

Off Campus

The Year in Review Alumni Magazine

2011



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato

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Off Campus

2011 in review



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato

The Crest

The outside red border – a stylised fern frond or pitau – symbolises new birth, growth, vitality, strength and achievement. Inside the border is the University's coat of arms. The open book surrounded by the four stars of the Southern Cross is a symbol of learning. The crest design is in the University's colours of black, red and gold.

For the People

The University's motto, Ko Te Tangata, 'For the People', reflects our intrinsic belief that people are central to the institution and are its most valued resource.

Mission

To combine the creation of knowledge through research, scholarship and creative works with the dissemination of knowledge through teaching, publication and performance.

The Vision for the University of Waikato, informed by our existing high quality teaching and research, is to:

- » Deliver a world-class education and research portfolio
- » Provide a full and dynamic university experience which is distinctive in character
- » Pursue strong international linkages to advance knowledge.

The over-arching themes of the Vision are:

- » Excellence
- » Distinctiveness
- » International Connectedness.

Sustainability

As part of the University of Waikato's commitment to sustainability, we prefer to communicate with our alumni and friends electronically when feasible.

The Alumni and Friends E-News is produced bi-monthly, enabling us to stay in touch throughout the year with a very light carbon footprint. If you wish to subscribe to the E-News, send us an email at alumni@waikato.ac.nz

Off Campus magazine is published annually to showcase the year's top stories and achievements and is posted to alumni and friends around the world. If you'd prefer to receive future issues in a digital format, please let us know.

If we have all your current details, email and postal, we can keep you updated on all the latest news about the University of Waikato and share the year's highlights.

Email us at alumni@waikato.ac.nz or visit our website www.waikato.ac.nz/alumni



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Contact Information

The University of Waikato

Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato
Private Bag 3105, Waikato Mail Centre,
Hamilton 3240, New Zealand

Toll Free: 0800 WAIKATO

Website: www.waikato.ac.nz

Email: info@waikato.ac.nz

Communications Office

Phone: +64 7 838 4144

Email: unipr@waikato.ac.nz

Alumni Office

Phone: +64 7 838 4575

Email: alumni@waikato.ac.nz

FRONT COVER PICTURE: The University of Waikato Academy of Performing Arts. The building marked 10 years in 2011 and is now known as the Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts.



Reconnect With Us!

The University of Waikato is keen to stay in touch with all of its alumni. Every year we post out this *Off Campus* magazine, run events in New Zealand and around the world, and send e-newsletters. Please spread the word to your family and friends and remain part of our vibrant, international alumni community.

Check our list of 'lost alumni' and update your details at www.waikato.ac.nz/alumni

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Welcome to *Off Campus*

INSPIRING ALUMNI

It is very pleasing for me as Chancellor to see our alumni excelling across a broad spectrum in New Zealand and internationally – from top roles in the business and government sectors to those making their mark in other less traditional arenas.

During 2011 I was pleased to honour four graduates of the University of Waikato who have achieved at very high levels. These Distinguished Alumni are featured in this edition of *Off Campus*.

The success of our graduates on the international stage is particularly important to the University. During 2011, the Vice-Chancellor and I visited China and Malaysia and had the pleasure to meet our alumni and friends of the University. No matter where they call home, our graduates enjoy renewing ties with the University, and speak fondly of their student experience. It is always pleasing to note their enthusiasm and hear about their desire to retain strong connections with us. We plan to make further trips in 2012 to connect with even more alumni in both New Zealand and on the international stage.

I am very proud of the world-class graduates this University produces. I know that our staff are working hard to enhance the University's reputation, and the delivery of excellence so that our alumni can be even more proud of their links with us. ■

Rt Hon Jim Bolger, Chancellor



AN ABUNDANCE OF EXCELLENCE



Welcome to this review of 2011. *Off Campus* is designed specifically for University of Waikato alumni to keep you in touch with your University.

It has been another big year, topped off on 9 November with the official opening of our award-winning Student Centre. We were pleased to have the new Governor-General Sir Jerry Mateparae officiate. Sir Jerry is an alumnus and we honoured him in 2008 with a Distinguished Alumni Award.

The Student Centre is an impressive building – multi-functional, sustainable, and beautiful. I encourage you to visit the campus when you can to appreciate what it adds to the student experience today.

I am very proud of this \$30 million facility and the fact it came in on time and on budget and without the University going into debt – these are impressive points given the current economic climate.

Leadership has been a strong theme this year with several new appointments made from within the University ranks, demonstrating the strength and commitment of our staff. Among others, I'd like to particularly acknowledge former Faculty of Education Dean Professor Alister Jones who is our new Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

As in previous years, we have continued our drive for excellence in teaching and research. Yet again, we won two titles at the National Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards. We have created several new research institutes designed to work across the University and to help address some of society's big issues. And our unique MBA programme for Māori leaders recently won the inaugural MBA Innovation Award offered by the London-based Association of MBAs.

I would like to acknowledge the tough year that our Christchurch university colleagues have faced. We have supported them through a number of practical initiatives and I hope the recent Rugby World Cup win brightened the end of the year for many.

The University of Waikato celebrates 50 years in 2014 and I think you will agree we are a University that has come of age. We are proud of you, our alumni, and we hope you will continue to engage with a University you can be proud of. ■

Professor Roy Crawford, Vice-Chancellor

GENEROUS BENEFACTION

During 2011 we celebrated a magnificent gift from the Gallaghers – Sir William and Dr John – both honorary doctors of the University of Waikato. They, along with their families and the Gallagher Group, have gifted \$2.5 million to establish an endowment fund – something that all top universities have in place to ensure their financial stability.

This is the largest Gallagher gift to the University of Waikato and one of many over the years to support our strategic



priorities and continuing development. In recognition, the University's Academy is now known as the Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts and the concert chamber has been renamed for Dr John Gallagher.

The Gallagher benefaction will help the University of Waikato set a strong foundation for the future.

I hope our alumni and friends in New Zealand and overseas will be inspired to make a gift to the endowment. ■

**Christine Brabender
Director of Development**



AWARD-WINNING BUILDING: The University of Waikato's new Student Centre.

Student Centre – Te Manawa

UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES OPENING OF NEW STUDENT CENTRE

Waikato University staff, students and the community celebrated the opening of the new Student Centre – Te Manawa on 9 November in a two-part celebration to mark the occasion.

Governor-General Sir Jerry Mateparae, a Waikato alumnus, officially opened the multi-functional facility, which has taken three years to complete.

The \$30 million Student Centre is the social heart of the campus and combines traditional library resources with high-tech IT facilities with cafés, shops, relaxation spaces and a central point for student services on campus.

About 150 people attended the official opening, including representatives from the university, industry and the community.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford says the opening of the Student Centre is a significant occasion for the University.

"The conception and completion of this building is another demonstration of our



UNVEILING: From left, Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford, the Governor-General Sir Jerry Mateparae, and Chancellor Jim Bolger at the unveiling of the plaque for the University of Waikato Student Centre opening.

commitment to the delivery of a world-class education while providing our students with a dynamic university experience," he says.

"And it's particularly apt that the Governor-General was present in his official role to open the building, as he is a Distinguished Alumnus of this University."

The Student Centre, which has seen the University library updated and expanded, pays tribute to the University's distinctive heritage.

The Waikato Students' Union and ULeisure contributed \$1 million each to the project.

A dawn karakia was held on 9 November for the Student Centre which included the unveiling of *Aurei* – a sculpture specially made to stand at the main entrance of the Student Centre.

Sculpted by New Zealand artist and Waikato alumnus Rangi Kipa, *Aurei* represents a famous proverbial saying from King Pōtatau, the first Māori king: There is but one eye of the needle through which the white, black and red threads must pass.

The sculpture suggests the spirit of unity and the common pursuit of knowledge and understanding, symbolically tying people, relationships, kaupapa and ideologies together.

The Student Centre design incorporates other Māori cultural elements. The east

side of the building is 'wrapped' in a woven cloak of aluminium to symbolise both mana and protection from the elements.

Traditional elements found within a marae setting are also represented throughout the building as well as natural elements such as water and stone, which have universal appeal and significance.

Last year, the University of Waikato Student Centre was awarded a prestigious 5 Green Star rating from the New Zealand Green Building Council, the first five-star project in the Waikato region. It also won the Best Use of Glass Award in the Window Association of New Zealand's Design Flair Awards held in June.

The 5 Green Star rating recognises the environmental and sustainable features of the Student Centre design which include photovoltaic panels, self-monitoring lighting and energy efficient heating systems. ■



SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Newly appointed sustainability co-ordinator Rachael Goddard (pictured) will help Waikato University continue to develop as a leader and role model in sustainability issues.

Ms Goddard has been running her own environmental consultancy firm specialising in project management, waste minimisation and education. She has also published scientific papers and articles on waste, recycling behaviour and landfills and water quality.

"Ultimately I want sustainability to continue to be a driving force behind everyday behaviour at the University." ■



SCULPTURE FOR STUDENT CENTRE: From left, Tame Pokaia from the office of Kingi Tuheitia, Professor Roy Crawford, Waikato alumnus and sculptor Rangi Kipa, and Tom Roa from the University's School of Māori & Pacific Development stand next to *Aurei*.

Distinguished Alumni Awards

FOUR ACKNOWLEDGED AT BLACK-TIE FUNCTION

Two businessmen, a politician and a war historian were honoured at the annual Distinguished Alumni Awards in August at the University's Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts.

The 2011 recipients were Paul Bowker, developer of Tauranga's Devonport Towers; John Erkkila, founder of New Zealand Home Loans; Hekia Parata, National MP and Minister of Women's Affairs; and Dr Chris Pugsley, renowned military historian.

The awards celebrate Waikato alumni who have made an outstanding contribution to their profession, the community, arts or sport since graduation.

More than 200 guests attended the black-tie dinner hosted by Chancellor Jim Bolger and Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford.

Guests saw a preview of a new opera, *The Juniper Passion*, by composer and University music lecturer Michael Williams. The opera is about the battle of Monte Cassino during World War II and Dr Pugsley was an invaluable resource for the historical background.



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI: From left, Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford, Dr Chris Pugsley, John Erkkila, Hekia Parata, Paul Bowker, Chancellor Jim Bolger.



From left, Peter McKinlay, University Foundation Trustee Adrienne von Tunzelmann and David and Cloie Blackley.



University of Waikato Emeritus Professor Sir Tamati Reedy and Tilly, Lady Reedy, who is a Waikato alumna.



University Council member and Waikato alumnus Tony Whittaker and Alison Diaz.



Alison and Andrew Smith, Prolife Foods CEO, and Waikato alumnus.



Sheena and Laurie Pilling from Admark Visual Imaging Ltd.



PwC Hamilton Managing Partner Roger Wilson and Cheryl Wilson.



HONOUR FOR HISTORIAN: Dr Chris Pugsley speaks at the awards dinner.

Hekia Parata

The first Māori woman to be elected Waikato Student Union president, Hekia Parata graduated with a BA and MA (in Māori) from Waikato and moved to Wellington where she carved out a distinguished career in numerous public and private sector organisations. She also ran a private consultancy with her husband Sir Wira Gardiner.

Ms Parata was elected to Parliament in 2008 after a long and successful career in the public sector. As well as being Minister of Women's Affairs, she has most recently been the Minister for Ethnic Affairs, acting Minister of Energy and Resources and the Associate Minister of ACC and for the Community and Voluntary Sector.

Of Ngāti Porou and Ngāi Tahu descent Ms Parata entered Parliament proud to follow in the footsteps of her ancestors – her great-great-grandfather, Tame Parata who was an MP for the South Island and Sir Apriana Ngata, described as one of New Zealand's foremost Māori politicians ever to have served in Parliament.

Ms Parata has also held a number of governance positions on boards and trusts in the private, public and iwi sectors. She has also been a Senior Executive Fellow at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.



AWARD FOR MINISTER: Hekia Parata at the Distinguished Alumni Awards dinner.

Dr Chris Pugsley

Dr Chris Pugsley is New Zealand's foremost military historian to receive such an award and earned his PhD at Waikato in 1992 after he retired from the New Zealand Army. His thesis was published as *On the Fringe of Hell – New Zealanders and Military Discipline in World War I*.

Dr Pugsley has since written 15 military books and lectures in war history at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in England. He is recognised internationally as an authority in his field, is a senior adjunct fellow at Canterbury University and a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

Alongside his research and writing, Dr Pugsley has worked with major institutions on travelling and permanent exhibitions, film research and cataloguing and as a consultant to National Archives New Zealand on the War Art Collection and the New Zealand Film Archive.

He is also interested in the New Zealand wars of the 19th century and is writing a book about New Zealand official film in World War I. He has a goal to visit and walk every New Zealand battlefield in Europe and the Mediterranean.

Paul Bowker

Keen to increase his management skills Paul Bowker enrolled in an MBA at Waikato. Based in the Bay of Plenty, he'd studied construction management in South Africa but wanted to broaden his skills to take his career to a new level.

Mr Bowker is responsible for Devonport Towers in downtown Tauranga and is active in the business community and strategic development of Tauranga. He is vice-president of the local Chamber of Commerce, a board member of Tourism Bay of Plenty and the ministerial appointment on the Bay of Plenty Polytechnic Council.

His plans to develop Devonport Towers from the old Tauranga Club in Devonport Rd in the heart of the city to a 16-level apartment and hotel complex was a challenge in its planning and construction. However it was successfully completed and changed the profile of the inner city as well as leading the way for future development in downtown Tauranga.

Mr Bowker oversees several family business projects including residential and commercial property developments and mentors staff in a fast-growing fashion retail chain. Outside his own business he helps individuals seeking to improve their skills and expand their businesses.



TAURANGA BUSINESSMAN: Chancellor Jim Bolger presents Paul Bowker with his award.

John Erkkila

Businessman and Waikato Hospice supporter John Erkkila graduated from Waikato with a Bachelor of Science in 1985 but moved straight into business, first managing a hotel then starting his own insurance brokerage, John Erkkila & Associates.

In 1996 he joined Murray Ferguson to start New Zealand Home Loans. Today there are 58 franchises around the country and the business employs more than 200 staff. In 2006 New Zealand Home Loans sold a 51% share to Kiyibank but Mr Erkkila remained as CEO until April 2011. He is now the company's Executive Director. He chaired the Waikato Hospice community fundraising campaign which raised \$8 million for the new facility in Hamilton and is now chairman of the Hospice Waikato Foundation.

With his wife Christine, Mr Erkkila also owns Team Gamesail, a venture that began in 2005 when the business launched the first of its two ocean-going luxury catamarans for people to voyage around the Hauraki Gulf and Bay of Islands. Both boats were built at Mr Erkkila's boat building facility in Tamahere and he is currently developing a range of unique game fishing boats. ■



ACKNOWLEDGMENT: Businessman John Erkkila at the event.

Graduation

MOOVING ON UP

This year's graduation ceremonies were even more distinctive thanks to the introduction of some very popular graduation toy cows.

Sales of the cows, which complement the long-standing graduation bears as part of Waikato's merchandise offering, went through the (milking shed) roof and many students had their photos taken with their cows as well as their families and friends.

Graduation ceremonies were held in Tauranga on April 29, the Founders Theatre in Hamilton on May 2-5 and Hamilton campus' Te Kohinga Marama Marae on May 12. Further ceremonies were held on October 19 and 20 at the marae and Founders Theatre.

Graduates got the chance to mingle with Chancellor Jim Bolger, Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford and a variety of guest speakers after the ceremonies.

"Having mementos like the cows for our graduation students is really important," says Team Leader of Assessment and Graduation Anna Cook. "It's such a special day and the cows and bears are something the graduates can keep forever. They even have a little University of Waikato crest on them."

The graduation cows can be bought through Bennetts Bookshop on campus. ■



In the Bay

WAIKATO UNIVERSITY MAKING STEADY PROGRESS IN THE BAY

The University of Waikato continued to reinforce its presence in the Bay of Plenty in 2011.

New Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Alister Jones says the Bay of Plenty Tertiary Partnership is consistently delivering results for the region. In 2011, the first students in the Bachelor of Social Work (available only in the Bay) graduated. "This new degree was instigated after discussions with stakeholders about the region's needs. It's a great example of how this University is delivering results for the Bay area."

Professor Jones says the University's position in the Bay of Plenty became very evident during the latter part of 2011 when the container ship Rena struck the Astrolabe Reef near Tauranga.

Professor Chris Battershill, the University's Chair in Coastal Science, has been heavily involved in guiding the clean-up. The Chair in Coastal Science role is funded by the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, which also funds the University's Chair in Lakes Management.

