

AUT hosts 2011 University Games

Last week AUT hosted the 2011 Super City University Games.

Taking place from April 26-29, the Games brought together more than 1000 students from 15 universities and tertiary institutions for four days of competition across 21 sports codes.

The Games, which were officially opened by former Olympic athlete and Auckland City councillor Sir John Walker, follow a 109 year old sporting tradition and are the second largest multi-sport event in New Zealand.

As well as showcasing New Zealand's emerging sporting talent, AUT sport and development support manager Bruce Meyer, says the games were an opportunity to highlight AUT's facilities, study and career opportunities.

"AUT is recognised internationally as a leader in sports science, so there was a natural fit in us hosting the Games as we were able to draw upon a number of experts to raise the bar in delivering a high quality event."

Hosted in partnership with the Auckland Student Movement at AUT (AuSM), the event is New Zealand's primary inter-university sporting event and for the first time a team from Australia was also included.

Coming first in the men's indoor Cricket, women's Karate, Netball, Rugby Sevens and Touch Rugby, the AUT Titans team came in second overall.

In addition to the AUT Titans, more than 100 AUT student volunteers studying sport and recreation, business, physiotherapy



AUT University and Waiariki Institute of Technology battle it out in the Waka Ama.

and communication, helped support the University Games event delivery.

University Sport New Zealand event manager Dene Lynch thanked AUT for their help in securing the Games and making it such a success.

"In addition to some great sporting moments one of the highlight's of this week has been seeing how the volunteers, many of whom are co-operative students from AUT, worked tirelessly around the clock to help us deliver a great event," said Lynch. "Without their support and hard work this event wouldn't have been the success it was."

"USNZ works hard to provide opportunities for students to participate in sport and

physical recreation at all levels and I think the University Games will always hold a place in the hearts of all students who have ever participated."

Final Overall Results for the University Games Shield:

1. Auckland University
2. AUT University
3. Victoria University
4. Otago University
5. Massey University, Albany
6. Waikato University
7. Massey University, Palmerston North
8. Canterbury University
9. Lincoln University

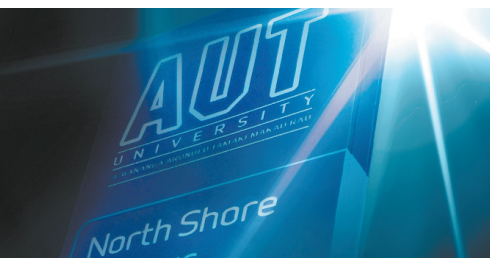
Pro Vice-Chancellor's Perspective



Prof. Max Abbott
Pro Vice-Chancellor
AUT North Shore

The 2011 University Games, centred on AUT North Shore Campus, was a recent highlight. There is more to student life than study and work. For many, sport is part of the wider balance. It promotes goal-setting and achievement, health and well-being and the opportunity to meet others. For some students, including those with elite sports scholarships, sport takes a more central role.

Given the North Shore Campus focus on health sciences, sport science and education, it is not surprising that there is strong interest in sport. The University's involvement in this area has moved to a higher level through its partnership with the Millennium Institute and development of the AUT Millennium Campus, the University's second 'North Shore' campus. Last month Sport and Recreation Minister Murray McCully unveiled the \$43 million redevelopment of the new AUT Millennium Campus high performance centre. Given the challenging financial times it is gratifying to receive generous support from a variety of sources including local government, charitable trusts and individual philanthropists. The object is to establish a world-leading centre of excellence that will significantly boost high performance sport in this country. The partner organisations will drive this through education, coaching, research and management. While partly measured by medal and world championship counts further down the track, another measure will be the positive impacts from work undertaken at AUT Millennium to enhance community health and well-being.



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