

INSIDE | AUT

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



INSIDE HIGHLIGHTS

Fine dining with youthful chefs	02
Judy McGregor Q&A	03
Chancellor John Maasland	04
Gearing Up	06
Trailblazers	07
Emerging Designers	08
GDP past its use-by date	09
Meet the people coordinating our sustainability activity	10
Professor Steve Pointing	11
Art aims to lull long-haul passengers to sleep	12



VC's Letter

Over the summer I met up with some old university colleagues and our talk of student days reminded me of just how profound the experiences of university are. I'm not just talking about the parties, bands, protests, student politics, flattery and the bohemian existence that went with them, although obviously these coloured my reminiscences.

What I mainly recalled were the feelings that had accompanied the unfolding of new ideas, the opportunities to delve into the mysterious mechanisms of nature and the dead-clever experimental techniques and formulations that had been developed to do so, or the hours in the library struggling to understand something and then getting it, or the great discussions and arguments while learning something from or even explaining something to other students, or the compulsory weekly departmental seminars where everyone from professors down to honours and graduate students were in theory at least equal participants, or the satisfaction of completing a sharp essay or report, and the devastation

of a lower mark than expected or the exhilaration of the opposite, and all in all the increasing awareness that the world and its people were far more complex and varied than I had ever reckoned and that the opportunity to explore and begin to understand some of it was fabulous.

I remembered from my own experience that for a student university can be totally transforming.

Emerging from this pleasurable stroll through memories of back then, I was struck again by the absolute privilege each one of us has right now of contributing to a transforming experience for our students and of making it as profound and memorable as possible. Above all, our shared task is to deliver AUT to students so that it challenges their potential to achieve their best and more, and transforms their ability to perceive, understand and never stop learning about the emerging world and themselves as active participants within it, whatever their field of endeavour.

We begin another year with that tremendous motivation and new opportunities to respond to it.

The reports of student surveys for 2012 have just been released and tell us much about the current student experience of

AUT that we must take note of and action on. Overall they provide a positive picture but they also highlight several important areas for improvement and development. The reports are in circulation. Do read any that relate to your work.

THEY ARE:

- the Annual Programme Survey Report, investigating the experience of students in relation to their courses and programmes;
- the Postgraduate Research Experience Survey Report;
- the Manukau Campus Student Survey.

In 2012, I emphasised five umbrella priority areas for university development, namely: student success – all groups and all levels; AUT as a place to work and succeed; AUT's research capability and profile for expertise; partnerships and exchange with business and industry in teaching and research; and AUT's contribution to environmental sustainability. All these priorities touch fundamental aspects of our capability to give transforming value to our students, and my commitment is that we continue to pursue them together this year.

Best wishes to all for a successful and enjoyable 2013.

Fine dining with youthful chefs

The kitchens in the School of Hospitality and Tourism were busy in January with 24 girls from the Turn Your Life Around (TYLA) Youth Development Trust cooking up a storm.

On January 21 the girls, 10 TYLA staff, invited guests and AUT staff sat down to a meal the girls had prepared themselves in Four Seasons.

The 'market to table' concept was used with the youth having to do all preparations behind-the-scenes to get everything ready – menus and elaborate table settings were set up, and a whole lot of slicing, dicing roasting and sautéing was carried out. Everything from

delicate prawns and asparagus through to prime steak was plated out in professional restaurant style. They also had AUT Hospitality staff members on hand to help with the preparations.

During the lunch the girls heard from three guest speakers, Marama Papau from Tagata Pasifika, Michael Meredith from Auckland restaurant Meredith's and Sonny Natanielu from AUT.

The TYLA Youth Trust supports youth between the ages of 10 through to 16, while also assisting families of youth with managing of challenging behaviour.





GlobalLinks at AUT

A unique and distinctly Māori team-building experience was enjoyed by international company GlobalLinks when they were hosted by AUT University at the Ngā Wai o Horotiu Marae this week.

GlobalLinks Learning Abroad works in the field of international education, serving both students and advisors. New Zealand is just one of the countries they work with internationally and AUT University is one of the universities they send students to.

Jason King, from AUT's Te Ara Poutama, has spent time working with GlobalLinks and jumped at the chance when he was asked by the company whether he could help produce an International Noho Marae programme, like the ones run for international students by the International Student Support office of Student Services. On Wednesday 28 and Thursday 29 November, 14 GlobalLinks senior management staff and directors came together at AUT with members of the AUT whānau, to learn about Māori culture, language, history and people and engage with staff members from Te Ara Poutama and International Student Support.

