

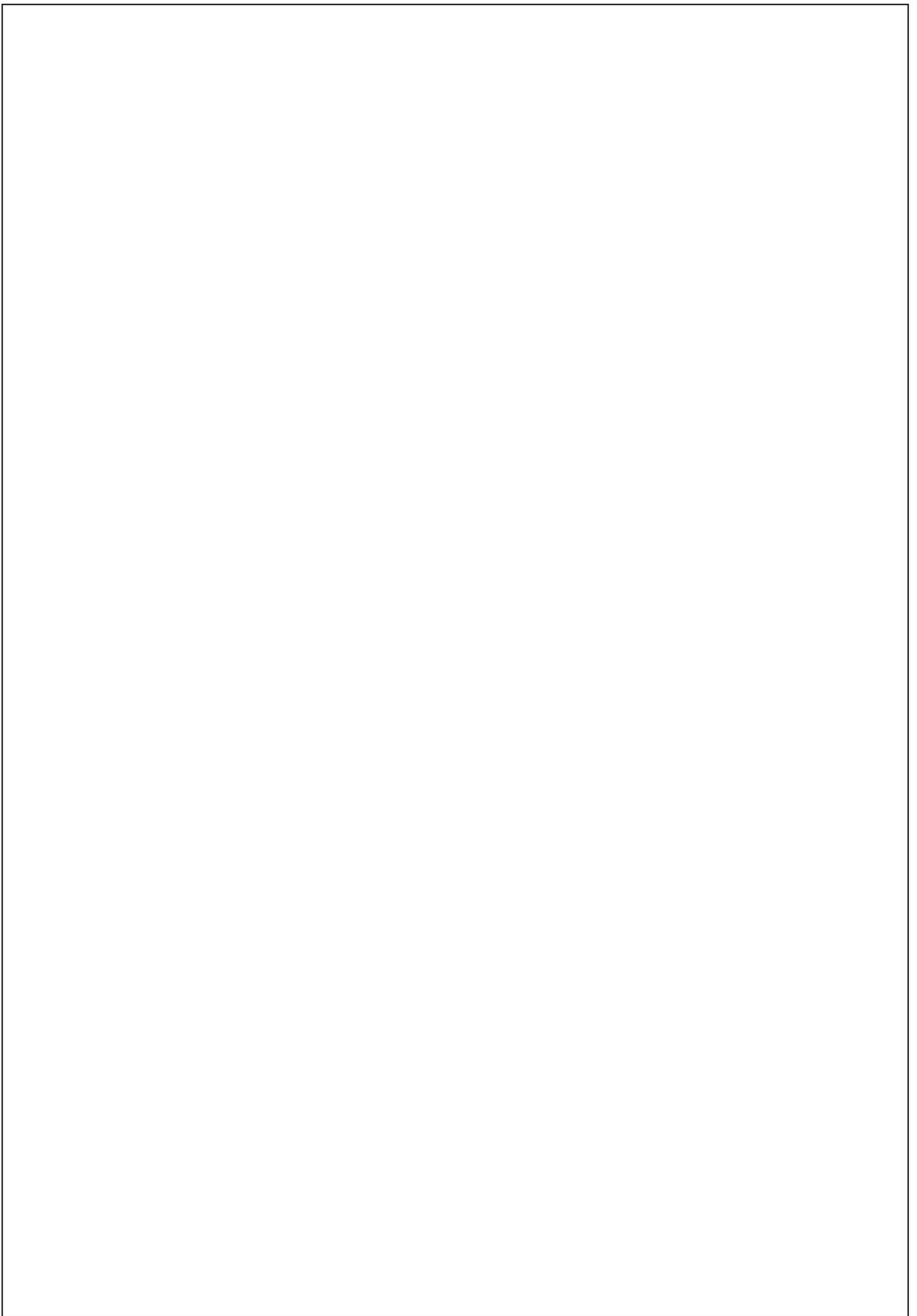
THE UNIVERSITY OF
WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato

POPULATION STUDIES CENTRE

2006

ANNUAL REPORT

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The Year in Perspective

Despite some challenges that the Population Studies Centre (PSC) at the University of Waikato faced during 2006, there were a number of major achievements during the year. Several new research grants were obtained. These include commissioned work on: population projections (funded by Hamilton City Council), the link between bilateral trade negotiations and international migration (funded by Department of Labour), the demographic and economic impact of infrastructure investment (funded by FRST), scenario building for regional futures (funded by FRST), evaluation of settlement support initiatives (funded by Department of Labour) and the experiences of transitions from temporary *to* permanent residence (funded by Department of Labour). In addition, a new contract was obtained from the Victoria University of Wellington to study the mobility of Pacific peoples, and a seeding grant from BRCSS enabled the development of a Marsden grant application aimed at exploring the relationship between food, place and identify for new migrant women in New Zealand. The year was also once again very productive in terms of publications and presentations. These are listed at the back of this report.

The PSC played an important role in acting as the Waikato node for the Building Research Capability in the Social Sciences (BRCSS) network. In this context, a high-tech multi-way videoconferencing facility, called Access Grid, was established that links up to 11 different sites in New Zealand for the purpose of e.g. running national seminar series that are targeted at postgraduate students and postdocs. During the initial year there were some problems with the quality of the video streaming, but these will be ironed out with a network called KAREN (Kiwi Advanced Research Network) that has a greater bandwidth and has been up and running since early 2007.

PSC staff were very pleased to see that one of its staff, Dr **Elsie Ho**, was honoured with the New Zealand Order of Merit in the New Year's Day list of honours. Dr Ho achieved this great honour for her work with, and research on, migrant communities.

In some respects, 2006 was not an easy year for the PSC. Significant effort had to be devoted to strategic planning that all departments in the University undertook in order to position the University in the best possible way to meet its Vision of excellence, distinctiveness and international connectedness. At the same time, staff turnover – inevitable in a small and dynamic research centre – required reorganisation of some of the major multi-year externally funded projects, such as *Enhancing Wellbeing in an Ageing Society* (EWAS) and *Strangers in Town*. In January 2006 Dr A **Dharmalingam** moved on to a senior lectureship at Monash University and in July the PSC farewelled Dr **Sarah Hillcoat-Nallétamby** who took up a senior lectureship position at the University of Wales Swansea. Both will continue to have involvement with the PSC as external Research Associates. Sarah and Dharma were Objective Leaders in the PSC's FRST-funded ageing research. These roles were taken over by Professor **Ian Pool** and Professor **Peggy Koopman-Boyden**.

Lynda Sanderson completed her MPhil thesis on the international mobility of New Zealanders who migrated to Australia. She went back to her former job at the Ministry of Economic Development, but continues to work with Professor **Jacques Poot** and Waikato Economics Department colleague Professor **Philip McCann** on various aspects of international travel of migrants. **Bettina Rauschmayr**, a German sociology student who was working as an intern in the Migration Research Group

(MRG), returned to the University of Bamberg in March. **Michael Cameron**, completed a PhD thesis in economics on the relationship between poverty and HIV/AIDS prevalence in rural Thailand and joined the PSC as a part-time research fellow and works on regional population projections and on meta-analysis. A distinguished New Zealander, former Government Statistician and National Statistician of the UK **Len Cook** CBE, joined the PSC as Honorary Research Associate.

In 2007 the Centre will celebrate its Silver Anniversary, having been established in 1982 by Professor **Ian Pool** to facilitate collaboration among Waikato researchers in population-related areas and to act as a portal for relations with researchers elsewhere and with stakeholder organisations. For many years the PSC operated as a non-budget entity in the Faculty with activities funded from grants on a project-by-project basis. In recent years, external funding increased to the extent that scale economies and synergies were achieved by pooling all population research-related activities into a standalone Centre that reports to the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. Professor Ian Pool was succeeded as Director by Professor **Jacques Poot** who completed his three-year term as Director in February 2007. Professor **Richard Bedford**, also the convenor of the Migration Research Group (MRG), has taken over the directorship of PSC since then. MRG researchers originate from the Department of Geography, Tourism and Environmental Planning. PSC and MRG share office space and facilities on the third floor of K building of the University of Waikato campus in Hamilton and many externally funded contracts involve staff of both units.