"The fact that this University was able to immediately respond to the oil spill is a testament to the foresight of regional council chairman John Cronin and his council," Professor Jones says. "Waikato University has had a long history in the Bay of Plenty. We have been involved in harbour research since the 1970s, we have listened to the needs of the region and we have been delivering education and research in the area for many years now."

Professor Jones says student volunteers helped with beach clean-ups following the October grounding, with many travelling from Hamilton to Tauranga to help out. University staff were heavily involved following the Rena disaster, including other scientists who analysed the oil and what the spill meant for the food chain, wildlife and the Bay environment.

Research work on the impact of the Rena grounding will continue for some time at the University, through the Coastal Marine Group. The group was established 25 years ago and has had a key focus on the Tauranga Harbour since; many years of which were under the guidance of the late Professor Terry Healy. The Coastal Marine Group is now part of



NEW DVC: Professor Alister Jones is the University's new Deputy Vice-Chancellor and has responsibility for the University in the Bay of Plenty.

Professor Jones is the academic lead for the University in the Bay of Plenty where the University is part of the Tertiary Education Partnership along with the Bay of Plenty Polytechnic and Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi. He is responsible for the University's engagement with the Bay of Plenty including its current academic programmes and the potential development of a new physical infrastructure there.

On a broader University scale, Professor Jones is responsible for research development, the academic curriculum, quality assurance and will continue to progress teaching and research collaborations at national and international levels. Professor Jones' former positions have included Research Fellow at King's College London, and Directorships of Waikato University Research Centres. He is an Adjunct Professor at Kasetsart University in Thailand and an Honorary Professor at Hong Kong Institute of Education. He also sits on the APEC science and maths teacher education working group. ■

the newly launched Environmental Research Institute at Waikato University.

Says Professor Jones, "We have also this year opened a coastal research field station at Sulphur Point in Tauranga which will allow our researchers the space and facilities they need to complete their work – all of which will ultimately benefit the region."

Meanwhile, the Tertiary Partnership continues to plan for a facility in the Tauranga CBD that would provide the city and region with a university campus experience, backed by and funded by the region.

University of Waikato offerings in the Bay already include social work, teacher education, computer science, law and science. New offerings will include students being able to progress from a diploma in marine science to a science degree with Waikato University in Tauranga.

"This partnership will translate into a stronger economic and social performance in the region," Professor Jones says. ■

NEW UNIVERSITY FACE FOR BAY OF PLENTY

Faculty of Education Dean Professor Alister Jones was appointed the University of Waikato's new Deputy Vice-Chancellor in July.

Professor Jones is the academic lead for the University in the Bay of Plenty where the University is part of the Tertiary Education Partnership along with the Bay of Plenty Polytechnic and Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi. He is responsible for the University's engagement with the Bay of Plenty including its current academic programmes and the potential development of a new physical infrastructure there.

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IN THE BAY: The University's Chair in Coastal Science Professor Chris Battershill. He and other coastal researchers can now work out of the new coastal research field station at Sulphur Point in Tauranga which gives researchers a base and a place to work with samples.

Honorary Doctorates

PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS GIVEN



MUSICAL HONOUR: James Judd received an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Waikato this year.

James Judd

New Zealand Symphony Orchestra's Music Director Emeritus, James Judd, says he was excited and deeply moved to receive his Honorary Doctorate.

Currently based in Florida, Mr Judd travels the world as a guest conductor for major orchestras. He spent nearly a decade as music director with the NZSO raising the orchestra's international profile and supporting the performance and recordings of local composers.

He joined the NZSO in 1999 to take up the role of musical director – the first person to hold such a role in the orchestra's history.

A year into his tenure the orchestra enjoyed a new level of visibility and international renown through appearances at the 2000 Olympics in Sydney and the specially televised millennium concert with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa as soloist. He also led the orchestra on its first tour of the major concert halls of Europe and took on an unprecedented number of recordings for the Naxos label.

English by birth, Mr Judd has led the London symphony and Royal Philharmonic orchestras, the Royal Scottish Orchestra, the Vienna Symphony Orchestra and the Israel and Berlin Philharmonics. He was a co-founder of the Chamber Orchestra of Europe and toured with it across the world.

Cathy Dewes

When Cathy Dewes was head girl at Wellington Girls' College in the late 1960s she was able to learn and speak Italian, German, French and Latin, but her request to learn Māori was turned down by the principal. It was then she realised society needed to change "in order that Māori might live". It was the catalyst for a life-long career in Māori teaching and championing Māori – as well as women's – rights.

Ms Dewes (Te Arawa and Ngāti Porou) was awarded an Honorary Doctorate at Ruamata Marae in Rotorua, the place where as a trained teacher she opened one of the first Māori language schools in New Zealand in 1985. She worked unpaid for almost a decade until government funding was secured and she is still the principal of Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ruamata.

Ms Dewes was the first woman to stand for the Te Arawa Trust Board, which was men-only for 50 years, and through her affiliations with Te Rūnanganui o Te Arawa developed a teacher education programme in association with Waikato and Auckland universities.

She maintains her life-long interest in Māori radio and continues to serve as a trustee with Te Reo Irirangi o Te Arawa. She is a director of Māori Television and her sporting endeavours including waka ama paddling.



UNIVERSITY HONOUR: Cathy Dewes, centre, with Pro Vice-Chancellor Māori Professor Linda Smith and Chancellor Jim Bolger.

The Topp Twins

New Zealand's famous and favourite comedy pair, Jools and Lynda Topp, raised on a farm near Huntly, were awarded their Honorary Doctorates in the Founders Theatre.

The comedians, singers, feminists and social activists have entertained audiences for more than 30 years, starting as buskers in downtown Auckland before undertaking numerous New Zealand and overseas tours, cutting at least eight records and making more than a dozen television shows and a movie.

"We like the Topp Twins because they're not only funny, they have a social conscience," says Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford. "They worked out a long time ago that people will usually listen to a song before a speech.

And they have a charming ability to send people up without pulling them down."

Jools and Lynda Topp were high-profile opponents of the 1981 Springbok rugby tour, strong proponents of homosexual law reform and vocal campaigners for Māori land rights and Nuclear-Free New Zealand.

Their movie *Untouchable Girls* was released in 2009 and immediately broke records for best opening day and weekend in New Zealand's movie history. ■



TOPP DAY: Lynda, left, and Jools Topp after receiving their Honorary Doctorates from the University of Waikato.

Focus on Alumni

JUSTICE AT HEART

To describe Waikato alumni Macdonald and Judy Mulongoti as high-fliers would be an understatement and certainly wouldn't do this successful career couple any justice. And justice is the operative word.

Macdonald is the First Secretary – Legal, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations offices in Geneva, Switzerland. He deals with human rights and intellectual property issues.

Judy is a High Court Judge in Zambia. She presides over criminal and civil cases, with unlimited jurisdiction on the former, and admits hers is a difficult job.

"Sometimes the law requires I sentence someone to death," she says. "In the Zambian judicial system there is no jury to sit with you so all decisions and sentences are passed by the judge alone."

Judy was young when she made up her mind to be a lawyer. She studied at the University of Zambia from 1991 to 1994 when she went to the Law Practice Institute in Zambia.

In 1998 Judy was awarded a New Zealand government official development assistance scholarship to Waikato University and she graduated in 2000 with a Master of Laws (LLM) degree and a Graduate Diploma in New Zealand Legal Studies. When she was at Waikato Judy used her maiden name Zulu.

Macdonald came to Waikato with Judy and he graduated with a Diploma in Strategic Management. When he went back to Zambia he went to university again and graduated with a Bachelor of Laws Degree (LLB). After being admitted to the bar he joined a private law firm as an associate and was appointed to the Geneva position last year.

"Working in Geneva is particularly interesting because I am part of decisions that affect the world and that other people only get to see on the television news," Macdonald says.

"I get to participate in international affairs that shape people's lives. Working in the Human Rights Council has been the most stimulating experience of my working life."



DOING JUSTICE: University of Waikato alumni Judy and Macdonald Mulongoti.

Eventually Macdonald hopes to work with the United Nations, in New York, and Judy would like to sit on the Zambian Supreme Court bench.

"Who knows, I might want to be Chief Justice one day," she says.

Both Macdonald and Judy loved their time at Waikato and in New Zealand.

"The Waikato Law School is world-class and the lecturers and the learning environment were excellent," says Judy who adds her experience and degree helped her get recognition and promotion in her career.

Macdonald says he enjoyed his studies immensely and that the qualification was an added advantage for him in his career.

Both aged 40, Macdonald and Judy would jump at the chance to live in New Zealand if the right opportunities came up.

"We really like the slower pace of life and the quiet in New Zealand," says Macdonald.

The couple, who met following their graduations in Zambia, had only just got married when news of Judy's scholarship

came through so Macdonald and Judy had their 'honeymoon' in Hamilton.

"We got married on June 21, 1998 and came to Waikato in the first week of July so effectively we had our honeymoon in Hamilton. It was very cold," laughs Macdonald.

As well as achieving outstanding career success Judy and Macdonald have managed to have two children, Kachilapo, a boy aged 10, and Ngabo, a girl aged eight.

"Judy conceived in April 2000 in Hamilton so effectively Kachilapo is Kiwi," says Macdonald.

Although they don't live in the same country Macdonald phones his wife and family every day and they grab holidays together when they can.

"So far it's working quite well but the plan is to live in the same place when I finish my three year contract in 2013," says Macdonald.

Neither Judy nor Macdonald has much spare time but when they get the chance they like to read. Judy also likes to watch movies and Macdonald likes soccer. He is an ardent fan of English football club Arsenal. ■

Anniversaries

FACULTY OF LAW 20TH CELEBRATIONS

Te Piringa - Faculty of Law celebrated its 20th anniversary of teaching law in April.

A variety of activities were held to commemorate the anniversary. A "Thesis in 5" presentation was made by current PhD students, campus tours took in the University's most recent additions and a lively debate entitled 'This house believes in the death penalty' was held by law students.

Another session included a presentation by student negotiation champions Ben Gilbert and Andy Cameron who successfully represented New Zealand at the international competitions in Denmark.

The activities culminated in a gala dinner attended by 150 past and present staff, alumni and others who had a long association with the Faculty. The dinner was a highlight of the anniversary day and there was much sharing of memories and reminiscing. Dinner speakers included Te Piringa - Faculty of Law graduates Julie Hardaker, now Mayor of Hamilton, and Māori Land Court Judge Craig Coxhead.

The Faculty also marked the 20th Harkness Henry Lecture by inviting Dame Sian Elias to return to give the lecture. Dame Sian, the Chief Justice, first spoke at the Harkness Henry Lecture in 1996. Harkness Henry is a leading Hamilton law firm and the Harkness Henry lecturers are all distinguished jurists or legal academics.

Meanwhile the Faculty has launched an electronic newsletter for alumni and stakeholders.

For more information, email law-newsletter@waikato.ac.nz ■

MIGHTY RIVER VICTORY FOR 10TH ANNIVERSARY RACE

The mighty Waikato River has once again witnessed mighty Waikato University wins.

The University's men's and women's rowing eight crews took out both races in the Gallagher Great Race, a gruelling 3.85km upriver course.

The races are among the feistiest rowing battles in the region, and are now in their 10th year. Many people braved wet and cold weather to watch as Waikato took on rowing crews from Cambridge, Melbourne and Sydney universities.

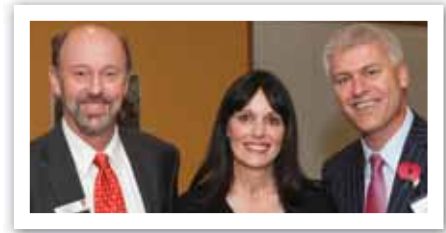


ON A COLLISION COURSE: Cambridge University's men's eight had to restart after colliding and losing their rudder. Waikato won the three-boat race in the end.

The Waikato men's crew got off to a great start with defending champs Cambridge having to restart after a collision with Waikato left them with a broken rudder. From then on the Waikato men's crew cruised to victory with a convincing win over Cambridge and Melbourne to bring home the coveted Harry Mahon Trophy.

The Waikato women's crew dominated its race against Melbourne and Sydney to remain the holders of the Bryan Gould Cup.

Held annually, the Gallagher Great Race is an internationally recognised rowing event, attracting world-class crews from England, Australia and the United States. As usual, the crews were welcomed onto the University campus with a pōwhiri. The Great Race Ball was also held to celebrate the 10th anniversary. ■



LAW ALUMNI: From left, Te Piringa - Faculty of Law Dean Professor Brad Morse with alumni Hamilton Mayor Julie Hardaker and Hamilton West MP Tim Macindoe at the April anniversary dinner.

40 YEARS OF BLUES

In September the University held the 40th anniversary of the Blues Awards which recognise the commitment and achievements of students in either sport or the creative and performing arts.

Staff trawled through the records to try and identify every award recipient since the awards began to try and fill some gaps in the 'blues' book which records the winners and captures the history of the awards. For some reason it didn't account for people who won awards from 1974-1978, 1986-1987 and 1990 so the call went out for recipients or anyone who knew recipients to come forward.

In the early days the awards were a simple acknowledgement of athletes but these days they are a prestigious annual University event with creative and performing arts awards as well as coach and team awards given out.

This year a record number of nominations were received for the Wallace Corporation University of Waikato Blues Awards and recipients celebrated at a function in September at the Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts hosted by the Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford.

Netballer Laura Langman won the Sportswoman of the Year title; rower Nathan Cohen won the Sportsman of the Year; Chase Douglas won the Pou Ahurea (Māori Person of the Year) award; and Jeremy Mayall won the Creative and Performing Arts Person of the Year award. The Sportsman and Sportswoman titles were handed out by Jeni Kydd, who was among the first recipients in 1971. ■

RUGBY MILESTONE CELEBRATED

You're never too old for rugby – if you don't have the energy to play, there's still plenty to talk about, and about 200 former and current players turned up in the last weekend of June to celebrate 50 years of rugby at the University of Waikato.

Actually, it was Teachers' College rugby to begin with, but when the University arrived on the hill, the players joined forces and became known as Varsity, its players Varstonians. And Varstonians returned from the UK, Canada, USA and Australia to attend the 50th.

Past-president and life member of the Varsity club Chris Mackey says he was delighted with the turnout. "It was mainly through word of mouth that people heard about it. We have a Waikato team made up of former students that plays in Europe and so they have a lot of contacts, and through various networks the word got round."

Players and partners got together for a dinner where the guest speaker was Sir Colin Meads and the fit ones took to the field for a match the following morning.

"There were more than enough old Varstonian stalwarts to field two teams and at least 10 subs per side," says Chris. "As for the winners? – As the old adage goes 'Rugby was the winner on the day'. The game was hard, with some of the oldies thinking it was a Waikato trial and played accordingly."

The highlight of the game was a try scored by Tere Vickridge (ex-Bay of Plenty rep) dressed as Krusty the Clown and a replay was required to film it for posterity. "The rekindling of old friendships, stories that have had the 'Pinocchio' effect over the years and the conviviality at the Don Llewellyn Pavilion could have been sliced up and sold on Trade Me," says Chris.

He says the club's most famous player was probably George Skudder who played for the All Blacks in 1969 against Wales. Other big names have included the Spice brothers – Jason, Andy and Chuff, Scott Couch, Peter Eggleton, Deacon Manu, Tony Kane, Mike Deane, Tere Vickridge, Chris Calver, Chris Rejthar, Bruce Stephens, Peter Gilbert, Kevin Bradley, Kit Fawcett, G N Kane, and David Hill, Mike Delaney, Kevin Sorenson, Doug Wilson,



EARLY DAYS: The 1967 seniors team. About 200 current and former University rugby players gathered in 2011 to mark the 50th anniversary of rugby at Waikato University.

Martyn Steffert, Vince Curtin, Greg Coleman, Wayne McIntosh, Sean Davies, the Gordon brothers, Stephen Donald and Mark Ramby among others.

"We've had some outstanding players over the years, but it's the nature of university rugby – the players move on, out of the area, so we have a lot of turnover. But the club still manages to rally six senior teams including the only women's team in the Waikato."

Meanwhile, Waikato University Netball celebrates 25 years in June 2012.

Contact UoWsport@waikato.ac.nz for more information. ■



ON THE BALL: Varstonians from around New Zealand and the world returned for the 50th anniversary which included a dinner and a match the following morning.

Focus on Alumni

NATURAL HEAD FOR BUSINESS

Clearly Jan Zijderveld, global giant Unilever's Western European President, has a good head for business and it was developed early on.

To help finance his studies at Waikato University he bought goods at garage sales to sell them on campus and he and another student set up a horse riding centre.