CEO of GlobalLinks Cynthia Banks praised AUT as a wonderful university to have a relationship with.

"AUT is the single best partnership we have," she says.

Staff from GlobalLinks USA, Australia, London and Thailand attended, and Shelia Houston, the Director of Operations in the Pacific Region, said the Noho Marae was a fabulous thing for her staff to experience.

King says this is the first time GlobalLinks have come to AUT and done anything quite like this with a New Zealand university.

"This relationship is not just on paper," he says. "GlobalLinks's taste of New Zealand is coming from AUT."

Dean of Te Ara Poutama Pare Keiha says GlobalLinks is an incredibly important stakeholder for AUT in terms of international students.

"We are privileged to have been able to share the Noho Marae experience with some of the GlobalLinks staff so that they understand the experience students receive when they come to AUT."



Judy McGregor - Q and A

After ten years as the first equal Employment Opportunities Commissioner in the New Zealand Human Rights Commission, Professor Judy McGregor has taken up the role as Head of the School of Social Sciences and Public Policy.

While working as the EEO Commissioner, Professor McGregor worked on issues such as equal pay, disability rights, human rights and business, freedom of expression and new media issues, civil and political rights and a big area of women's rights including gender equality in governance, management and public and professional life.

"I led the Commission's well publicised opposition to the electoral finance reforms and its submissions on local governance reform," she says.

"During my term I worked for the UN and the Asia Pacific Forum on developing communication strategies for emerging national human rights institutions in Palestine, Jordan, Malaysia, Nepal, and the Maldives and I led two media monitoring teams to Timor-Leste for its first democratic elections."

One of her last projects was finishing a major national inquiry into EEO issues in the aged care sector, Caring Counts, including working under cover.

She says she will continue to campaign for equal and fair pay for carers as an academic and a citizen.

Taking up the role at AUT at the beginning of February, Professor McGregor says she wants to be involved in giving students the best possible tertiary experience.

"I want their life choices to be informed by critical inquiry and for them to have a stimulating and unforgettable university time."

She says the school, which sits in the Faculty of Culture and Society, provides a wonderful opportunity to link the evidence base of social science with public policy choices.

"I am looking forward to being involved in something new that will grow, continuing to work on social justice and human rights issues in New Zealand, and taking a public voice in significant public debates where I might have something useful to offer. Of course, I nurture the dream of languishing in the library reading and thinking, an intellectual transfusion, but I predict the day-to-day reality might be different!"

Chancellor, John Maasland chats to Inside AUT

The Chancellor is responsible for providing leadership to ensure Council carries out its responsibilities in an effective manner.

This includes articulating and reinforcing the governance role of Council, ensuring mechanisms are in place to assist Council in performing its governance role and assessing the performance of Council, its members and committees.

AUT Council is empowered to establish committees and delegate power to committees or officers of the University. Council has established the University's academic board to advise Council on academic matters. It may also confer honorary awards on people who have made an outstanding contribution to the University.

Who is John Maasland?

In his career, John has been involved in a very diverse range of businesses and organisations from radio to wine, property to ballet. He has overseen mergers, fought a hostile takeover and was the only New Zealand Director of APN.

He is married with three children and has lived in Brookby since 1975, when he was managing a factory in Manurewa.

John was the first member of his family to be born a New Zealander. His father was based in Singapore during WW2 and when the Japanese invaded, sent John's pregnant mother and extended family to New Zealand. John was born in Te Awamutu.

What is the role of the Chancellor day-to-day?

To some degree, the role of Chancellor has a certain similarity to that of a Chair on the board of a company. A Chair effectively deals with issues, chairs meetings, develops the agenda, has the relationship with the board and does a bit of outside work as well. The chancellorship is similar but a little different. To start with, we have a council, not a company board, and we have stakeholder representatives from the academic board, AuSM, and three representatives from the University itself. There is also a collection of groups represented, including the Ministry of Education. The chancellorship has a three-year term, which can be renewed for up to another three years. I sit between the Vice Chancellor (VC) and the council and spend a fair bit of a time with the VC, discussing his thoughts on how he wants to develop the University, as any Chief Executive does. I'm also someone that he can talk to and bounce ideas off. So, that's why come in here at least once a week, and sit down with the VC and discuss what the issues are, what are the things we need to deal with, what are the

things we need to update the council about, how can we influence with good ideas, that type of thing. That's the internal side.

