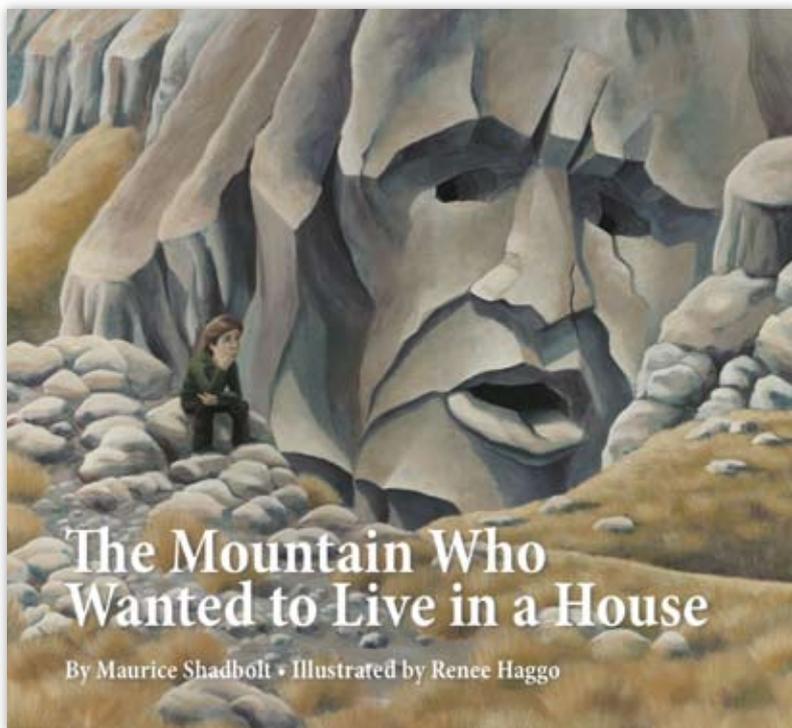
Haggo and Kemp were each invited to illustrate a book by publisher David Ling after they completed "exceptional" concept drawings for the manuscripts in a challenge offered to their final-year class.

Renee Haggo is the illustrator of *The Mountain Who Wanted to Live in a House*, the only children's story ever written by the late Maurice Shadbolt, and Evie Kemp has created the illustrations for *A Dog Like That!* by Janene Cooper. Both books were launched in hardcover on 19 September.



"One of the most satisfying things for me is getting the right illustrator for each story, especially Maurice's after all this time," says Ling.

Haggo, who is keen to pursue a career in illustration, says she is really looking forward to seeing her work in the public sphere and hearing how people respond. "I hope my illustrations do justice to the memory and talent of Maurice Shadbolt."



## AUT's first Oxford fellowship

AUT'S FIRST University of Oxford fellowship has been awarded to Jay Reid from the School of Education.



He will travel to England and conduct research at the University of Oxford later this year as part of the Association of Commonwealth Universities Titular Fellowships.

Reid's research area is titled *The Practicum – Reciprocal Relationships with Schools*. Traditional views of practicum see student teachers placed in schools, assigned a mentor, complete a placement and assessed by the educational institution they are working in. Reid argues there may be different ways to conceptualise and organise practicum. For example, the Oxford model is a different model which professionalises the relationship between the teacher education institution and the school.

During his stay at Oxford, Reid intends to determine, from a school and institutional perspective, how the Oxford model is different by looking at its strengths and what everyone involved in practicum gains from the experience.

He will also explore the notion of reciprocal relationships – an experience that benefits not only the student teacher and the teacher education institution, but also the school receiving the student teacher.

Reid hopes his research from this project will inform the future development of practicum in AUT's School of Education, and that the exploration of the reciprocal relationship will open further opportunities for developing different relationships around practicum.

The purpose of the Titular Fellowships is to enable universities of the Commonwealth to develop the human resources of their institutions and countries through the interchange of people, knowledge, skills and technologies.