These days business is on a much, much larger scale. Unilever has 25,000 employees in Europe, which includes 2,000 managers, and all of them report to Jan. Sales are 13 billion euro a year. Jan's job involves travelling all over Europe selling the company's world famous brands – Magnum, Dove, Sunsilk, Persil, Rexona, Streets – to name a few.

"It's a huge thrill to be able to go into different countries and cultures, not as a tourist but as an operator in the society you are visiting and as a leader," says Jan whose home base is Unilever's European HQ in Rotterdam.

"It's a very big, global company," he says. "We are everywhere. We sell real, normal products used by everyone on the planet. We are a company with good values, honest, very multicultural with meritocracy and sustainability at the heart of our business."

Jan's parents emigrated from the Netherlands to New Zealand in 1979 when he was 15. The family (Jan has a younger brother) settled in Kerikeri in the Bay of Islands. Jan went to Kerikeri High School and had no intention of going to university. He wanted to go straight into business. But then Waikato University visited the school, talked about its offering and Jan was impressed. So impressed he signed up immediately for a Bachelor of Management Studies.

"It sounded like the broadest, best business degree and the fact it was four years was a differentiator," says Jan who also particularly liked the Waikato campus. "Waikato had one of the best reputations as a business school and it also offered a practical period."

Jan graduated in 1987 and joined Unilever as a brand manager. He moved to Australia and then in 1992 began a five-year stint in marketing roles in Rotterdam. In 1997 the role of marketing director combined with the director's role for the European Olive Oil

category which took Jan to Milan, Italy. His next move was to Stockholm and in 2004 he relocated to Dubai as Chairman of Unilever's business in the region. In 2007 Jan became Chairman of Unilever's Middle East and North Africa-based businesses and in 2008 he moved to Singapore as Executive Vice-President of Unilever South East Asia and Australasia. He was appointed to his current role as Western European President in 2011.

Jan says he absolutely loved Waikato and the degree course. He spent two years in Bryant Hall and two years flatting in various Hamilton houses, some of which were pretty cold and damp, but where he got to meet a lot of interesting and nice people.

Jan became involved in politics through the Young Nats and ended up with his own radio commentary slot on Radio Waikato once a week.

"I just learned so much," he says. "The degree gave me an entry ticket into a good starting job at a respected and large company where I could learn more and have plenty of job growth opportunities. If you maximise the opportunities at Waikato you can develop very quickly."

Jan's main focus at the moment is making a success of his current job and when he gets some spare time, which isn't often, he focuses on his family. His wife Susan was born in Wellington (she studied at Victoria) and they have two children, Rebecca, aged 17, and Sam, 14.

New Zealand is home and the family visits every year.

"We love New Zealand," says Jan. "It's such a beautiful country however there are limited professional opportunities. Luckily today's world is getting smaller and smaller and we can come back regularly, and we would like to live there part time eventually. But in the meantime life is all about trade-offs and while we love New Zealand we also love to experience what the world has to offer. Being able to make an impact and a difference in all of the places I visit is such a privilege. I really enjoy the challenge being a leader offers – not just in one culture."

Jan says the most satisfying aspect of his job is the impact on the business and people, making things better than he found them. "In deep rural villages, huge metropolitan cities or slums – it's interesting, challenging and fun." ■



BUSINESS HEAD: Jan Zijderveld – the Waikato alumnus is a leader of global giant Unilever.

WAIKATO GRAD WITH CAN-DO ATTITUDE

Since graduating from the University of Waikato in 2001, there's been no stopping Bachelor of Communication Studies graduate Alice Clements.

She's worked in corporate public relations, written a book on the history of Auckland airport, lectured in communication at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University, completed a Masters in Communication and has worked for international non-governmental organisations, Marie Stopes and CARE Australia.

Now, Alice is in Pakistan working for UNICEF as part of its response to the 2010 floods that devastated the entire country and displaced more than 20.2 million people. Her initial four-month deployment to the country has turned into a year-long, life-changing experience.

"Pakistan is a complex and diverse country that faces huge challenges with endemic poverty, ongoing conflict and regular natural disasters, but the people are simply amazing to work alongside," Alice says.

"My role here is about building the capacity of Pakistani colleagues and counterparts in government and non-governmental organisations to communicate more effectively – in an ideal world I will make myself redundant."

Based in Islamabad, but with a role that takes her all over the country, Alice is working in the area of child protection for UNICEF.

"I'm responsible for developing and overseeing the implementation of a



MAKING A DIFFERENCE: Alice Clements is using her communications skills to help communities in Pakistan support vulnerable children from abuse, exploitation and other harms.

nationwide communications strategy that supports communities to protect vulnerable girls, boys and women from abuse, exploitation and other harms."

Her work is a specialised area of communications that focuses on supporting communities to bring about positive social change. "It involves working directly with people to understand the issues that they face and identifying solutions that can be promoted through targeted communication, which could be children's comics, street theatre, radio advertisements, community mobilisation or advocacy campaigns."

Since being in Pakistan Alice has encountered issues many would find challenging, including

child marriage, child labour, trafficking, sexual, physical and emotional violence, social exclusion, child soldiers and children living and working on the street.

Alice says she is supposed to be in Pakistan only until Christmas, but there has since been more serious flooding, affecting more than 6 million people and she is working around the clock on the response to those floods.

She says her study at Waikato equipped her with the essential foundations to deal with this type of work. "I learnt to engage critically with my world, questioning the assumptions that we take for granted and to believe that I could use my communication skills in the pursuit of positive social change." ■

FROM ANTARCTICA IMAGINATION TO ARTISTIC REALITY

Artist Meliors Simms has only been to Antarctica in her imagination but that imagination is clearly visionary in the true sense of the word. When people with Antarctica experience see Meliors' work they affirm she's captured its essence.

"I treasure that feedback," says alumna Meliors who graduated with a MSocSc from Waikato in 2000.

"Antarctica is mysterious, dangerous, vulnerable and beautiful. The lack of plants and animals and colours means we notice patterns and texture of snow and ice, sky and sea, more than usual. I find that very exciting to interpret visually."

Meliors' Hamilton exhibition entitled *Imagining Antarctica* was well received, the result of thousands of hours of hand crafting representations of Antarctica, its history and threats to its future through her own technique of layering and embroidering old blankets.

Meliors also writes poetry and has an online shop from which she sells smaller works (www.meliors.etsy.com).

When Meliors graduated from Waikato she worked for various government departments before taking up making handmade books for her poems as a way to nurture herself.



BLANKETS OF ICE: Meliors Simms with a piece of her work entitled *My Antarctica*.

Honours for Staff

TEACHING EXCELLENCE – WAIKATO WINS AGAIN

Waikato Management School's Dr Mary Fitzpatrick and the School of Māori & Pacific Development's Sandy Morrison were among 13 winners of the annual Ako Aotearoa awards held at a ceremony in Wellington.

It follows Waikato University picking up two awards last year, for Dr Alison Campbell and Te Kahautu Maxwell.

Funded by the Tertiary Education Commission, the awards acknowledge teaching practices that are student-focused and committed to promoting effective learning. They also provide an opportunity for teachers to further their careers and share their good practice with others.

A key focus of the awards is how the teachers have enhanced their students' learning, and student evaluation is an important part of the nomination process.



TEACHERS PAR EXCELLENCE: Dr Mary Fitzpatrick and Sandy Morrison.

"I don't think there would be many of us who walk into a classroom aiming for awards," says marketing's Dr Fitzpatrick. "You just walk into the classroom with the aim of doing the very best you can for your students on the day."

SMPD's Sandy Morrison, who won an award for sustained excellence in a kaupapa Māori

context, says her teaching style is to make all students feel welcome and free to discuss their thoughts.

"All students, not just Māori students, no matter how old or young come with a whole lineage and genealogy. By validating and acknowledging that, I create a space where everyone feels comfortable and safe.

"My main teaching has been around the Treaty of Waitangi and because it's such a contentious issue it's important to have an open environment where everyone feels safe to voice their thoughts."

Staff must first win Faculty and then Waikato University Teaching Excellence Awards to be nominated for the Ako Aotearoa awards by the University. ■

IN THE TOP 10

Professor Roberta Farrell (pictured) was named one of Unlimited Magazine's top 10 influencers for 2011.

"It's becoming less remarkable for New Zealand scientists to be comfortable moving between the lab and the world of business but the ones who do it particularly well still stand out," says the magazine.

"Case in point: Waikato Professor Roberta Farrell, a biologist with an international reputation in her fields of enzyme and fungi research, cellulose and bio-control."

Professor Farrell, who has been made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit, has two commercial ventures stemming from her work – Parrac and Zygem Corporation. ■



KUDOS TO WAIKATO LECTURER

The Faculty of Education's Dr Anne Hume has taken out the title of Science Teacher/Communicator/Educator at the annual Kudos awards.

The awards are held in the Waikato region to celebrate science achievement in the area. Two other University of Waikato academics were finalists in the awards – Dr Johan Verbeek and Dr Charles Lee.

Dr Hume was presented with her award at the Kudos awards function in October.

She has extensive experience and influence in the national education scene including being part of the writing team for the national science curriculum in 1993, and on the science expert panel for NCEA. She says teaching over many years has taught her how to learn more effectively.

Dr Hume has been awarded a New Zealand Suffrage Medal for contributions to science education and been a Fulbright Scholar. She has done work with the development team for the Science Learning Hub, and this year is a researcher in a Teaching and Learning Research Initiative-funded project promoting pedagogical content knowledge development for early career secondary teachers in science and technology.

Recently she has developed a series of contextual science workbooks for use in junior science classrooms to support teachers in the implementation of the New Zealand Science curriculum, and worked as an education consultant to two NIWA-led environmental education projects.

"I am only now appreciating the huge contribution I can make to science through science education by teaching my tertiary students how to learn how to teach science, and how they in turn can teach school students how to learn and love science." ■



KUDOS FOR ACADEMIC: The University's Dr Anne Hume was a winner at the annual Kudos awards.

CAREERS AND CONTRIBUTION RECOGNISED

Three more Waikato professors have been conferred the title of Emeritus Professor. This honour is bestowed by the University to acknowledge major contributions to the institution and to the wider community. Recent recipients were Warwick Silvester, Alexandra Barratt and Jane Ritchie.



HONOUR FOR SCIENTIST: Warwick Silvester at the function for his Emeritus Professorship.

Warwick Silvester

Professor Warwick Silvester has worked tirelessly to preserve this country's flora, fauna, forests, wetlands and waterways and was made an Emeritus Professor in April.

He spent 30 years at Waikato and during that time says he became "reasonably knowledgeable" about several things, especially nitrogen fixing bacteria and the way soil properties, microbes and root systems of plants influence the availability of nutrients.

He pioneered the use of stable isotopes to track nitrogen fluxes through forest, pasture and wetland ecosystems – work that is vital in regions like the Waikato where nitrogen leaching is a major environmental issue.

In 1987 he helped establish Waikato University's Stable Isotope Unit and served as its director for 20 years. It meant that instead of samples being sent to Wellington for analysis and taking weeks to get results, the work could be done in a few days or even minutes and clients all over the world still make regular use of this facility.

Professor Silvester's work was acknowledged in 2007 when he was awarded the inaugural Kudos Lifetime Achievement Award for his contribution to science.

Alexandra Barratt

Professor Alexandra Barratt is a leading scholar in the field of English and medieval studies and was conferred the title of Emeritus Professor

in August in recognition of her exceptional service and outstanding contribution to Waikato University over 30 devoted and dedicated years.

During her time at the University, Professor Barratt had an illustrious record of achievements and a well-deserved reputation as a leading scholar in her studies area. These achievements are marked by her senior leadership roles, including her tenure as Professor of English from 1997 until her retirement.

While at Waikato, she demonstrated a genuine commitment to the welfare of staff and the University serving as Chairperson of English and Chairperson of Humanities as well as the Academic Representative on the University Council.

Professor Barratt's interest in medieval studies is reflected by the number of publications she has to her name including many books, two of which were written in her last two years at Waikato. These works, among many others, are widely read and remain in high demand by scholars as set texts in university courses in New Zealand and around the world.

Jane Ritchie, OBE

Professor Jane Ritchie was acknowledged for her contribution to the institution and wider community on her retirement after 35 years researching topics that have helped shape legislation and behaviours in New Zealand.



RETIREMENT: Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford presents Jane Ritchie with her Emeritus Professorship at her retirement function.



WORK ACKNOWLEDGED: Pro Chancellor Dr Brian Linehan presents Alexandra Barratt with her Emeritus Professorship.

She joined the University as a postdoctoral fellow in 1973 and was appointed Professor in 1995. During her career she studied child-rearing patterns, physical discipline – decades before the repeal of the Crimes Act – adolescent development, violence and eating disorders. Internationally her work on physical punishment triggered a major wave of research into family violence.

The books she authored or co-authored include *Growing up in New Zealand; Chance to be Equal; Spare the Rod; The Dangerous Age; Surviving Adolescence in New Zealand; and Violence in New Zealand.*

Professor Ritchie played a key role in the development of women's studies at Waikato. She served on many organisations relevant to her role as a mother of five and to her research. In 1989 she was awarded an OBE, in 1993 she was recognised by the New Zealand Psychological Society as a Pioneer Woman in Psychology and was awarded an Honorary Fellowship by the Society in 2010.

Emeritus Professor Jane Ritchie's late husband, Emeritus Professor James Ritchie, was honoured by a two-day memorial symposium at the University this year. With his wife he pioneered bicultural studies in psychology in New Zealand, and made a lifelong contribution to research in topics including fulfilment of the Treaty of Waitangi, culture, Māori/indigenous psychology, cultural and ethnic understanding, non-violence, and the role of families and whānau. The symposium featured a day of keynote addresses, discussion and remembering; and a day of writing resulting in a book manuscript for publication. The lectures were open to the public and were followed by a panel discussion. ■

Academy Celebrations

FUNCTION MARKS RENAMING AND 10 YEARS OF ACADEMY

The stand-out building on campus, the Academy of Performing Arts is 10 years old and is now known as the Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts.

The Gallagher Group has committed \$500,000 over 10 years, the Gallagher Charitable Trust has given \$1 million, and in addition, Dr John and Glenice Gallagher have committed \$1 million for a total Gallagher donation of \$2.5 million. The funds have been earmarked for a University Endowment Fund.

The Academy vision began in the 1990s when staff were asking for space for drama and music students. Soon after planning started for the facility, dance was added to the proposal, and a little later the request came in for a venue for Māori performing arts.

Capital Works Superintendent at the time John Badham said the initial idea was a basic design of 1600m² costing between \$3.5 million and \$4 million. By April 1997, the "ideal" space had grown to 3200m². "Little did I realise then the number of iterations and cost increases that would occur before part of the dream would be realised some six years later."

On completion, the Academy boasted a 340-seat music chamber, a 180-seat drama theatre, a kapa haka room (Te Whare Tapere Iti) and dance studio, both of which have sprung timber floors.

The University Foundation led the community fundraising drive for what turned out to be a \$10 million facility. Dame Malvina Major was then Patron of the Foundation. She and the University-based Turnovsky Trio would perform at special fundraising events as businesses and then individuals, including alumni and University staff, were all asked to support the building.

WEL Energy Trust bought the naming rights and the Academy was opened in March 2001 by then-Prime Minister Helen Clark. A week-long series of events followed.



GALLAGHER GIFT: From left, Glenice Gallagher, Dr John Gallagher, Judi, Lady Gallagher, Sir William Gallagher, Renee Crawford, Professor Roy Crawford at the Academy renaming and anniversary function.

The building is now used almost every day of the year and international acts return year after year to perform and record.

Dr John Gallagher has served on the University Council for 21 years. He is a former Chancellor, Pro Chancellor and Chair of the University Foundation and is now Foundation Patron. His support for the Academy has been ongoing.

It's the versatility of the Academy that keeps him coming back. "We have a duty to support the arts, from the high-brow to those just starting out, and it's wonderful for all of them to perform in an acoustically outstanding venue. It must be a real privilege for students too, to be able to have lessons, practise and perform in such quality space."

Dr Gallagher would like other organisations to support the University the way he and the Gallagher business have over the years. "Like any business, a University is always evolving as it strives to deliver a world-class product to its students who in turn can be world-class in their chosen careers and become leading citizens."

He says students can be supported through scholarships, superior facilities and research opportunities. "As a donor the reward is the huge sense of pride you get seeing Waikato students achieve and contribute meaningfully to society. The community is all the better for having a university in its heart and we need to acknowledge that and support it." ■



STILL IMPRESSIVE: The University's stunning Academy celebrated 10 years in 2011. The function to mark the anniversary and renaming showcased the facility to the community.