Externally, because we are a big Auckland institution and in the public eye, the role of the Chancellor is that of a figurehead. The VC is very much the manager of the University and therefore will do most of the speaking engagements. But I get wheeled out in front of government because I bring the University council with me. Bear in mind that The VC is like a manager and so brings the management organisation, but the council brings a governing role. So that is what I bring to any meetings that we have with ministers. From my Auckland networks I can bring relationships to the University as well.

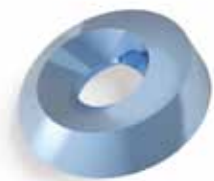
And clearly the other very important role is graduation. And again because it's that 'head of' role. When someone graduates they like to be honoured in that way. It's an element of formality, which is rather nice and a formality which I think is very important.

Where did you study?

After a spell back in Asia I did my secondary schooling here in New Zealand at St. Kentigern College. I think the school was only three-years old when I started.

I went on to Cambridge University in England and did a law degree. My claim to fame is that I rowed for Cambridge University in The Boat Race, one of only a handful of New Zealanders to do so.

AUT Business School is now inviting entries for the 2013 AUT Excellence in Business Support Awards



AUT EXCELLENCE
IN BUSINESS
SUPPORT AWARDS

The AUT Excellence in Business Support Awards recognise and celebrate organisations and individuals that deliver quality products and services to help small, medium and large businesses maximise their potential.

AUT Business School believes providing excellence in business support is pivotal in enhancing business excellence in New Zealand. With such support, organisations are able to become more competitive

and more sustainable, improving their key points of difference – an important consideration in today's ever-competitive business market.

Organisations or leaders delivering

What are some of your career highlights?

I came back to New Zealand in 1965 and joined the then Department of Foreign Affairs as a lawyer, before transferring to diplomatic staff. By 1969 I had decided I didn't want to be a diplomat, so I joined Imperial Chemical Industries (ICI), where I was for 15 years.

I stopped being an executive and became a roving director in 1998, I was appointed to the board of Carter Holt Harvey and went on to succeed Wilson Whineray as Chairman in 2003. I served three years in that role before Graeme Hart bought the Company and I stepped down.

I then had an interesting year as Chairman of Auckland Airport; during my tenure there were two overseas attempts to buy parts of the airport.

In 1999, at the request of an old school friend, John formed the South Auckland Health Foundation.

We started the foundation on the basis that Middlemore Hospital was a very superb clinical place, but people never like going there, and to many it was 'Muddlemore'. Once you got inside, the clinicians were superb, but it really was a bit of a grotty old place. So I was asked if I could form a foundation which would give moral support to clinicians, get a few reasonably successful people involved and also raise money for those things no government would want to pay for. By the time I stepped down from the foundation

in November of 2012 we had raised \$36 million for things like the children's hospital, neonatal units, burns units and various other things.

So, that that was something I really relished, being a Manukau boy, but handed that over after being asked to become Chancellor of this University.

How did you first become involved with the University?

Four or five years ago, Vivien Bridgewater asked me if I would be interested in talking about the possibility of opening a campus in south Auckland. There were a number of people involved, we had an interesting chat and were all very supportive of the idea. From there we spread the word around and got a few people interested. As that gradually came about we had another meeting with Sir Paul Reeves, who was then Chancellor. I'd known Sir Paul for some years as well, so talked about the new campus and then one day he said to me, Why don't you join the council? He obviously found a slot for me somewhere in the council and I joined in 2009, which I enjoyed because I find the University a vibrant fascinating place.

In the next issue of Inside AUT, John talks about succeeding Sir Paul Reeves as Chancellor, graduation, the media, education and the future of the University.



excellent business to business support (B2B) can enter the awards across a number of categories:

- Business < \$5m turnover
 - Management Services
- Business < \$5m turnover
 - Sales and Marketing
- Business < \$5m turnover
 - Technology
- Business \$5m - \$10m turnover
- Large Business \$10 - \$100m turnover
- Large Business \$100m + turnover
- Not for Profit
- Government
- Leadership

The AUT Business School Supreme Award is chosen from the category winners.

Over 700 business influencers and VIPs attend the black tie gala dinner to be held 5 September 2013 at the Langham Hotel.

AUT Business School provides evaluators for the awards; evaluation is overseen by The New Zealand Business Excellence Foundation and aligned to the international Baldrige criteria for assessing excellence.

For more information

www.aut.ac.nz/business/ebsa or call 921 9999 ext 5330.



AUT student proud to be a chef



Student Jonny Bell is Proud to be a Chef, in more ways than one.

Bell, who is studying a Diploma in Culinary Arts in AUT's School of Hospitality and Tourism, won the opportunity to cook in Melbourne in February this year, thanks to his delicious dish in the Fonterra Proud to be a Chef competition.

The competition was held at AUT last November.

The dish, a loin of lamb with a beetroot spelt risotto, feta marshmallow cone, pickled beets, fennel and horseradish, saw Bell place second.

The top four from the competition will travel to Melbourne in late February for the Fonterra Proud to be a Chef final. This will see the finalists experience fine dining in Melbourne's top restaurants, learn from some of the best chefs in the business, work with a food photographer to bring an original recipe to life and participate in culinary master classes.

In the final test, the four New Zealand representatives and 28 of their Australian peers will whisk, dice, grate and garnish their way to winning the ultimate prize – an international culinary scholarship tailored to their aspirations as a chef, valued at \$7,500. Bell entered the competition for the challenge.

"As a junior chef you don't often get the chance to create dishes of your own that you can share with the public. Through a competition like this it gave me the opportunity to express myself as a cook. It was also the chance to learn so much in Melbourne that spurred me to enter."

The most nerve-wracking part of the experience for Bell was waiting for the results, but he puts his success down to his efforts in the kitchen, and plenty of practice.

AUT's senior lecturer in culinary arts John Kelleher says Jonny's attention to detail and innovation was a major contributor to the success of his dish, but he will need an all-round performance to take out the Australasian title.

Gearing Up

Students and staff who use AUT's brand new Sir Paul Reeves Building will have enhanced teaching and learning opportunities.

The building, in itself a striking architectural environment, includes collaborative learning spaces and has the latest technology installed to create new learning and teaching opportunities.

Students will benefit from the many informal learning spaces equipped with flat panel TVs, which allow them to connect their own devices to work collaboratively with their peers.

State-of-the-art technologies have been installed which offer academic staff greater flexibility and a more dynamic context for information sharing.

Training is already underway, and staff have been encouraged to register for these "hands on" workshops prior to the start of

Semester One, 2013

The 'hands-on' workshops are for small groups and cover both classroom and lecture theatre set-ups.

Staff can bring their own laptops or tablets to practise connecting these devices to the system, and to explore the possibilities offered by these exciting developments.

Anyone who would like training on WG technologies can register their interest via email: wgtraining@aut.ac.nz

AV Technology key facts:

Sir Paul Reeves Building Classroom Equipment:

PC, Projector, Projector screen, keypad, cables (hdmi, usb, audio), lapel microphone, room joining facility (in larger classrooms)

Sir Paul Reeves Building Lecture Theatre Equipment:

PC, Projectors, Touchscreen, cables (hdmi, usb, audio), microphones (lapel and lectern), blu-ray, document camera, room camera, annotation tablet.



Trailblazers

AUT celebrates its first Manukau campus graduates

December 2012's graduation was the largest on record for AUT. But making the occasion even more significant was the 181 graduands who walked alongside their City and Shore peers – the first graduates of the Manukau campus.

To mark the occasion, a special event was held at the Manukau campus, and was attended by graduates and their families, as well as local dignitaries and Auckland Mayor Len Brown.

Speaking at the event, the Vice-Chancellor said, "We have established this

campus in Manukau because we felt we could make a contribution by bringing university education to the heart of the region. The dreams of AUT are realised by the dreams of these graduates here today."

Qualifications were conferred in a range of disciplines, including Sport & Recreation, Teacher Education, Computing, Health Science and Business, at pre-degree, graduate and postgraduate level.

AUT opened the Manukau campus in March 2010, in response to a commitment from Government and the former Manukau City Council to enhance tertiary education in the Manukau region through the provision of university-led education.

Manukau is growing faster than any other region in the New Zealand, and local business owners and industry leaders have indicated that they require more university-qualified graduates.