Focus on Alumni

WOMAN WHO RAN WITH WOLVES

Eating moose heart and liver as an initiation ritual into her wolf pack family was the last thing on Kristeva Dowling's mind when she was studying at Waikato University.

But that's exactly what she ended up doing, as well as arguing with a grizzly bear over her pear harvest.

It was these later adventures that led her to pen a book called *Chicken Poop for the Soul, a Year in Search of Food Sovereignty*. Food sovereignty means having the right to determine where your food comes from and how it is produced, says Kristeva.

"I was alarmed by the impact agro-business was having on food quality and security so decided to take control of my own food source."

In an attempt to achieve 100% self-sufficiency on her small holding in British Columbia's Bella Coola Valley, Kristeva ploughed under her land, converted her garage to an intensive care unit for chickens and learned how to hunt, fish, gather and preserve her own food.

As part of that learning Kristeva lived and hunted with the Hall family who literally live their lives communally, like a wolf pack.

"It was a truly amazing experience. I had to do what I had to do to be considered part of the family and ultimately loved and that included the initiation ceremony," says Kristeva. The ceremony included eating moose heart and liver.

Chicken Poop for the Soul chronicles Kristeva's experiences shedding the habits of her urban life and, with no agricultural background, beginning an emotional and political journey towards independence.

The book is about a popular dream – to leave the city and return to a simpler life – and is compelling and witty.

Born and raised in Vancouver, Kristeva left home at 17 to travel and see the world. She knew she would always go to university but it wasn't until she was 28 she took the plunge and did an undergraduate degree at Massey. She then went on to complete her BSocSc(Hons) and her Masters at Waikato. She went back to Canada to do her field work for her Masters but ended up staying when she was offered a career opportunity she couldn't refuse.



FOOD SOVEREIGNTY QUEEN: In her quest for food sovereignty Kristeva Dowling learned how to hunt, fish, gather and preserve her own food.

"I was so grateful that my thesis supervisor Keith Barber was flexible in that he supported my studies from afar," says Kristeva. "We spoke regularly on the phone and via email and continued our highly effective supervisor-student relationship."

Kristeva chose Waikato because she had heard it had the best reputation in Social Science research and says she loved her time at Waikato. She worked in several departments as a tutor and taught a Continuing Education Programme. "My supervisors were fantastic to work with and everyone was interesting. They were a tough bunch to impress but it made me work hard and I learned a lot."

Kristeva says she misses New Zealand a huge amount – especially the smell of eucalyptus trees and the sound of magpies. But mostly she misses the people.

"I was in New Zealand for nearly six years and that was long enough for me to call it home. I got my citizenship and now feel torn between the two countries. I have friends and family I love in both."

When Kristeva was at Waikato University her name was actually Christina. She changed

her name because she wanted to do something personal to mark her 40th birthday. "It was either that or a tattoo and the name-change hurt less."

Kristeva's small mixed farm is on the west coast of British Columbia in a remote First Nations village town. Her book chronicles her adventures rendering maple syrup, mothering baby chicks, canning hundreds of pounds of preserves and growing her own wheat. It also contains her reflections on her new-found tangible skills, her intangible problems and the politics and legislative barriers that face British Columbia's small farming community.

In winter Kristeva cross-country skis with her dog and in summer she rides her much loved horse Nick, a pure Arabian. As well as running the farm Kristeva, who has a background in community development, works in a mental health and addictions centre.

Chicken Poop for the Soul is published by Caitlin Press and sales are going well although Kristeva never thought for a minute she would end up being a writer.

"English was the class I would skip out of in high school and writing was not something I ever thought I would have a talent for," she says. "But my ex-husband recognised my ability and encouraged its development for which I am grateful."

Kristeva is clearly a very driven woman. She has a passion for learning and wanting to experience it all. "I sometimes think I'd like to clone myself because I'll never get to do all the things I would like to do in just one lifetime." ■



LOVE OF ANIMALS: Kristeva Dowling loves and respects all animals – especially her horse Nick.

Research Institutes

DELIVERING ON THE VISION

Waikato University's vision to deliver a world-class education and research portfolio is closer to reality.

Four new high-level research institutes have been established, joining the existing Wilf Malcolm Institute of Educational Research (WMIER) established in 2002.

WMIER brought a structure to the increasing number of projects being undertaken by Waikato education researchers and has a long list of success stories. Projects have impacted on government policy and influenced educational practice.



The new institutes will be world-class platforms for the whole research pipeline – from discovery to application and commercialisation.

They recognise areas of research strength for which the University can gain national and international recognition and compete for research funding, a key University strategy.

Each of the five research institutes has its own identity, structure and stakeholders; however all are clearly hosted by and based at the University of Waikato.

The institutes are the University's way of taking a more cohesive approach to society's big issues – their consequences and possible solutions.

National Institute of Demographic and Economic Analysis

The first new institute to be launched, the National Institute of Demographic and Economic Analysis (NIDEA), will provide policy makers with a better understanding of some of the key elements shaping

the country's future, such as an ageing population, increasing ethnic diversity and the growing divide between regional and urban New Zealand.

NIDEA brings together demographers from the University's former Population Studies Centre, economists from Waikato Management School and public policy experts from Wellington-based Motu Economic and Public Policy Research Trust.

The institute's research will focus on the interface between population and economy and will build on Waikato's international reputation for demographic study and research.

The focus is timely. Population projections show that while the number of over-65s is set to grow by more than 25% by 2016 – and by more than 70% by 2026 – all other age groups show a much slower growth rate of just 4.5% up until 2016, rising to 8% by 2026. Likely consequences include delayed retirement and rising wages.

NIDEA's research is grouped under five interconnected themes:

- » New Zealand 2050 (an ageing New Zealand)
- » New Zealand's regions and communities (a regionally and ethnically diverse New Zealand)
- » New Zealand's individuals, families and households (a socially informed New Zealand)
- » Te para one te tū mai nei (Māori and indigenous futures)
- » New Zealand's oceanic and global context (a globally engaged New Zealand).

The institute's research programme is supported by the NIDEA Demographic Laboratory which aims to build research and modelling capacity in the field. Waikato University is New Zealand's only provider of demographic qualifications.



HONOURED AT LAUNCH: Four new research fellows were announced at the launch of Te Kotahi Research Institute. Pictured from left are TKRI Director Tīpa Mahuta, new fellows Hōri Manuirangi, Professor Lyn Carter and Dr Tahu Kukutai, Karaitiana Tamatea (accepting on behalf of new fellow Dr Wayne Ngata) and Kingi Turner, the Deputy Chair of Te Rōpū Manukura.

Environmental Research Institute

This institute's message is that sound science should underpin sound environmental planning, policy development and management.

The ERI will marshal the University's internationally-recognised research strengths in terrestrial, freshwater, coastal marine and Antarctic ecosystems and aims to take a multi-disciplinary approach to tackling some of the big problems New Zealand faces in environmental degradation and biodiversity decline.

The natural environmental sciences will provide the foundation for maintaining humankind's quality of life, and the ERI offers an important venue for bringing together perspectives focused on different aspects of the environment and integrating the work with the social environmental disciplines in order to contribute to New Zealand's economic, cultural and environmental sustainability.

Major benefits from the institute are expected for New Zealand's long term future. Biophysical scientists and engineers are joined by researchers from environmental education, law, planning, resource economics, history, geography and mātauranga Māori to consider environmental problems on a broader scale to come up with robust, real-world solutions.

Current research includes:

- » A 10-year \$10 million initiative to clean up New Zealand's lakes
- » Soil biogeochemistry, forest fragments, bioremediation and urban biodiversity restoration, planning and design
- » Lakes management and restoration, pest fish control, nutrient modelling and wetland ecophysiology
- » Better management of the environmental well-being of coastal areas under pressure from urban development, aquaculture, recreational and commercial interests
- » Terrestrial biodiversity and ecological resilience in the Antarctic.



Institute for Business Research

Businesses and industry groups will benefit from being able to access the latest management thinking through the Institute for Business Research which draws on the expertise of researchers at Waikato



THE RIGHT ENVIRONMENT: Pictured at the Environmental Research Institute Launch, from left, Faculty of Science & Engineering Dean Professor Bruce Clarkson, guest speaker Professor Don L Strong from the University of California Davis, and Waikato University Chancellor Jim Bolger.

Management School, New Zealand's leading business school for research quality.

The IBR works with a range of clients, including government agencies and some of the country's biggest companies, in areas ranging from innovation to economic impact analysis. It offers a significant and internationally recognised depth of research expertise that can make a valuable contribution in terms of challenges such as increasing productivity and providing sustainable profitability.

The institute's four main areas of interest are:

- » Business performance and leadership
- » Agribusiness and innovation
- » Business in the service sector
- » Business in society.

Research projects include supply chain integration, the uptake of sustainability practices, the impact of cultural support in the workplace and adding value to businesses through improved technology investment.

The institute offers research, advisory and consultancy services to help businesses and organisations add further value to what they do. The IBR is also home to the Management Research Centre which, in conjunction with the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants, compiles the annual New Zealand Business Benchmarking Survey. It also works with clients to provide tailored business performance studies.



Te Kotahi Research Institute

Māori research is the focus of this significant new institute which aims to enhance the contribution of Waikato University's research to iwi development.

The institute will be a hub for high-quality indigenous research of international interest that crosses disciplinary boundaries and focuses on improving the lives of whānau, hapū and iwi.

Focus themes will be identified by iwi and other key stakeholders with the aim of promoting innovation, well-being and inspiration.

The institute's ethos is 'Koi te mata punenga, maiangi te mata pūhoiho' which translates as 'Imagine the invisible, explore the potential, defy the impossible'.

The institute has been named for Sir Robert Te Kotahi Mahuta, founding Director of the Centre of Māori Studies research at the University of Waikato in 1972, and is backed by the University's iwi representatives body, Te Rōpū Manukura. ■



Giving

SPONSORSHIP WITH MUTUAL BENEFITS



Calder & Lawson Tours has renewed its sponsorship of the Calder & Lawson Gallery in the Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts for \$100,000 over 10 years.

The company has a long association with the University and the renewal of the sponsorship agreement in 2011 is of mutual benefit.

"We firmly believe the University is a key part of our community and our brand also fits well with the different events and exhibitions held there throughout the year," says Calder & Lawson Tours director Alastair Calder who is also Chairman of the University of Waikato Foundation.

"The academy is an excellent example of a partnership between the University, the city council and the community. As an organisation, Calder & Lawson is also committed to supporting the arts in our community."

The Calder & Lawson Tours sponsorship supports an endowment for the performing arts.

The relationship goes back 16 years to when Calder & Lawson bought the University's Continuing Education tour programme, expanded it, and now operates these tours under the Calder & Lawson Tours brand. The tours, which go to many parts of the world, are focused on the 55-plus market and have some form of educational component.

The gallery had six exhibitions this year, among them *Pushers* and *The New Romantics*. ■

MUTUAL BENEFICIARIES: Calder & Lawson Tours director Alastair Calder and Vice-Chancellor Roy Crawford celebrate their partnership.

ALUMNI SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIPS, PRIZES AT WAIKATO

Waikato University Deans and the Students' Union President have penned appeals to alumni encouraging them to support scholarships, research and prizes.

Director of Development Christine Brabender says there was an excellent response to these appeals, with gifts ranging from \$5 to \$1,000 from nearly 300 alumni and friends.

Waikato Students' Union President Deni Tokunai wrote to alumni encouraging them to support scholarships at the University. Says Ms Brabender: "Waikato has one of the most generous scholarship programmes in New Zealand to increase access to tertiary study. Today's graduates face debt burdens unheard of for many of us, so Deni encouraged alumni to help make the journey easier for today's students.

"Waikato alumni are making a difference around the world and in diverse fields of endeavour. Who better to support scholarships than alumni who understand and appreciate what their Waikato qualification has meant for their careers and sense of self," Ms Brabender says.

Alumni have also supported new prizes and awards including the Healy Memorial Award for Professor Terry Healy who died in 2010, the Silverstone Prize in Macroeconomics for Brian Silverstone who was made an Honorary Fellow of the University this year, and the Waterman Memorial Prize, for student Jason Waterman who died in 2011.

Ms Brabender says Vice-Chancellor Professor Crawford and his wife Renee have also made a generous contribution to the University.

"This University has a compelling academic mission that drives economic growth and innovation in the region and the nation. My thanks go to the many Waikato alumni who have made gifts to their University. We'll continue to invite your support on an annual basis."

For more information about giving to the University of Waikato, including the one-third tax rebate, go to www.waikato.ac.nz/foundation ■



DENI TOKUNAI: Encouraged alumni to give for scholarships.



TERRY HEALY: A memorial prize is attracting strong support.

Focus on Alumni

NEW ZEALANDER RACES TO THE TOP

When Dan Ammann was a youngster he looked out the window to his parent's dairy farm in the tiny township of Eureka, just outside Hamilton.

Today Dan looks out of the window of his 39th storey office window in Detroit to a cityscape vista including the Detroit River and Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

Dan is the Chief Financial Officer of one of the world's largest car manufacturers, General Motors. He was appointed to that role in April 2011 and at the same time was named Senior Vice-President of the company which has more than 200,000 employees globally. He was previously the company's Vice-President, Finance and Treasurer.

It's a huge job with a serious wow factor but despite that and the lofty heights of his office, Dan has his feet firmly on the ground. He's easy to talk to, approachable and charming. And he's a Waikato University alumnus.

Educated at St Paul's Collegiate in Hamilton, Dan chose Waikato because it was handy and initially it offered a four-year business course instead of three, like the other universities.

"I think it was the only one doing that at the time so it was the perfect choice for me," says Dan who graduated in 1994 with a Bachelor of Management Studies (First Class Honours) in Economics and Finance.

"I didn't know exactly what I wanted to do but I was pretty sure I didn't want to be a farmer and that a university degree would give me an excellent education. The business school had a fantastic reputation and I thought it would give me a broad-base understanding about how the world works.

"While I didn't know where it would take me, I knew the degree would be a solid starting point and that it would stand me in good stead for the future."

It certainly did.

After Dan graduated he went to work at Credit Suisse First Boston in Auckland. It was there he met Chris Liddell, the New Zealander he would later succeed at GM. Chris hired Dan as an analyst and associate in the banking team and a few years later Dan moved to the New York office. The next move was to Morgan Stanley where he scaled the corporate ladder and was appointed a managing director of the bank in 2004.

A year earlier he married Swedish born Pernilla, who runs an ad agency in New York, and they have two daughters – Katarina aged six and Philippa, four. Home base for the family is New York and Dan commutes to Detroit. Spare time is a luxury, however when it does happen, the family goes to its beach house in East Hampton, New York, and does all the beachy things you'd expect of a Kiwi and his family.

"I like boating and fishing and the kids go horse-riding, that sort of thing," says Dan. "It's great and it makes up for not being able to get back to New Zealand frequently."

Dan misses New Zealand and is a proud New Zealander however he doesn't see himself living back here in the foreseeable future.

"I never say never and I don't make predictions about my future but New Zealand just isn't in the plans as of right now," Dan laughs. "Being



NEVER SAY NEVER: Dan Ammann has a fast car and accelerating career.

the CFO of a big American company wasn't my plan at the beginning but now I'm here I couldn't be happier.

"GM is the 'central mission' for the next few years because there's a huge amount to be done and I enjoy making the difference I do. It's giving me fantastic opportunities which I wouldn't swap for anything."

Dan and Chris were the public face of GM's public float and when Dan took over from Chris, who was standing down, he became the company's second consecutive Kiwi in command.

"We're doing something right in New Zealand I guess," jokes Dan who is adamant there's nothing particularly special about him.

"It might be about grabbing life with both hands and some of the credit for my success should go to Waikato University because it was an important part of my social and career development."

Dan's into cars and has a "growing collection" – two high-performance CTS-V Cadillacs which he drives in Detroit and New York and an old 1961 Cadillac convertible for the family's use at the beach. The CTS-V is a General Motors' high performance car, a 6.2L supercharged V8 with a sport-tuned suspension.

Dan's taking lessons to gain his racing certification although he says it's unlikely he'll race in the V8s any time soon. But then as he also says – never say never. ■

Focus on Alumni

STUDENT CENTRE – IN A GALAXY FAR, FAR AWAY

A Star Wars homage film by Waikato alumnus Sash Nixon took out Best Acting Award in the annual Lucasfilms Star Wars fan film competition – the biggest fan film competition in the world.

Sash was one of 22 finalists who got the chance to put their work in front of Star Wars creator George Lucas himself.