Addressing the crowd on campus, Mayor Len Brown said, "I am excited about this day. This is a proud day for us all, one that we have dreamt about achieving for decades. Now we know that nothing – especially not geography – is holding back local people who want to contribute to our community. You graduates are trailblazers, and today we honour you."



The Chancellor and Vice Chancellor mingle with the graduates



Richard Stewart leads the graduates into the marquee



Graduates congregate on stage



iD International Emerging Designers Awards

Eight AUT Bachelor of Design (fashion) graduates have been named as finalists in the iD International Emerging Designers Awards.

Sara Andrews, Petra Benton, Charlotte Cho, Sohong Lim, Monique Lynch, Richard McCoy, Fraser Mildon and Bay Rawlinson all completed their studies with AUT in 2012.

The event is held in Dunedin in March and students were chosen from a pool of more than 100 entries. The finalists now present their designs in front of a panel of judges and an audience.

The competition is part of Dunedin's iD Fashion Week.

Charlotte Cho, one of AUT's graduates and finalists, completed her Bachelor of Design (honours) in Fashion and Textiles last year.

"I heard about the iD competition and the success of past AUT graduates in the early stages of my course. Also there was a lot of encouragement and

support from the lecturers who have guided me throughout the year."

She says the competition is strong but says she has a good chance of doing well.

"I believe I have a chance with the distinct textiles that have been meticulously thought-out, combined, and made single handedly by me."

She says AUT provides excellent opportunities in accessing facilities that are hard to find in New Zealand, like the computerised knitting machines she used for her designs.

She also used the Textile Design Lab to experiment and develop the knitted textiles she has in her collection.

Other New Zealand universities with finalists include Massey University and Otago Polytechnic, and internationally there are finalists from The Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Shanghai University, London College of Fashion and the National College of Art and Design Ireland.

Prizes include NZ\$5000 for the first place winner, \$3000 for second place, \$1000 for third place, with other special prizes yet to be announced.



AUT Business School backs The Young New Zealander's Guide to Entrepreneurship

Just released, *The Young New Zealander's Guide to Entrepreneurship* is a first for New Zealand in recognising that the entrepreneurial potential of New Zealand starts at school.

For Dr. Geoff Perry, Dean of AUT's Business School, early education in this exciting subject is the perfect spring board for excelling at University in choosing entrepreneurship as a real career choice.

Endorsed by the Young Enterprise Scheme, the book showcases successful entrepreneurs, many of whom are graduates of the YES programme who took the entrepreneurial route early in life. Individuals such as the hugely successful Seeby Woodhouse, founder of Orcon, and Craig Smith who straight out of Otago University is now enjoying a multi-million dollar ride with his new online language business are both great examples of how

success can come early in life.

Dr. Perry contributes to the book along with New Zealand entrepreneurial legends such as Sir Stephen Tindall, Anne Norman Rod Drury, Murray Thom and Sir John Todd. All share the view that encouraging entrepreneurship and innovation early in an individual's career is key to New Zealand's future economic wellbeing.

The AUT Business School continues to build its strengths in developing the skills required for business success. It has been a long standing supporter of the Young Enterprise Scheme offering scholarships to high achievers in the programme. For the third consecutive year, the AUT Venture Fund allocated start-

up funding in 2012 to students with exciting entrepreneurial ideas. The new Shadow a Leader programme builds on the University's Cooperative Education programme in getting students into real business environments. And the AUT Excellence in Business Support Awards now represents AUT's leadership position in supporting those who support business growth.

"Delivering these programmes is an important step towards AUT contributing to an enterprise economy," Perry explains.

Five free copies of the Young New Zealanders Guide to Entrepreneurship are available to staff involved in entrepreneurial projects.

Please email Sarah Trotman, Director of Business Relations, AUT Business School sarah.trotman@aut.ac.nz to register your interest.



GDP past its use-by date

GDP is past its use-by date, says feminist and economist Professor Marilyn Waring, and it is time to start exercising strategic policy judgements across a range of data sets-as GDP is now a pathological measure.

Speaking at the Women's Forum early in October in France, Professor Waring, along with leading British barrister Cherie Blair, Nobel Peace laureates and the French Minister for Women's Rights, said she believes it needs to be simply one of a suite of measures. None of the other data sets should involve abstract commodification, she said, a direct criticism of the current trend to give dollar values to biodiversity.

"GDP is in no way an indicator of wellbeing, ecology or sustainability, or, for example, getting rid of violence against women... these huge questions won't be solved by looking at GDP"

During Professor Waring's presentation, with the theme of "Women's Vision for 360 Growth", she stressed the importance of realising that GDP as a construction is only 60 years old.

"GDP was originally about how to go to war and still have growth. That is what it is still about."

However, she says this means every single thing that enters the market is good for growth - including war, trafficking, smoking cigarettes and even motor vehicle accidents. Yet GDP does not include unpaid work, overwhelmingly done by women, and the largest sector of the economy.

Instead of looking at just GDP, Professor Waring says we should work within an ecological accounting framework.

"Not saying 'what is this forest worth if it was milled tomorrow,'" suggests Professor Waring, "But saying, this is how much of the forest that remains standing, this is its habitat for endangered species, this is its oxygenproducing and watershed activities."

If governments began to look at strategic decision making across a range of evidence rather than just if GDP went up or down, Waring says economic decisions could begin to include communities,

rather than just professors and bankers who only understand the economic rhetoric.

Waring was the pioneer of the GDP critique some 25 years ago. Now she notes there's a load of commentators on the bandwagon, but they are still obsessed with expressing everything in dollar values.

"The system is sick, and GDP is a sick joke" she said.

The 8th Edition of the Women's Forum Global Meeting was held October 10, 11 and 12 in Deauville (France) with the theme "Wanted: 360° growth".



AUT forms research cluster on Auckland

The future of Auckland City is the focus of an innovative research cluster which aims to build on the University's long-standing involvement in the economic and social development of the region.

Pro Vice Chancellor Ian Shirley is driving 'The City Centre' project which will bring the university's diverse research capabilities to bear on the development of New Zealand's largest city.

AUT's engagement with Auckland spans a wide range of disciplines including business, law and economics, art and design, local government, public and social policy, health and education, information technology, engineering and urban development, says Professor Shirley.

"This project will pull these diverse research groups into a cohesive centre taking AUT's engagement with Auckland to

another level".

Professor Shirley's project team is consulting across the university and he is keen to hear from academics, researchers and research groups.

This will be followed by a symposium for AUT staff "to ensure that we capitalise on the very diverse energies and strengths of the university in building the centre"

AUT has been directly involved with the city's creative industries, as well as making a significant contribution to the diverse population groups that live, work and do business in Auckland, says Professor Shirley.

"The university has also played a leading role in research and development on Maori and Pacific education, as well as in the settlement of migrants and refugees. With its three campus sites on the North Shore, city centre and Manukau, the university is ideally placed to play a significant role in the economic, cultural and social development of the region."

Meet the people coordinating our sustainability activity

For AUT to walk the talk on our journey towards sustainability we have to work together and champion best practice.

Starry origins of humanity a big draw card

With the engaging title 'We are made of Star stuff', visiting speaker Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell's public lecture at AUT's North Shore campus last month (January) was always going to be popular.

She did not disappoint, captivating a packed lecture theatre of listeners with the story of how the 'stuff' from which we are made was forged, starting with hydrogen and helium created 14 million years ago at the Big Bang and then onto the formation of other elements (such as oxygen, carbon, calcium, iron and potassium) within stars, which were then released during their explosive deaths.

Astrophysicist Dame Bell, who as a postgraduate student discovered pulsars (pulsating stars) in 1967 (for which her supervisor Antony Hewish received the Nobel prize in physics), is a professor at Oxford University astrophysics department. Apart from delivering her public lecture, she attended a conference organised by AUT's Professor Sergei Gulyaev, director of the Institute for Radio Astronomy and Space Research and Professor Miller Goss of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in the United States, on New Zealand's contribution to early radio astronomy.

This is the joint mantra of AUT's newly appointed sustainability coordinators.

From the beginning of this year AUT now has dedicated resourcing around education and progressing sustainability activities for students and staff – and at the helm is Lucy McKenzie, AUT Sustainability Officer and Nathan Bromberg, AuSM Sustainability and Special Projects Coordinator.

Nathan, who is currently completing his Master's thesis looking into "how social movements use technologies to create shared goals and social inclusion", has taken on one of three new roles within AuSM (club, representations and sustainability coordinators). Nathan's academic interest in creating sustainable cultures and societies through the digital revolution will be put to good use in his new role. Nathan's key focus for 2013 is to support and nurture student activity in socially sustainable endeavours.