Shot partly in the Student Centre and partly by the Waikato River, *Star Wars: Hunter* was written and directed by Sash who is a Screen and Media graduate and currently works in the University Library. Sash also took the lead role of space adventurer Rek Daggard and went to San Diego to pick up his double droid statuette.

The film follows the adventures of Daggard who lays a trap to capture a Jedi in order to win a full pardon from the Empire. Unfortunately the plan backfires. But the acting talents of Sash and a group of students including Hillary Scholars Shoshana Sachi

and Jeremy Mayall seem to have impressed the judges.

We're not sure though what the great George Lucas made of the Waikato University Student Centre positioned in the film as a stand-in for a galaxy far, far away.

Eight awards were made at the ceremony at the San Diego Comic-Con International.

"My knees were like jelly," says Sash who was in costume and never expected to hear his name read out. "It wasn't until I got to the podium I remembered I was dressed as Rek Daggard."

Sash says seeing his movie playing on two gigantic screens in front of an enormous audience of the biggest Star Wars fans and Star Wars filmmakers in the world was a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

"It was amazing to win the award and see *Hunter* screened for the audience it was made for. Nothing will ever equal that presentation."

See Sash's winning fan movie at www.starwars.atom.com ■

PRAISE FOR MBA

Waikato University MBA graduate Dr Mariyam Zulfa was appointed Maldives Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture this year.

A commercial lawyer, Mariyam completed her MBA 12 years ago and says her experience at Waikato helped her become the professional she is today.

"I feel extremely honoured and humbled to be appointed minister but appreciate I've got a big job to do," says Mariyam who also has law degrees and a PhD from Australian universities.

Mariyam chose Waikato's MBA because it's based on the Harvard model which uses case methods of research and teaching.



**MALDIVES MINISTER:
Dr Mariyam Zulfa.**

While studying at Waikato Mariyam made marketing communications her focus because she knew it would apply to tourism in the Maldives.

"It's the background of our economy. It's a growth industry but it's also hugely competitive. The potential in the Maldives is huge but we need overseas investment to expand and that is part of my job – finding the money."

Mariyam sees herself as a problem-solver and someone who usually starts tackling a problem with a yes-we-can attitude.

"But as minister I have to be mindful our stakeholders are wide-ranging," she says.

"I'm the chief representative of the government but at the same time I have to be mindful of the needs of business and investors and employee rights as well." ■



OUT OF THIS WORLD: Sash Nixon in his Rek Daggard costume with a friendly storm trooper in San Diego at the awards ceremony.

THE UNIVERSITY'S CAMBODIA CONNECTION

Waikato alumnus James Oakley is a long way from his Raglan base and the comfort of his New Zealand home but his experiences are being shared by hundreds of followers through his very popular blog, **Cambodia Connection**.



OUR MAN IN CAMBODIA: Waikato engineering graduate James Oakley is working for Engineers Without Borders Australia in Cambodia.

The engineering graduate left for Cambodia at the beginning of 2011 for 12 months to work on projects to help those with poor access to clean water by improving water availability and quality there.

The position is with Engineers Without Borders (EWB) Australia, an organisation that works with developing communities in Australia and overseas helping them gain access to the knowledge, resources and appropriate technologies they need to improve their livelihoods.

Before starting university James spent five years travelling, mostly in Asia and Africa, and he began his degree knowing he wanted to return to the places he had seen to "give something back".

"After four years of study I'd almost forgotten my reasons for starting the degree (in materials and process engineering) but then my uncle put me on to EWB Australia," says James whose

official title is a WASH – water, sanitation and hygiene adviser.

EWB is working in partnership with Rain-Water Cambodia, a local NGO, and James' job is to work with them to help communities find solutions to access drinking water and sanitation. He is working to find the best and most efficient ways to collect and store rainwater and to keep it clean and free from contamination.

The job has a base in Phnom Penh and involves travelling out of the capital to project sites in several rural provinces which has given James a good understanding of how the rain water programmes work and what is needed. He is helping build the skills of local staff for project and technical management and also works with them to research and design better systems.

James regularly posts stories and photographs on Cambodia Connection and headlines have included 'village chiefs to promote benefits of latrine ownership,' 'World Water Day 2011' and 'rainwater Cambodia and health centre wash-ing'.

The URL for James's blog is www.waikato.ac.nz/news-events/cambodia-connection ■

FROM MR MOA TO DR OF SCIENCE

The Kiwi known as 'Mr Moa' has been conferred a rare Doctor of Science from Waikato University.

In the University's near 50-year history just 10 Doctor of Science Degrees have been conferred. They are awarded for an original work of special excellence in a chosen field that has been published in a scholarly journal or book, work that must then be examined by a panel of judges.

Mr Moa (aka Trevor Worthy) is a palaeontologist, fossil-hunter and author who is internationally acclaimed for the works he has done on moa.

His book *The Lost World of the Moa*, written with extinction biologist Dr Richard Holdaway, is considered the authoritative moa text book. Trevor has also done extensive research into other birds and vertebrates including frogs, lizards, crocodiles, turtles and bats.

He has been responsible for the modern morphological and ecological analysis of moa bones and has worked with molecular biologists to establish the definitive understanding of the evolution of moa species from mitochondrial DNA sequences extracted from moa bones.

Trevor became interested in fossils as a caver. In 2001 he was part of a team that began excavation of hugely important fossil deposits in Central Otago. These Otago deposits provide the only window on New Zealand land animals that lived between the time of the dinosaurs 65 million years ago and the ice ages about a million years ago.

Dean of Science and Engineering at the University of Waikato Professor Bruce Clarkson was a student with Trevor when he studied his bachelors and masters degrees at Waikato and says he always had a passion for caving and bones.

"He went on to be an outstanding researcher making an international name for himself



MR MOA: Trevor Worthy has a rare Doctor of Science degree from Waikato University.

piecing together how New Zealand ecosystems used to operate."

Trevor has increased understanding of the extent of change that has taken place in this country by finding out what used to live here and that kind of knowledge provides the context to better manage the future.

Trevor was awarded his degree at one of 2011's University graduation ceremonies. ■

Scholarships

WAIKATO STUDENT WINS PRESTIGIOUS RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

Waikato University student Briar Thompson is one of three New Zealanders to have been awarded a Rhodes Scholarship to attend Oxford University in 2012.

Briar is completing her Bachelor of Communication Studies (Honours), majoring in Public Relations.

At Oxford she intends to study for a one-year MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies followed by a one-year MSc in Global Governance and Diplomacy. She is particularly interested in migration, security and diplomacy issues relevant to the Pacific region.

Rhodes Scholarships constitute the pinnacle of achievement for university graduates wishing to pursue postgraduate study at one of the world's leading universities.

Briar says it's a real honour to be selected. "The pool of candidates was of such a high calibre. This is a tremendous opportunity and

I'm excited about going there and making the most of what the Rhodes Scholarship and Oxford have to offer."

Her academic adviser Associate Professor Shiv Ganesh says he's absolutely delighted with the award. "Briar is truly one of the most outstanding students I have encountered in the 17 years that I have taught at university level, both here and in the United States," he says. "I cannot think of a more deserving recipient than she."

The former Whangarei Girls' High School Dux has Ngāpuhi affiliations. "On my first day of secondary school the school's kaumātua issued a challenge to the Māori students to change the statistics on poor Māori performance and to make the most of the educational opportunities on offer. I took his words to heart and endeavoured to meet that challenge. All the way through I've been blown away by the support I've had from family, friends and the University of Waikato."



RHODES SCHOLAR: Waikato student Briar Thompson was one of three New Zealand university students to win a Rhodes Scholarship for 2012.

Briar has been on the Young People's Reference Group for the Office of the Children's Commissioner, has been a Māori mentor at Waikato University, and has been volunteering with Refugee Services. ■

UKRAINIAN PHD STUDENT BENEFITS FROM GENEROSITY

Alex Kravchenko is the first recipient of a doctoral fellowship for the University of Waikato awarded by Hamilton couple Bill and Joan Flower.

The fellowship gives Alex \$30,000 a year for three years while he completes his PhD in economics.



WORTHY RECIPIENT: From left, Joan and Bill Flower, Waikato University PhD student Alex Kravchenko and lecturer Dr Dan Marsh.

One of the conditions is that the PhD must have an agricultural focus; Alex is studying freshwater management in New Zealand; current schemes, systems of application, cost and options.

Alex met Mr and Mrs Flower at the beginning of the year. He says they made it clear the fellowship was not a gift and told him his research would need to benefit New Zealand in some way.

Alex arrived in New Zealand with his scientist mother and engineer father in 2001. He had completed two years of university study in Thailand before coming to New Zealand. He arrived in Hamilton hoping to get a job.

"Only no one cared I spoke four languages and the only jobs I got offered were paying \$7 an hour in a supermarket," he says.

"But then one day I saw a sign for Waikato University that said, 'so what are you studying?' and I decided to enrol."

Alex grew up in the Ukraine so speaks Russian. His English is tinged with an American accent. He speaks Thai because he lived there for a while and he speaks Chinese Mandarin because he studied it.

At Waikato he graduated with a Bachelor of Management Studies (Hons) majoring in marketing and international management. He then got a job at a market research company but was restless and decided to study again – for his Masters.

His knowledge of Chinese gave him the chance to work on one of the University's joint programmes with Shanghai, which he did for two years and subsequently went to an agriculture economics conference with one of his lecturers (Dan Marsh) and decided freshwater management was worthy of more study.

Dr Marsh says Alex is an outstanding student, a gifted teacher and a worthy first recipient of the Flower Doctoral Fellowship in Economics. ■

YOUNG GRADUATE OFF TO OXFORD

Waikato University's youngest ever graduate is now studying for his doctorate at Oxford University. Robert (Bobby) Turongo Brooks departed in October to undertake a PhD in synthetic organic chemistry at Jesus College.

Bobby's 21. He earned his first degree, a Bachelor of Science, when he was 17, then completed a Master of Science and half a Postgraduate Diploma in Economics when he got the doctoral urge. "I picked up the phone and rang Oxford, and it sort of took off from there," he says.

Bobby is Ngāti Maniapoto, Tainui and Ngāpuhi on his mother's side and has been awarded the Sir Robert Mahuta Postgraduate Memorial Scholarship which will give him \$60,000 a year for three years while he studies.

"It's a real honour to receive this scholarship – Sir Robert attended Oxford – and so it's rather special to be following in his footsteps." Bobby's unsure where his study will take him but his Masters degree in chemistry saw him working on applications for a new generation of anti-cancer drugs. At Oxford he'll be in Dr Ed Anderson's research group which covers both natural product synthesis and development of new synthetic methods, two major cornerstones of chemical research worldwide.

"And once I've completed my doctorate, I'll probably look for a postdoctoral position

perhaps designing targeted drugs – therapies for diabetes or cancer. I'm also interested in brain chemistry, so the future is a bit of an unknown. I do know that while I'm at Oxford I'll be doing between 50 and 60 hours a week in the lab."

Recently Bobby has been living in Wellington. His Nan spotted an intern position going at Motu, the economic and public policy research organisation, and Bobby applied for and got that. "I then thought I'd better learn some economics, which is why I began the postgraduate diploma through Waikato."

He worked for Motu's environmental economics team on a review of the Government's afforestation grants scheme, and then took a position as policy and research analyst at the Federation of Māori Authorities, which fosters economic advancement for Māori. At this year's national AgBio conference he chaired a session about improving relationships between mātauranga Māori and science.

Bobby started University full-time when he was 14 after being home-schooled from the



OXFORD OPERATOR: Bobby Brooks won a Sir Robert Mahuta Scholarship to study his PhD at Oxford.

age of nine. His Masters supervisor at Waikato, Dr Lyndsay Main, says Bobby might be young but he's always coped well in new and different environments. "He's mature, bright and especially independent. His co-operative attitude will undoubtedly fit him well for realising his research potential amongst the other 80 or so DPhil and 60 postdoctoral researchers in organic chemistry at Oxford. He has a very enviable three years ahead of him." ■



WAIKATO WINNERS: From left, Sir John Walker, Murray Riches, Hamish McEwan, Clare Mulholland, Shwetha George and David Hollands at the Freemasons scholarship event on campus.

UNIVERSITY HOSTS FREEMASONS

In June, the University of Waikato became the first institution to host the Freemasons Charity for an event which saw more than \$200,000 worth of scholarships awarded to students representing New Zealand's eight universities.

The event, held at the Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts, saw Hamilton Mayor Julie Hardaker and Sir John Walker award 32 students with Freemasons scholarships. The scholarships recognise students who are academic high achievers and who are actively involved in the community.

Among the Waikato recipients are masters student Clare Mulholland, who received \$10,000 and undergraduate students Shwetha George, David Hollands, Hamish McEwan and Murray Riches, who each received \$6,000.

The Freemasons Charity has supported Waikato students with scholarships since 1992. This support demonstrates the importance of the University's ongoing relationship with the Freemasons Charity as it is community organisations such as the Freemasons that are the backbone of scholarships at the University of Waikato. ■

Focus on Alumni

OUR MAN IN ITALY

New Zealand's ambassador to Italy, Dr Trevor Matheson (pictured), is a Waikato graduate with a Masters of Social Science in geography. He's based in Rome but his "patch" takes in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece and Malta and he says he's astounded by the goodwill shown to New Zealanders in the region.



"We share a common history with many of the states. They remember the sacrifices made by New Zealand soldiers in two world wars. Our history has left an enduring legacy that forms a natural basis on which we can build a more solid economic relationship."

Before this latest posting, Trevor was New Zealand's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia with accreditations to the Gulf States of Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman and UAE. It was during a time of unprecedented economic growth and prosperity in the region. "With youthful populations, the Gulf States are seeking to modernise while maintaining their Arabic traditions and Islamic customs. The recent Arab uprisings in North Africa and the Middle East have been led by the region's youth impatient with the pace of change."

Trevor says Gulf capitals have increasingly looked east and south for inspiration, including to New Zealand. "Our economies are essentially complementary. New Zealand needs oil and investment from the Gulf States. As net food-importing countries they desire our agricultural products and increasingly our services and educational expertise."

Unlike the Gulf, the economic fortunes of the Mediterranean and Balkan States are in decline. "This poses some new challenges and potential lessons for New Zealand in the short to medium term but there's no denying the importance of Europe to New Zealand. The EU is our second largest trading partner and you can't put a euro value on the common culture, heritage and history we share with Europe."

Trevor's doctoral thesis, which he completed at Australian National University, was on aid dependence in island microstates – a case study of Niue. He has Pacific roots; his mother's father is Manihiki/Rakahanga descent from the Cook Islands, and his mother's mother came from Tahiti.

He's been in the diplomatic corps for 25 years and postings have included Rarotonga, Canberra and Geneva. He says you get used to making frequent moves and slotting into new and different cultures. "I think I have one of the best jobs in the world, representing my country and its people overseas. It's a huge pleasure to serve my country's interest. And I do love it when I come home to visit." ■

2011 WRITER IN RESIDENCE

Waikato's 2011 Writer in Residence was Dr Jeffrey Paparoa Holman (pictured), historian and poet.

Jeffrey moved to Hamilton from Christchurch and had planned to work on two projects during his year at Waikato – a collection of poetry called *Second Cuts* which centres around New Zealand's shearing culture and a "quest memoir" which stems from a photograph of a Kamikaze pilot striking an aircraft carrier with Holman's father on board.



However, the Christchurch earthquake threw his plans into disarray somewhat – Jeffrey put aside *Second Cuts* and worked on poems about the earthquake. He also hosted an evening of poetry and songs at Waikato to raise money for the relief effort.

He did manage to travel to Japan to visit some of the Kamikaze museums that memorialise the Japanese war dead for his work on the memoir.

A senior adjunct fellow in the School of Humanities at Canterbury University, Jeffrey is particularly interested in our identity as New Zealanders and the strong links between Māori and Pakeha.

Waikato's Writer in Residence position is funded by the University and Creative New Zealand; Jeffrey says he wouldn't have been able to undertake the memoir without the residency. ■

BLUE SMOKE WINS

Former Writer in Residence Chris Bourke (pictured), won this year's Book of the Year in the New Zealand Post Book Awards for a book he completed while at Waikato.

Blue Smoke: The Lost Dawn of New Zealand Popular Music took two years to research and another two to write and Chris says he wouldn't have completed the project if he hadn't spent 2008 at Waikato.



Chris conducted more than 50 interviews for the book which spans the years from the end of World War I until 1964. In 1918 the soldiers came home and new dance rhythms appeared so that seemed the natural place for Chris to start and he stopped when the Beatles arrived and beat music took over.