"We want our students to become involved in the Auckland community by volunteering their time. Social inclusion supported by the four key pillars of sustainability – social, cultural, economic and environmental – will be AuSM's main sustainability drive," says Nathan.

Lucy has been working in the field of sustainability since 2004 and believes "sustainability is a response to the changing world that we live in. AUT is the University for the Changing World therefore has a leadership role in this area".

Lucy's long-term goal is to embed a holistic view of sustainability so that the organisation makes decisions based on financial, social, environmental and cultural impacts. Her key focuses for 2013 will be addressing recycling on all campuses, including food waste, and assisting the delivery of work areas identified in the Sustainability Strategy which was developed by the Vice Chancellor's Sustainability Taskforce.

Nathan and Lucy will be working on projects that aim to benefit students and staff, for example supporting AUT's travel plan that helps people access and use public transport; supporting "Be Accessible" an organisation focused on improving accessibility for all New Zealanders; and including staff in the student volunteer group "A-Team".

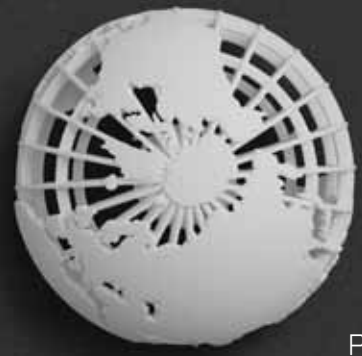
Both Lucy and Nathan want to create a connection for staff and students between action and the 'why'.

"Once people understand why they are recycling, it can create a lifelong commitment," says Nathan.

Lucy agrees, stating that "giving our team good information will help create a culture of sustainability."

In addition to these two newly created roles, AUT University has an overarching Sustainability Taskforce that reports to the Vice Chancellor, which is made up of members from the Strategy and Planning team, academic staff and the Estates team. The taskforce is charged with developing AUT's strategy and policy, then realising AUT's goal of initiating a programme of sustainable development covering teaching and learning, research, governance and leadership, community engagement and facilities and operations. These areas will all address environmental, social, cultural, and economic dimensions. The taskforce is seeking feedback from students and staff on the draft sustainability strategy by 15th March 2013. After that date the taskforce will be finalising the strategy, which will become the blueprint for AUT. Please email megan.skinner@aut.ac.nz to obtain a copy of the strategy and to provide any feedback.





Professor Steve Pointing

AUT's new Director of the Earth and Oceanic Sciences Research Institute has only recently arrived back on New Zealand soil but is already right into his new role.

Professor of Ecosystems Ecology Steve Pointing spent a month in Antarctica, his fifth season on the icy continent, where he is also a vital part of the International Centre for Terrestrial Antarctic Research.

While there, Professor Pointing helped show Prime Minister John Key some of the research his team is completing, investigating microbes in the soil to help understand microbial contributions to ecosystem-wide patterns and processes in deserts.

"They [the microbes] are virtually the only thing that lives on the ice-free land," he says. "They do everything that fish, plants

and animals do elsewhere. They are the top and the bottom of the food chain."

He had the Prime Minister out in the field digging up soil, had him on the end of a microscope taking a look at what he had collected and even fed him homemade scones.

When not in Antarctica (he goes for a month each year) Professor Pointing is hoping to continue the good work being done in the Earth and Oceanic Sciences Research Institute.

"The primary duty of AUT, in my opinion, is to train students so that they are not only going to be useful in the workplace but also

be leaders. I am hoping I can help inspire the next generation of leaders in science."

With research in Antarctica and having worked with NASA in its exploration of Mars, Pointing is involved in an array of research and is adamant his students, both postgraduate and undergraduate will get the chance to work with him on some exciting projects too.

"I want to involve students as soon as possible."

Before his role at AUT Professor Pointing worked at the University of Hong Kong in the Department of Ecology and Biodiversity and is still a contributor to NASA's astrobiology research programme.

He completed both his undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in the UK.



Finance students on road to success through CFA scholarships

AUT University's Bachelor of Business has been recognised by the CFA (Chartered Financial Analyst) Institute, a global association of investment professionals that sets the standard for professional excellence.