The decision to make the book a national one, highlighting musicians and music that made an impact throughout the country, was deliberate and Chris chose the title because *Blue Smoke* was the first song to be written, recorded and released in New Zealand on a New Zealand-owned label.

The book also won the People's Choice Award. ■

WAIKATO ALUMNUS IN CONTENTION FOR AN OSCAR

Tusi Tamasese is the first to say he wasn't the most focused student when he was studying at Waikato University for his Bachelor of Social Science, majoring in screen and media studies and political science. But he does believe the screen theory classes ignited a desire to learn more about making films and to find a way into the industry.

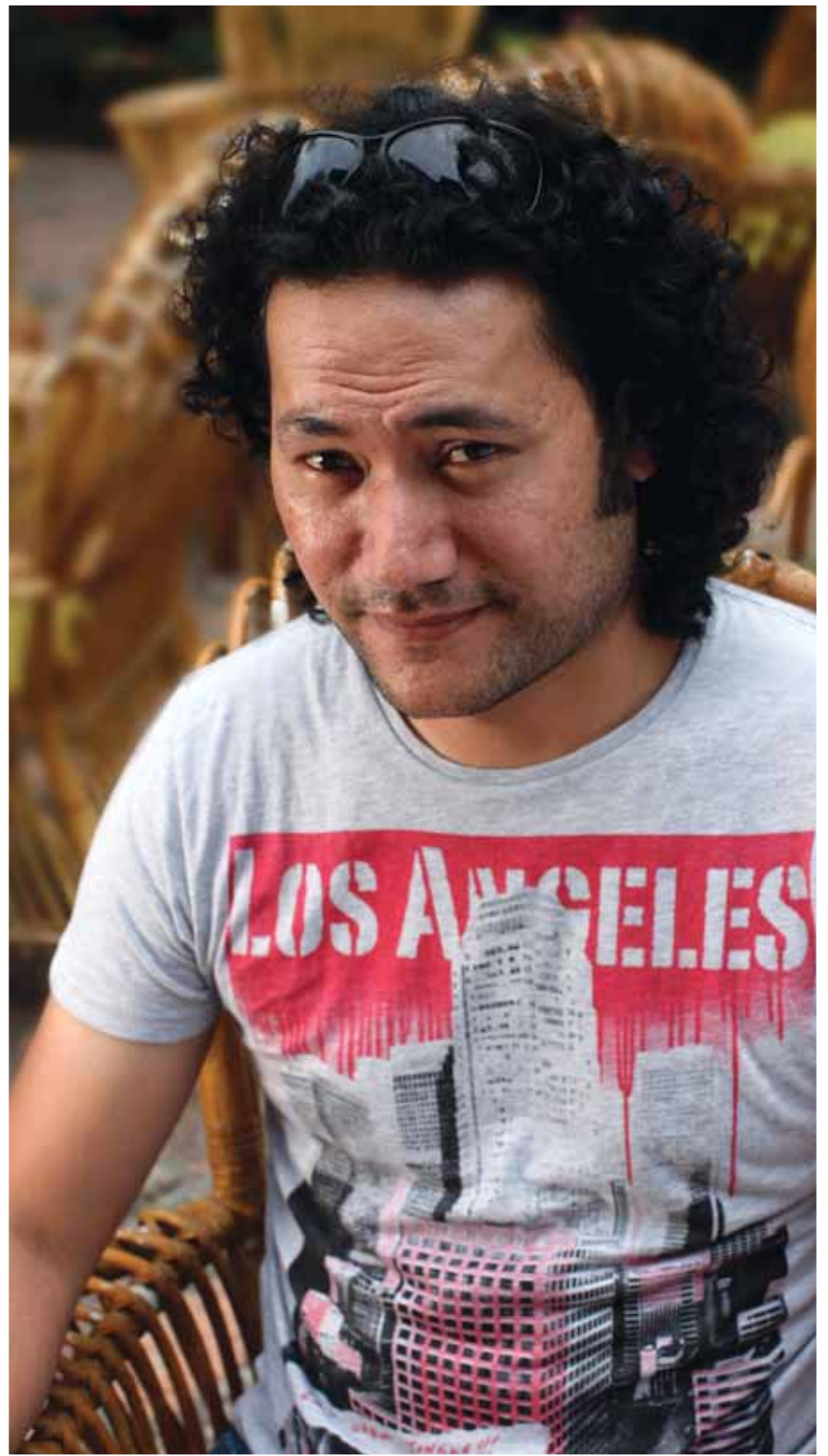
And he's certainly done that. His film *The Orator (O le Tulafale)* has been submitted as a contender for an Oscar award. Tusi wrote and directed the film which, if successful in a vote, will be up for best foreign language film at the 84th Academy Awards in Hollywood in February 2012.

O le Tulafale is set in Samoa and is the story about a man named Saili, a little person, who is forced to overcome his fears in a society that literally looks down at him, in order to defend his land and family. Tusi grew up in Samoa and says he heard and saw things that inspired the film's story.

"The image of a Samoan chief is that he is large in stature, witty and with presence. I thought about stripping that away," he says. "A dwarf is a visual metaphor for limitations. I wanted to explore how to take someone physically small in stature to become something else. I was also interested in exploring the way Samoa buries our loved ones in front of the house. I saw this as a challenge to death. That death does not part us. I wanted to weave these elements into a script."

The call for auditions for the main character went out in Samoa but nothing came up. "We followed up a phone call from a woman in Savaii but she didn't actually 'have' a small person," says Tusi. "However she told us about a house down the road where there was a dwarf. Down we went and there was taro farmer and carpenter Fa'afiaula Sagote. He'd heard the radio announcements and people had told him about it but he hadn't wanted to audition. But when we met him he said our being there was a sign that things were meant to be."

Wellington-based Tusi says he loved his time at Waikato and that the course made him



FILM FAME: Waikato alumnus Tusi Tamasese's film has been submitted as a contender for an Oscar.

interested in exploring how to layer meanings in stories and how they are told on screen, which has been a motivator in his journey to date.

He's feeling honoured and humbled about the submission of his film by a special selection committee that included Sir Peter Jackson and Keisha Castle-Hughes although he still finds it hard to believe the film has

been so highly acclaimed. This is the first time a film from New Zealand has been put up for this category. It debuted at the Venice Film Festival in September.

"I think it's a bit of a long shot for the film to actually make the Oscars given the calibre of the contenders but it's all very exciting and it really is an honour to have it go this far." ■

In the Community

FABULOUS FIELDAYS

Waikato University's high profile presence at the 2011 Fieldays meant visitors could have several different experiences.



WINE A WINNER: University of Waikato alumnus Mark Benseman with the wine maturator he helped develop.

The University is a long-term strategic partner at Fieldays which takes place in June each year at Mystery Creek near Hamilton.

At one of the two University sites they could see and touch the specialised clothing needed by Waikato researchers in Antarctica and attend a series of seminars. At the other they could try "pig shooting" and test the before-and-after samples from a wine maturator on display.

The Antarctic suit included three layers of gloves, a woolly balaclava with sun visor, insulated boots, several layers of polypropylene thermals, fleece trousers and shirts, overalls, a windbreaker and a pair of dark sunglasses.

The old-fashioned shooting gallery illustrated the consultancy work University researchers are engaged in. Waikato's Institute for Business Research was undertaking a feasibility study for an adventure tourism project involving pig shooting; the gallery used nerf guns and foam 'bullets' and was a huge hit with visitors young and old.



ON THE STAND: Waikato University students Geeta Duppati, left, and Helen Rajan help out at the main Fieldays stand.

Both sites featured the University's research and consultancy contributions to land-based industries and showcased what Waikato University has to offer potential students.

Visitors to Fieldays also got to check out the Bachelor of the Year competitors while the contestants were having their general knowledge tested in the University Challenge Quiz. ■

WINTER WARM UPS

August was the month for 2011's University of Waikato Winter Lecture Series featuring engaging debates and lectures focusing on all things sport.

The series, free and open to the public, covered some serious and not-so-serious aspects of sport including debates on rugby, horse racing and beer, and women in sport.

Held over five weeks the series began with a panel discussion on high achievement in sport. Among the panellists were Waikato University's Brett Smith, Waikato alumnus and Antarctic adventurer Jamie Fitzgerald (pictured) and Northern District Cricket Association's Pat Malcon.

Sport Lessons for Business was presented by Waikato Management School's Professor Mike Pratt who spoke about the business lessons from high-performance sporting organisations.



A panel discussion on women in sport featured former world champion squash player Dame Susan Devoy.

The economic impacts of sport on the Waikato were discussed by a panel focused on rugby, horse racing and beer that included Petrea Vela, from New Zealand Bloodstock Ltd.

A debate on the merits of sport versus spectacle rounded off the series. Guest speakers included Olympic gold medallist rower Rob Waddell. ■

BALLOONS WOW AT UNIVERSITY GROUNDS AGAIN

Thousands of people poured onto the University of Waikato grounds again in 2011 for the Balloons Over Waikato NightGlow.

The five-day festival in April features dozens of highly colourful hot air balloons from around the world. The programme includes mass ascensions of balloons just after sunrise and the NightGlow with its music, sideshows, orchestrated "glowing" of balloons and fireworks display over the University. ■

KĪNGITANGA DAY CELEBRATIONS

Kingi Tuheitia spent Kīngitanga Day on campus and took part in a variety of activities to celebrate and honour the University's strong connections with the Kīngitanga.

Now into its third year Kīngitanga Day has become a permanent annual fixture on the University's calendar and hundreds of people enjoyed a range of free presentations and seminars by leading academics and guest speakers including University Chancellor and former Prime Minister Jim Bolger, Kīngitanga historian Rahui Papa and Ngāti Porou iwi-leader Selwyn Parata.

Māori Party co-leader and Minister of Māori Affairs Dr Pita Sharples presented a lecture entitled *Māori Political Leadership in Contemporary Contexts* which was well-attended and highly acclaimed.

Entertainment included haka and poi demonstrations, weaving and craft workshops, student and staff idol competitions and prize giveaways.

At the Tauranga campus there was kapa haka, a hāngi, a tā moko workshop, a raranga art exhibition and lectures including one by Tame Pokaia who offered insights into one of the biggest Māori movements in Aotearoa with a focus on today's changing society and the impacts on the Kīngitanga as we move forward. ■



BANQUET FOR A KING: Pictured from left at the Kīngitanga Day banquet are Professor Pou Temara, Te Kāhautu Maxwell, Pro Vice-Chancellor Māori Professor Linda Smith, Whatumoana Paki, Te Atawhai Paki, Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford and Renee Crawford.

TE MATATINI FESTIVAL

Rotorua-based Te Mātārae i Orehu took out the top honours at the 2011 Te Matatini International Māori Performing Arts Festival, New Zealand's national kapa haka competition.

Waikato University has been a strategic partner of Te Matatini for three years and a number of students, staff and alumni took part as performers, tutors or judges.

About 30,000 people attended the four-day February event at the Waiohika Estate in Gisborne.

Auckland-based Te Waka Huia was second with Te Whānau-a-Apanui third. Waikato's Māori Student Recruitment Adviser Carey Collier was part of the latter group.

The biennial competition dates back to 1972 and had 42 teams from 13 regions across New Zealand and Australia competing in what is regarded as a dynamic display of Māoridom at its finest. ■



SINGING AT THE SUPPER: University of Waikato alumna Maisey Rika sang at the 2011 Kīngitanga Day banquet.



ALUMNUS VISIT: TVNZ reporter and University of Waikato alumnus Lucas de Jong catches up with University of Waikato staff at Matatini from left, Blair Sorenson, Tamati Amuketi and Moe Edmonds.

Around the Faculties

DIVERSE SUBJECTS FOR THESIS IN 3

Debrin Foxcroft's PhD research has taken her to South Africa, Chile and Brazil. She's finding out how negotiation processes work and how decisions are made to grant amnesty and impunity for crimes committed by the state, or against the state.



THESIS IN 3 WIN: Winner of Waikato University's 2011 Thesis in 3 competition, Debrin Foxcroft (third from left) with sponsors Tanya and Trevor Blackburn, and one of the judges, Hamilton Mayor Julie Hardaker.

Debrin outlined her research in this year's Thesis in 3 competition, held during Postgraduate Research Month at Waikato, and came first among the 10 finalists, receiving a research cheque for \$5,000 from accountants Prior Blackburn.

She'd been a finalist last year, and while she didn't get placed in 2010, a chance meeting on a plane and her ability to give a short précis of her PhD secured her meeting with 92-year-old Patricio Aylwin, the first democratically elected president of Chile following two decades of military dictatorship – a real coup for her doctoral research.

"The President said during the hour-long interview that his

conscience was clear. He said his government had done the best that they could in the situation, anything more and he feared the military would have staged another coup."

Management Communication student Shujie Guo was runner up in Thesis in 3 and also won the People's Choice Award, sponsored by Christine Brabender, the University's Director of Development.

Shujie is researching Chinese women's experiences of pregnancy and childbirth in New Zealand. "In China, you put on a radiation protection suit when you are pregnant; you're not allowed to watch horror movies, Final destination 5, no way! You stay indoors for the first whole month after you give birth. And more importantly, doctors make all the decisions for you."

Shujie told the audience that communication barriers mean women can feel insecure in the New Zealand environment and maternity care providers need to have clearer understandings of the needs and anxieties of women giving birth in a foreign land. ■

WAIKATO STUDENT SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS GO GLOBAL

A group of University of Waikato students is buzzing after competing in the Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) World Cup in Kuala Lumpur in October.

The students represented New Zealand in the global social entrepreneurial competition contested by 40 national teams.

The student teams used business concepts to develop sustainable projects in the community to improve people's lives, and were judged on their presentations by a panel of business leaders.

Overall winners were a team from the University of Regensburg in Germany, but Jess Pasisi, one of five presenters in the 11-strong SIFE Waikato contingent, said competing at international level had given the team more passion to come back to New Zealand and start really making a difference.

"It was eye-opening to see other motivated students and what they've been able to do,"

she says. "We'll be taking away some of those ideas to apply to our own projects here."

The Waikato team presented three innovative projects to aid at-risk high school students, restore a local lake and create a mentoring programme for first-year university students.

The other SIFE Waikato presenters were Clare Easton, Brodie Mickleson, Greg Johnston and Daniel Collins.

Waikato alumni and former SIFers Wei Sheng Phee, now in Penang, and Sajjad Ali, now based in Pakistan, also made the trip to Kuala Lumpur to support the team, and catch up with old friends.

The team was mentored by Paul Mitchell, former chairman of the Hamilton Operatic Society, and the academic adviser was Dr Heather Bircham-Connolly.

A SIFE Waikato team last reached the global finals in 2006. ■



CELEBRATIONS: SIFE Waikato students celebrate the competition.



BLOWING IN THE WIND: Hillary Scholar and Waikato graduate Gabe Young will blow into Seattle to work for Microsoft.

BLOWING INTO SEATTLE

Newly graduated Waikato University computer science student Gabe Young has had half a year to get really excited and plan for his job at Microsoft headquarters in Seattle in 2012.

Gabe was still studying for his Bachelor of Computing and Mathematical Sciences degree when he underwent five hours of interviews in June in a Sydney hotel for the position as a software development engineer.

"It sure was gruelling," says Gabe. "I had five one-hour interviews back to back. Different people gave me different problems to solve. When they finished I only had to wait about 10 minutes before they offered me a job. They expect you to accept or decline then and there."

Of course there was no question of Gabe declining the job and when he gets to Microsoft he'll start as a testing software writer. Later he expects to specialise, as part of a team, perhaps on maps or Hotmail.

Gabe, who is the world lightweight blokart champion, had a summer internship at Google and says that was good preparation for the Microsoft interviews.

The next blokart champs are in Las Vegas so Gabe is pleased he'll only have to travel 'interstate' instead of half way around the world which will make a nice change. Last year he went to Belgium where he defended his world title.

Initially Gabe didn't know what to expect when he began studying computer science when he left Te Puke High School but he soon found he really liked it and that it opened some interesting doors.

He was awarded a Waikato University Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship to study at Waikato and received a Distinguished Performance Award at the New Zealand University Blues presentations in July. The Hillary Scholarship is the University's most prestigious scholarship and it covered his fees. Young paid his rent by taking a senior residential assistance position in one of the University's Halls of Residence.

While at Google Gabe was teamed with another Waikato student, Mark Hansen, who has since been offered a position at Google.

"We got paired up with a senior developer and were given full control of a small project," says Gabe. "That was a really good experience. And Google gave us all our meals so we only had to find accommodation and we stayed at various backpackers." ■

THE JEWEL IN THE TRIPLE CROWN

The Waikato Management School has joined an elite group of business schools worldwide by achieving accreditation to AACSB International, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

The accreditation from the world's oldest quality assurance body in management education denotes earned excellence and confirms Waikato's Management School's offerings are relevant, substantial and stand up against the best global qualifications.

To employers it signals Waikato graduates are people whose qualifications have undergone rigorous scrutiny to ensure they're right for today's business market.

The new accreditation means Waikato Management School now has the coveted Triple Crown endorsement having earlier achieved accreditation to the European Quality Improvement System (EQUIS) and the UK-based Association of MBAs (AMBA).

Less than 1% of all business schools have achieved Triple Crown status. Only three institutions in Australia and New Zealand have gained all three accreditations.

The Triple Crown status shows Waikato is doing things right and enhances the School's capacity to attract and retain high quality research staff who can then use their research skills and knowledge to inspire students, Dean Professor Frank Scrimgeour (pictured), says.



To achieve accreditation, faculties are examined in depth by academics from business schools around the world who examine all aspects of their staff qualifications, programmes, planning and management. In addition reviewers interview staff and students to ensure they're receiving consistent and valid information. ■

Around the Faculties

JOINING THE WORKFORCE

While most students are keen to complete their degrees, Ashiq Hamid's lecturers at the University of Waikato advised him to slow down.

Ashiq recently graduated with a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) and is now a law clerk at public and employment law specialists Chen Palmer in Wellington.

He already had a science degree from the University of Melbourne and enrolled at Waikato determined to complete his law degree in the fastest possible time.

"My plan was to compress two years of papers into one, do my degree in half the time. And I was doing all right, my marks were good, but my lecturers advised me to slow down, told me I'd get better results if I stayed longer and worked harder."

He won a lot of class prizes during his four and half years at Waikato. He was also president of the Law Students' Association. His high grades and high profile meant he got noticed, which turned out to be useful when he was job hunting.

As he was completing his final papers for his degree, Ashiq applied for a lot of graduate positions but couldn't secure many interviews.

"I think perhaps there is still an attitude where employers don't think you will fit their firm culture and make assumptions about you because you come from another culture. In my experience, that tends to be enough to eliminate you before the interview stage. I'm not saying that this is the predominant view, but enough employers hold that view."

After reading his CV and with a recommendation from the Te Piringa - Faculty of Law, Mai Chen of Chen Palmer decided to interview Ashiq. The rest, as they say, is history.

"Being an immigrant myself, I understand the need to give someone a chance," says Mai. "But I wouldn't hire someone and set them up to fail.

I would never appoint someone if they didn't have the brains, the people skills and the attributes to be a great public lawyer. This is not affirmative action, but hiring on the basis of merit alone. I am colour blind as far as race is concerned. I only discriminate on the basis of brains and strategic ability."

Ashiq did his schooling in Auckland and had only been to Wellington once before for a couple of days before he moved there to take up his new job. But he's settling into life and work nicely. "I really enjoy working at Chen Palmer. Everyday I am surrounded by the best public lawyers in the country getting excellent results for their clients. It has been a great experience being part of this amazing team." ■



WELLINGTON ROLE: Waikato alumnus Ashiq Hamid was hired by Mai Chen to become a law clerk at Chen Palmer in Wellington.

TE KŌTIHITIHI – NGĀ REO MĀORI LAUNCHED

Waikato University now has an online academic journal published solely in Te Reo.

Te Kōtīhitihi – Ngā Reo Māori was established by a group of emerging researchers at Waikato who were looking for opportunities to publish in Te Reo.

Pro Vice-Chancellor Māori Professor Linda Smith says the researchers were talking about how difficult it was to get research published in Te Reo and to provide their students with contemporary Māori research published in the Māori language.

"So I encouraged them to solve the problem themselves."

Guided by a four-strong editorial team from Waikato's School of Māori & Pacific Development and Faculty of Education, *Te Kōtīhitihi – Ngā Reo Māori* aims to attract original research on a wide range of topics.

The editorial team aims to publish the journal twice a year and the journal will carry academic papers, opinion pieces, book reviews and creative work.

The first issue in April had six academic papers written especially for the journal on topics ranging from language revitalisation, Māori

history, tikanga and mātauranga Māori. Also featured was an original haka composition performed at Te Matatini (national kapa haka competition).

Contributors came from the universities of Waikato, Massey and Victoria.

The journal is aimed at students, institutions, academics and iwi who might not otherwise get access to this kind of writing.

The journal's name means "the summit" and was coined by co-editor Korohere Ngāpā from the Faculty of Education.

Te Kōtīhitihi – Ngā Reo Māori was launched during Kīngitanga Day celebrations in April. ■

STUDENTS TACKLE CUP PROBLEMS WITH IMAGINATION

Two teams of Waikato University computer science students made it to the finals of the Microsoft Imagine Cup in 2011.

The cup challenges budding software designers and programmers to tackle some of the world's most pressing problems.

Twenty teams of university students competed to represent New Zealand in the global student technology competition and while Waikato didn't win the teams certainly made the judges sit up and take notice.

Teams must come up with an innovative and workable solution to an issue related to the UN's Millennium Goals on hunger relief, poverty, education, disease control, healthcare and the environment.

Team Taiao – Jess Champion, Michelle Clark and Michael Fowke – focused on environmental protection. Working with Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust they developed image recognition software that 'counts' the number of mouse tracks on the tracking cards used by conservationists in sanctuaries such as Maungatautari.

Tracking cards are inked cards that can be placed in strategic locations to monitor the activity of predators such as rodents. If a mouse crosses the card it leaves ink tracks.

Team Taiao's device photographs the tracking card and is able to distinguish mouse tracks from other marks and record the number. The software minimises the delay between collecting and reading the cards, allowing for quicker response when pests are detected. The information can be used to predict populations and characteristics such as age of the mice and means the pest control team can plan a more targeted response.

The team demonstrated its software to potential users and wants to extend it to other species to help protect New Zealand's unique biodiversity. The software was showcased to the public at one of the University's 2011 Fieldays stand.

The other Waikato team was Bookie Monster and its project aimed to help children learning to read and bolster literacy by automating a proven method for learning to read, dubbed "repeated reading".

Ashley Steel, Luke Bjerring and Andrew Meister worked with a curriculum co-ordinator in Switzerland and primary teachers in New Zealand to develop the software which allows each student to work with a dedicated reading "tutor".

The student listens to a text being read aloud, following the words on the screen, and then repeats the same text. If the student gets a word wrong the word on the screen flashes purple and the cursor won't move on until the student gets it right.

Bookie Monster wants to see its software distributed to developing nations where literacy is as low as 50%. ■



IMAGINE THAT: Waikato students Michelle Clarke and Jess Champion helped create software that counts mouse tracks.

SCIENCE LEARNING HUB ON A ROLL

The Science Learning Hub – an innovative University of Waikato website connecting scientists with schools – won a prestigious telecommunications award in 2011.

The hub won the education category at the Telecommunications Users Association of New Zealand (TUANZ) 2011 Innovation Awards which honour innovation across the sector.

Judges said the hub showcased New Zealand to the world, increasing the level of science awareness and was a driver for high quality content delivery – a shining example of collaboration in a highly competitive educational environment.

The learning hub promotes student engagement in science by providing contemporary, contextualised resources online. It features interactive thinking tools and multimedia collections including videos, interactive and timelines.

The website provides a unique link between science research organisations, educational research and science teachers. Students can access the latest world-class research and learn about everything from tsunamis to icy ecosystems to cycling aerodynamics.

The hub was established in 2007 and is a national project managed by Waikato's Wilf Malcolm Institute of Educational Research with funding from the Ministry of Science and Innovation.

It recently released an app to literally take science education into school students' hands. The app is accessible to students with iPads, iPods and iPhones and helps meet the needs of classrooms of the future. It is downloadable from iTunes. An app for Android technology is being developed. ■

Around the Faculties

CHUMPING PUTS THREE ALUMNI ONTO A WINNER

Move over planking. Chumping's the new fad and a group of former Waikato University students has clearly demonstrated they are exceptionally good – and funny – at it.

For the uninitiated, chumping is child jumping, and the group took out the grand prize in the national V48 hours Furious Film-making Challenge with a film featuring the fad which stars people jumping over children.

Tom Furniss, Tim Armstrong and Cam Neate studied screen and media studies papers at Waikato and for this project they teamed up with other film-maker friends in Auckland.

The Child Jumpers features four pals, including Swedish backpacker Johann, chumping over a variety of willing and some not so willing chumpees. Johann is played by Cam Neate who explains the genre for the competition was 'fad'. Chumping was something Tom Furniss had once done in LA after leaving a Meatloaf concert in a weird mood.

Every film in the contest had to have a character called Bobby Young who was an ex-bully, a particular line of dialogue, a bent piece of wire and end on a freeze frame.

The guys used a well-spoken female friend to find children who would be willing to be jumped over and Cam says people were really good about it. "They obviously thought we were utterly crazy but they played along. Whole families agreed to let us jump over their heads."



STAR CHUMPERS: From left, winning film-makers Andrew Wrench, Tim Armstrong, Tim Batt, Cam Neate and Tom Furniss.

The group began work on Friday night, knocking out a plot, then working on a script before beginning to shoot the mockumentary-style film during the early hours of Saturday morning.

"We had about four hours sleep in the 48 hours," says Cam. "The filming took about 16 hours and the editing took a good while but we had it all wrapped up by the deadline of 6pm on the Sunday night."

Competition founder Ant Timpson said *The Child Jumpers* was a true collaboration between friends that shows in every one of its frames. "The film was absolutely charming and seemingly effortless and it won the audience and judges over with its honesty, heart and laugh out loud dialogue."

For their win, the filmmakers who call themselves team Grand Cheval, earned \$60,000, cameras and a television set. They were planning to use the money to make a short film this summer.

Cam says their years at Waikato University prepared them well for the challenge.

"We entered every year while we were studying. The practical papers, like video production and small screen production, were really useful. Studying English also definitely helped improve our writing and understanding of different styles."

www.v48hours.co.nz/screening-room/ ■

INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR WAIKATO MBA

A unique MBA programme for Māori leaders has won the inaugural MBA Innovation Award offered by the London-based Association of MBAs (AMBA).

The Waikato programme was one of four finalists for the award, presented at a gala dinner in London in October; the others were MBAs offered in Portugal, France/Singapore and the Netherlands.

Developed to foster indigenous ways of doing business with a collaborative ethos, the MBA programme is a partnership between Waikato Management School and the Waikato-Tainui College for Research and Development at Hopuhopu.

WMS Dean Professor Frank Scrimgeour says the award is recognition that New Zealand punches above its weight when it comes to new approaches in management education.

"The award endorses our commitment to develop future Māori leaders. It shows that our MBA programme is world-class, relevant and at the forefront of management thinking, and it is recognition that Waikato Management School is held in high esteem by our international peers."

AMBA is one of three international management education accreditation bodies whose combined accreditations form the prestigious Triple Crown held by a select group of business schools around the world, including Waikato Management School. ■

MAJOR YEAR FOR WAIKATO MUSIC

University of Waikato cellist Edward King has left New Zealand for Germany to study for his Masters of Music at the Leopold Mozart Centre in Augsburg.

Eddy has won two significant scholarships that will help him with his study – the Universities New Zealand Patricia Pratt Scholarship in Musical Performance which is worth \$25,000 and the Sir Henry Cooper Memorial Scholarship which will give him \$10,000 a year for two years.

His teacher will be Julius Berger, one of Germany's finest cellists. "I first saw him give a master class in 2009, and was really interested in his teaching. So last year I attended the Salzburg Mozarteum Summer Academy and had a few lessons with him, just to check he was the right teacher for me."

In June this year Eddy, who was a Sir Edmund Hillary Scholar while at Waikato, auditioned for a place at the Leopold Mozart Centre and was one of a handful of applicants to secure a place.

Eddy has recently been in Wellington doing some casual work with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra for its Brahms series. "While I studied at Waikato I've had so many opportunities to perform around New Zealand and in the UK, but going to Germany means I'll have to start afresh, make new connections and hopefully create some sort of profile for myself overseas." He says the standard of cellists at Augsburg is extremely high, so he'll be competing with, and hopefully making friends with some really great musicians.

Last year Eddy won first prize at the National Concerto Competition and toured the UK as

part of the Leonari Trio after they won the Pettman/Royal Overseas league International Scholarship. Pianist Maria Mo – another Waikato graduate – is based in Vienna, studying for her masters while violinist Hilary Hayes is studying in Christchurch.

While based in Germany Eddy hopes he can enter some of the many competitions available around Europe, as a soloist and also with the trio in chamber music competitions. "I really enjoy playing chamber music, and it's potentially a career option for me.

"I think Waikato set me up really well to take this next step towards my goal of becoming an international soloist. My teachers have supported and pushed me to succeed, and what's really been good are the numerous opportunities I've had to perform; next to practice, it's the most important thing."

Meanwhile, fellow music student Sebastian Lowe has packed his viola and travelled more than 6,000km to Norway, just to find the perfect teacher. Lowe left in August for the Grieg Academy in Bergen for a year to complete an international graduate diploma in viola studies under the tutelage of internationally recognised musicians.



KING HIT: Music student Edward King has headed to Germany to learn from one of the nation's finest cellists.

Singer Chase Douglas won the Pou Ahurea award for Māori Person of the Year at the Wallace Corporation University of Waikato Blues Awards. He also performed with Hayley Westenra during her November 2011 tour.

And pianist and composer Andrew Leathwick auditioned and was accepted in to the Vlassenko International Piano Competition held in Brisbane in August this year. Twenty pianists were selected from the 80 pianists from Australia, New Zealand and overseas who auditioned. ■

RESEARCHERS WIN PRESTIGIOUS MARSDEN FUNDING

Research that aims to create a computer database that can self-correct is one of four University of Waikato projects that received support from the 2011 Marsden Fund, New Zealand's funding for ideas-driven research.

Waikato University secured nearly \$2.5 million in Marsden Research funding in 2011. The annual grants are regarded as a hallmark

of excellence, allowing New Zealand's best researchers to explore their ideas.

Computer Science Professor Ian Witten will lead a team to design and implement a new model of automated knowledge discovery – a computer system that self-corrects. He has been awarded \$585,000 over three years to aid his research.

Engineering Associate Professor Ilanko Ilanko won \$795,000 for research that aims to develop a new methodology for predicting

the vibration behaviour of complex structures using the novel concept of 'negative structures'.

Professor of Economics John Gibson was awarded \$765,000 for his research on *The Impact of Behavioural and Environmental Change on Health: Indoor and Outdoor Pollution and Immigrant Asthma in New Zealand*.

Linguistics lecturer Dr Julie Barbour won \$345,000 for her research *Exploring mood systems in the Oceanic languages of Vanuatu*. ■

Around the Faculties

KILN DONATION REVITALISES CLAY STUDIO

A generous donation of two kilns by a local potter enabled the University to restore its clay studio and open it for community use.



DONATION WELCOMED: Clay student Debra Sturkenboom, kiln donor Elizabeth Snowdon and ceramics tutor Bev McKenzie with some of the work produced in the University of Waikato's newly refurbished clay studio.

Cambridge resident Elizabeth Snowdon donated two electric kilns to the studio in the Faculty of Education, replacing two old kilns at the end of their useful life.

Mrs Snowdon's late husband was registrar at the University and her contribution crowned efforts by the Faculty and the ceramic community to revitalise the studio.

A gas kiln was removed to make room for the new arrivals and to create an inviting studio space for community and University classes.

The new kilns were installed adjacent to the studio in a newly converted ventilated kiln room which has computerised controls.

Faculty of Education Head of Arts and Language Professor Terry Locke says the kilns immediately proved a welcome and invaluable addition to the facilities.

"It was a very generous offer in recognition of our continued support for community ceramics, especially in the face of reduced government funding for community arts education," he says. "Kilns retail at around \$1,000 per cubic foot so the donation of 9.5 cubic feet of kiln space is very significant for us."

The refurbished studio makes it possible to include clay work in the Faculty's art education classes as well as within the early childhood and secondary education art programme.

The studio was set up in the early years of the then Hamilton Teachers' College by working potter and art education lecturer Eric Flegg. It was an active part of his own artistic practice and contributed to a flourishing interest in clay work for primary school students.

The space has been used for workshops by visiting artists including Korean sculptor Kim Kwan Jae. An exchange organised by Donn Ratana, an artist and art lecturer in the Faculty of Education, saw Tahitian art lecturers and students using the studio with Māori sculptor and ceramic artist Wi Taiapa. ■

STUDENT HAS THE ROAD TO SUCCESS LICKED

Waikato University Masters of Engineering student Sean Nixon is working on developing ice cream that offers benefits rather than just calories.