Entry into the CFA Institute University Recognition Program signals to potential students, employers, and the marketplace that AUT's curriculum is closely tied to professional practice and is well-suited to preparing students to sit for the CFA examinations. Through participation in this programme, AUT is also eligible to receive a limited number of student scholarships for the CFA Program each year.

Roger Stokell, Associate Dean of International Business and Engagement,

says the achievement is a big gain for the Business School.

"This is very significant internationally and ensures doors open to our finance graduates."

Dr Katrin Gottschalk of CFA managed the application process for AUT.

"Apart from providing an important quality signal to students, academics, and employers about AUT's Bachelor of Business programme, this is great news for our current students interested in pursuing the CFA designation," she says.

"We have already awarded the first set of scholarships, which reduce exam registration fees for the June 2013 CFA Level I exam by up to \$US1200, to five lucky undergraduate and postgraduate students."



Art aims to lull long-haul passengers to sleep

Long-haul Air New Zealand passengers could soon be helped to fall asleep with the introduction of new artwork on the airline's inflight entertainment programme.

Delta, by artist and AUT University lecturer Clinton Watkins, is a video of a continuous slow shot along a New Zealand east coast road. It features a gentle abstract soundtrack incorporating delta waves, which are inaudible low frequency sound waves similar to the brainwaves of deep sleep. The intention of the film is to pleurably lull passengers into a sleep state.

It is one of two artworks which Air New Zealand will include in its inflight entertainment programme for international flights from mid-January.

The initiative is the brainchild of artist and curator Dr Melissa Laing, of AUT University's CoLab creative technologies centre. Wanting to get art out of galleries and into public places, she obtained funding from Creative New Zealand and set up New Terrains, a project which has led to a series of digital works being shown on a giant screen at Auckland's Aotea Centre.

Laing, whose PhD thesis examined the social and artistic response to civil aviation, saw air travel as another opportunity for artwork to be seen by thousands of viewers. She

approached Air New Zealand, which committed to screening and supporting the work.

"We commissioned innovative New Zealand content for an environment which doesn't normally have works made for it," says Laing.

"We wanted the work selected to engage with the in-flight experience. We all have our own subjective idea of flight which could be to do with business, migration, diaspora, family or holiday."

The second artwork, Pioneer City Welcome Video, by Wellington artist Bronwyn Holloway-Smith and animator/film maker Simon Ward, is a mock inflight welcome video to a colony on Mars called Pioneer City.

Air New Zealand Inflight Entertainment Manager Paul Harper says, "Air New Zealand is always proud to support the creativity and innovation of New Zealanders and this is also a great way of giving passengers more diversity in their inflight entertainment options."

Laing hopes the project will inspire other airlines around the world. "There is a precedent for artworks in airports but not on planes. This will be the first."

Contact information and bios

Dr Melissa Laing

Dr Melissa Laing is a curator, artist and theorist with recent projects including Assembly, an exploration of fearless speech co-curated with Charlotte Huddleston and Vera Mey for the ST PAUL St Gallery; the Performance Ethics Working Group, an initiative of the University Without Conditions; and a 2012-2013 Henry Moore Institute Research Fellowship to Leeds, UK to undertake research into the archives of the Public Art Development Trust. She was awarded her PhD in 2008 by the University of Sydney with a thesis titled "Through the Transit Zone: between here and there" which examines social and artistic response to international civil aviation.

09 921 9999 ext. 8313 / 09 921 9916

Clinton Watkins

For 15 years, Clinton Watkins has produced work investigating effects that combinations of sonic and visual information can have on the viewer/listener. Watkins also works as a practicing musician who regularly performs as a solo and collaborative artist. Also working as a freelance audio engineer, Watkins composes and designs soundtracks for documentary and film. Clinton Watkins lectures on the Bachelor of Creative Technologies, AUT University.

021 0227 1742

whitebass1@hotmail.com

Bronwyn Holloway-Smith and Simon Ward

Bronwyn Holloway-Smith works in a wide range of media specialising in cross-platform, trans-disciplinary installation practice and project management. In 2011 she completed two art commissions for the Wellington City Council and Letting Space. Simon Ward specialises in effects-based video. For the past 11 years he has worked on major film features including The Lord of The Rings trilogy and Avatar, alongside an independent career as a music video director and producer.

Bronwyn Holloway-Smith, 021 107 5747

<http://bronwyn.co.nz>

<http://creativefreedom.org.nz>