The 22-year-old won a \$17,000 Dick and Mary Earle Scholarship in Technology to support his research into formulating a functional frozen dessert and while he can't say too much about the product until its patented it seems he may well have the road to success licked.

What Sean, who completed his Bachelor of Engineering with First Class Honours in 2010, can say is that the product will have benefits for athletes, diabetics and people who are obese.

A co-director of Tuatara Nutritional Technologies, Sean and his work colleagues were one night discussing how good it would be after a session at the gym to be able to enjoy full-flavoured ice cream that was actually good for them. The idea went from there and Sean spent many months undertaking the necessary research. Now he's doing even more research and getting on to developing samples and conducting more than 300 sensory trials to get a better idea of the market's perception.

Once Sean has the product's formula he will patent it and approach an

ice cream manufacturer. He hopes to have it on the market before the end of 2012.

The scholarship Sean won was established to support and encourage postgraduate research into aspects of technology vital to the well-being and enhanced social fabric of the community. It has helped him with living costs and industry-specific professional development.

Originally from Rotorua, Sean is also a Waikato University Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship recipient for his excellence in rugby. He plays with the University's Premier A side and while in Ireland completing his schooling played for that country's under 18s at the European Championships. The Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship pays his fees and gives him a variety of other benefits including personalised academic support and a leadership and personal development plan.

As well as rugby Sean enjoys watersports, fishing, hunting and working on his business interests. ■



SEAN NIXON: On his way to making "healthy" ice cream.

NEW DEAN COMPLETES FULL CYCLE

Professor Roger Moltzen, who was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Education in September, is now leading the Faculty where he began his education career.

Professor Moltzen first came to the then Hamilton Teachers' College from Te Puke as a 17-year old trainee teacher. He was one of the final students to complete a two-year teacher training programme, before it was changed to three years.

Previously the Deputy Dean, Professor Moltzen replaced Professor Alister Jones who has been appointed the University's Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

As Dean, Professor Moltzen is responsible for the strategic management of the Faculty and maintaining and building its profile nationally and internationally.

His areas of expertise include special education, inclusive education, teaching, learning and the curriculum and human development. In 2005 he was awarded the Prime Minister's Supreme Tertiary Teaching Excellence Award.

His memories of his student days reflect a very different campus to today.

"Although the University and the College shared the same campus the two institutions were distinct entities and separated by a public road," he says. "I felt very much a college student and in my two years there I doubt I crossed that road for fear of being accused of trespassing."



THEN AND NOW: Professor Roger Moltzen in his 1965 trainee teacher photo, and now.

Much of his campus life revolved around music and political activism. His first job was as a teacher at Paengaroa Primary School – a big shock for a 19-year-old who had, in his own words, not been the most diligent student.

"I found myself facing 35 children, all looking expectantly at their new teacher."

Despite the initial challenges Professor Moltzen says Teachers' College equipped him well for the classroom. "I was always grateful for the exposure to the wider issues of education and society," he says. "In that first year of teaching I probably lacked some skill that might have made my job easier but what I had developed through my teacher training was a questioning disposition. I was not afraid to be contentious."

Professor Moltzen returned to study at Waikato University in 1980 to advance his career and became a member of the College's teaching staff in 1988. Later he became director of Special Education Programmes and Chairperson of the Department of Human Development and Counselling. He held the Deputy Dean position for four years.

Outside of work, Professor Moltzen's interests largely revolve around tennis, travel and his family. ■

WAIKATO PAIR TALK THEIR WAY INTO WINNING

Waikato University law students Ben Gilbert and Andy Cameron represented New Zealand at the World Negotiation Championships in Copenhagen in 2011 and returned home winners.

The pair went to Denmark after winning the national negotiation championships in Dunedin in 2010.

They travelled to Denmark with their lecturer, coach and mentor Christina ter Haar from Te Piringa - Faculty of Law, and competed against teams from 19 other countries.

The competition involves two law students representing a party or client and negotiating an international transaction or the resolution of an international dispute against another team of two.

The Te Piringa - Faculty of Law students won the 'Joint Maximising Plus Award' which acknowledged their negotiation skills and their achieving the best results for both sides in a negotiation. The ultimate award went to the team from Singapore.



ANDY CAMERON: Part of the winning team.

The conference includes competitions for negotiation, client interviewing, witness examination and mooted, each sponsored by a major law firm. Teams from each university law faculty are judged by legal academics and practitioners.

Ben is doing a double honours degree in law and management and Andy is three years into his law degree as a mature student.

Ben says the competitions give students a chance to represent their universities and are a good look for CVs.

"The major law firms have an eye on who competes at a high level and it's a great way to network because you are meeting

The national champs in Dunedin were held as part of the New Zealand Law Students' Conference and there Ben and Andy beat a team from Victoria University to qualify for the international competition.

the best and brightest as well as judges and practitioners in the corporate field."

Ms ter Haar says the students prepared themselves well and competing on the world stage can only enhance their future career opportunities. ■



BEN GILBERT: Travelled to Denmark with Andy Cameron for the World Negotiation Championships.

Around the Faculties

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FOLLOWING WAIKATO SCIENTISTS ON THE ICE

Four Waikato University groups will be in Antarctica for the summer of 2011-2012, including one that has been joined by a team from National Geographic who are photographing them while they work.

Professor Craig Cary, Associate Professor Ian McDonald and Dr Craig Herbold are part of ICTAR, an international Antarctic research centre



ICE COLD: Waikato University's Professor Craig Cary in an ice chimney in Antarctica.

based at the University of Waikato, dedicated to understanding Antarctica's unique and fragile terrestrial environment.

"We've been working up on Mt Erebus for the past three years, studying the unique bacteria that live in the hot soils – 65°," says Professor Cary. "We've got temperature probes placed all around the volcano that we'll be recovering this year along with extensive sampling. We'll also be drilling ice chimneys and scaling down them into caves to collect soil samples. It's cold and dangerous stuff, it's hard work but it's so exhilarating."

Professor Cary says they're finding that the microbes appear archaic. "We believe they may come from the deep sub surface of the continent and are specifically adapted to life in these extreme conditions. They've been isolated from the rest of the planet for a long time and may contain the last vestiges of an ancient life, and we hope to find the genetic fingerprints of old organisms."

The current project, which has taken the scientists from Yellowstone volcano in California, through several sites in South America, Deception Island and Antarctica, is funded by a Marsden Grant.

Other projects in summer 2011-2012 will see Waikato staff working in the Dry Valleys to continue their research on dry surface soils and permafrost, another Marsden-funded project, and maintaining and installing automatic climate stations and monitoring moss bed activity.

Waikato PhD student Stephen Archer will work with Dr McDonald at the Bratina Island ponds, and in late January, a team led by Professor Roberta Farrell will be working at Discovery Hut and Nimrod Hut laser-scanning Scott's Memorial Cross on Observation Hill where signatures are being worn off by wind and ice.

<http://ictar.aq/> ■

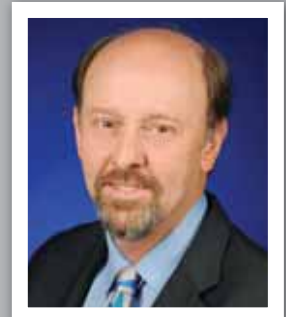
CONFERENCE SUCCESSES FOR FACULTY OF LAW

Te Piringa - Faculty of Law hosted three major conferences this year – Justice in the Round, the New Zealand Law Students' Association and Te Hunga Roia Hui a Tau, the Māori Law Society.

Justice in the Round was held during the Easter break from 18-20 April and attracted lawyers, academics and judges internationally. Keynote speakers included Dame Hazel Genn (Dean of Laws, University College London), Sir Edward Durie, then Governor-General Sir Anand Satyanand, Professor Margaret Bedggood (former Chief of New Zealand Human Rights Commission), Professor Paul Chartrand (Canada), Justice Joe Williams (NZ High Court) and the Faculty's own Professor Margaret Wilson and Associate Professor Kate Diesfeld.

The New Zealand Law Students' Association conference was held over a week and saw more than 100 of New Zealand's best and brightest law students as well as law students from four Australian universities

for the first time ever competing and networking. Its conference is the biggest event on the NZLSA calendar and its competitions provide New Zealand's up and coming legal minds with valuable practical skills. It also brings together the NZLSA executive to exchange ideas and offer support.



The Māori Law Society conference was hosted over three days in July as part of the Faculty's 20th anniversary. The Faculty hosted Rebecca Tsosie of the Yaqui nation and Professor of Law at Arizona State University and Robert Yazzie, the former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Navajo Nation.

"We were absolutely delighted to host these conferences," says Dean Professor Brad Morse (pictured). "They showcased the Faculty and the University and saw some outstanding speakers and performances." ■

Alumni Groups

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRIZES FOR EXCELLENCE



AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE: The University of Waikato Alumni Association handed out 10 prizes for academic excellence to second-year students. They were presented by Professor Richard Coll, left, who is the University's Pro Vice-Chancellor Teaching and Research.

ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVES

Tap into a network that can work for you. Alumni Representatives keep you in touch with other University of Waikato alumni in your area, providing social or business networking opportunities and helpful contacts as you travel the world. ■

On Campus		
Alumni Office	07 838 4575	alumni@waikato.ac.nz
New Zealand		
Auckland	Jaswin Gandhi	jaswingandhi@yahoo.co.nz
Auckland	Oliver Wu	oliver.wu@dhl.com
Wellington	Meredith Thatcher	mthatchernz@gmail.com
Australia		
Brisbane	Benny Pan	gpan123@hotmail.com
Melbourne	Peter Grayson	graysonp@ozemail.com.au
Perth	Jimmy Seow	jimmyseow2002@yahoo.com.au
Sydney	Katalinsk Hudders	katie.hudders@gmail.com
Sydney	Heman Kamalanathan	heman.pillai@gmail.com
Rest of World		
Bahrain – Manama	Mohammad Tayyab	tayyabnz@gmail.com
Bermuda – Warwick	Michelle St Jane	mstjane@gmail.com
China – Beijing	Helen Liu	liuguohong7361@yahoo.com
Cook Islands – Aitutaki	Retire Puapii	retire-tourism@aitutaki.net.ck
Fiji – Suva	Imo Sagoa	imo.sagoa@fnu.ac.fj
Germany – Frankfurt	Peter Wagner	peter.wagner@me.com
Hong Kong	Richard Wu	richardywu@hotmail.com
India – Tamil Nado	Aladiarun Aladi	aladiarun@gmail.com
Indonesia – Jakarta Selatan	Azul Rachman	zulfikar@bappenas.go.id
Malaysia – Kuala Lumpur	Helmy Had Sabtu	helmyhad@ymail.com
Malaysia – Penang	Li Lin Foo	chonyoung@yahoo.com
Malaysia – Sarawak	Norazila Abdul Aziz	anora@fcs.unimas.my
Marshall Islands – Majuro	Keyoka Kabua	kkkabua@hotmail.com
Saudi Arabia – Dhahran	Mohammad Tayyab	tayyabnz@gmail.com
Singapore	Michael Warren	michael_warren@asia.com
Thailand – Bangkok	Ai-lada Chote-chuang	ailada_ch@yahoo.com.au
Vanuatu – Port Vila	Arthur Faerua	arthur.ace@vanuatu.com.vu
UK – London	Brian Wadman	brianwadman@yahoo.com
USA – Redmond, WA	Mark Staveley	mark.staveley@gmail.com
USA – Thorndike, ME	Anne Schmidt	anne.schmidt@me.com
USA – Greenland, NH	Ken Olsen	olsy73@yahoo.com
Western Samoa – Apia	Quandolita Reid-Enari	q.enari@mesc.gov.ws

Congratulations to the winners of the 2011 Alumni Prizes for Excellence. These prizes recognise academic excellence and are awarded to second-year students with the highest grade point average in each School or Faculty in their first year at Waikato.

The winners were:

- » Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences: Jackson Mason-Mackay
- » Faculty of Computing & Mathematical Sciences: Siva Manoharan and Boris Pfahringer
- » Faculty of Education: Shannon Fallen
- » Te Piringa - Faculty of Law: Mark Calderwood
- » Faculty of Science & Engineering: Angela Simpson, Sam Waetford and Thomas White
- » School of Māori & Pacific Development: Joseph Tuahine
- » Waikato Management School: Clare Easton.

The prizes were awarded by Professor Richard Coll, Pro Vice-Chancellor Teaching and Learning, at a function in late October attended by the students, their families and members of the Alumni Association Committee.

The University of Waikato's Alumni Association was founded in 1989 with the goal of strengthening ties between the University and its former students. The Alumni Prizes for Excellence were established in 1998 and are awarded biennially. ■

WAIKATO GRADUATE WOMEN SUPPORT PHDS IN 2011

University of Waikato PhD students Megan Grainger and Vanessa Byrnes are both recipients of the New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women Merit Award for Doctoral Study – and their research topics couldn't be more different.

Megan's research focuses on the levels of Unique Manuka Factor (UMF) found in honey – the higher the UMF, the higher the export and retail value. Megan will unravel the as yet unknown conversion of chemicals that create honey's UMF and ultimately develop a computer programme to tell honey producers the best storage conditions to create the maximum UMF rating in the shortest time.

Meanwhile, Vanessa aims to write a definitive text about the New Zealand experience of directing theatre, and how these directors bring text 'to life' – currently no such text exists in New Zealand. Using the intersection between practice, methodology and theory as a basis, she will look at various New Zealand directors to see what influences them and how they bring their own unique experience to the stage.

The Waikato Graduate Women have a monthly programme of events and offer its members opportunities to engage in advocacy on local, national and international levels. For more information, contact Cathy Bunting on bunting@waikato.ac.nz ■

Alumni Events

WAIKATO UNIVERSITY – HOME AND AWAY

The 2011 events diary had something for everyone – here and overseas.

In May Chancellor Jim Bolger and Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford led a delegation to Kuala Lumpur and Shanghai to further Waikato's interests in international connectedness and recruitment and to host alumni and friends events in both cities.

The event in Kuala Lumpur was co-hosted by the New Zealand High Commissioner, David Pine, at his residence. Guests heard from a variety of speakers including alumnus Helmy Had Sabtu who graduated with a Bachelor of Management Studies in 1989 and now runs his own financial and business consultancy firm.

The Shanghai networking event was co-hosted by New Zealand Consul-General Michael Swain, a former Waikato student, and saw several members of the New Zealand diplomatic corps attending including the New Zealand Ambassador to China, Carl Worker, and Waikato alumnus and New Zealand Consul-General in Guangzhou, Pat English.



KUALA LUMPUR EVENT: University of Waikato alumni Cynthia Lim and Yew Lum Leong with Chancellor Jim Bolger and Malaysia New Zealand Chamber of Commerce Chairman Richard Tankersley at the Kuala Lumpur event.

Back in the Waikato – and the Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts – in August, more than 120 alumni and friends attended an evening with Dr Chris Pugsley, one of this year's Distinguished Alumni awardees, to hear about his passion for war history.

Born in Cardiff, Wales, Lt Col (ret'd) Chris Pugsley and his family migrated to New Zealand in 1952. The author of numerous historical books, he graduated from the University of Waikato with a PhD in History in 1992 and is currently a senior lecturer in war studies at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst UK.

In October alumni gathered in Fiji to celebrate the signing of an MOU with the University of Fiji Law School and in November Waikato Professor of Environmental Planning, Professor Bob Evans, discussed sustainable environmental planning in Tauranga.

An Auckland event featured *The Juniper Passion* opera, a multi-media work composed by Waikato music lecturer Michael Williams with libretto by former staff member John Davies.

Throughout the year, University Deans also hosted a variety of alumni functions around the world. ■



ALUMNUS SPEAKS: Helmy Had Sabtu, a University of Waikato alumnus, was one of the speakers at the event held in Kuala Lumpur.



FIJI FUNCTION: From left, alumni Akanisi Nabalarua, Unaisi Manulevu, Law Dean Professor Brad Morse and Lice Dobui.



SHANGHAI EVENT: Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford and Waikato alumnus Wenjia Liu.



SUPPORTERS: Waikato University alumni Gay and Brian Main with Dr Chris Pugsley at the Alumni and Friends event held at the Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts.



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The University of Waikato
Private Bag 3105
Hamilton 3240
New Zealand

Toll Free: 0800 WAIKATO
0800 924 528
Email: info@waikato.ac.nz
Website: www.waikato.ac.nz