With the appointment of Professor Bedford, the two units have now formally merged. Given the unique position the PSC has in being the only national centre for research and teaching in population studies, the PSC led a national bid in late 2006 for a so-called Centre of Research Excellence (CoRE). The proposed centre is called the National Institute of Economic and Demographic Research (NIDEA) and involves participation of scholars at several NZ and overseas universities and the influential public policy research centre *Motu* in Wellington. While the application was not successful in the current CoRE funding round, the development of the proposal was a very productive exercise in identifying new directions for innovative collaborative research that will undoubtedly pay off in terms of securing contestable research funding in the future.



Prof. Ian Pool



Prof. Jacques Poot



Prof. Richard Bedford

Staff, as at 31 December 2006

Director

Jacques Poot Drs *VU Ams* PhD *Well* HonFRNAAS

Professors

Richard D. Bedford BA MA *Auck* PhD *ANU* FRSNZ

Ian Pool BA MA *NZ* PhD *ANU* FRSNZ

Jacques Poot Drs *VU Ams* PhD *Well* HonFRNAAS

Honorary Professor

Peggy G. Koopman-Boyden BA MA DipEd *Massey* CNZM

Honorary Research Associate

Len Cook BA(Hons) *Otago* CBE

Senior Research Fellow

Elsie Ho BSocSc (Hons) MSocSc *HK* DPhil *Waikato* MNZM

Research Fellows

Bill Cochrane MSocSc *Waikato*

Jenine Cooper BSocSc(Hons) MSocSc *Waikato*

Michael Cameron BMS(Hons) *Waikato*

University of Waikato Research Associates

Bevan C. Grant BEd MA *VicBC* PhD *Otago*

Stewart R. Lawrence BSc(Hons) (Econ) *Lond* MSc *Warw* PhD *Waikato* ACMA

Colin McLeay BSocSc MSocSc *Waikato* PhD *Macquarie*

Philippa Miskelly BSocSc (Hons) PhD *Waikato*

Linda Waimarie Nikora BSocSc (Hons) MSocSc *Waikato*

External Research Associates

A. Dharmalingam BSc MSc *Madur* PhD *ANU*

Sarah Hillcoat Nallétamby BA(Hons) *Lanc* Maitrise DEA Doctorat *Paris*

Tahu Kukutai BA MSocSc *Waikato*

Jacqueline Lidgard BSocSc MSocSc PhD *Waikato*

Michael Rendall, AM PhD *Brown*

Lynda Sanderson BA/BSc *Canterbury*, BCA(Hons) *VUW* MPhil *Waikato*

Research Assistants

Charlotte Bedford BSocSc (Hons) *Waikato*

Wendy Wen Li BSocSc (Hons) *Waikato*

Muriaroha Muntz BSocSc *Waikato*

Mohi Rua BSocSc (Hons) MSocSc *Waikato*

Evelyn Saw BSocSc LLB MMS(Hons) *Waikato*

Centre Administrator

Katie McLean

New and Ongoing Research Programmes

PSC Successful in Two Additional FRST Grant Applications in 2006

On 22 May 2006, the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology announced almost \$8 million of research under the Sustainable Economy and Technologies (SET) investment category. Successful bids were co-ordinated by AgResearch Ltd (\$4.6 million), Environment Waikato (\$1.6 million) and Motu Economic and Public Policy Research Trust (\$1.6 million). Professor **Jacques Poot** is a member of the research team of both the Environment Waikato and Motu projects. The Environment Waikato research is aiming to develop a scenario-driven methodology for planning at local and regional levels. The Motu programme seeks to develop new methods for assessing the benefits of different types of infrastructure investment, such as road, rail, irrigation, technology, social services and processing.

Settlement and Circulation of New Zealanders Living in Australia: Patterns, Dynamics and Analysis (2005-2007)

One in ten New Zealand citizens lives in Australia, making up the largest concentration of New Zealanders in any overseas country. Trans-Tasman migration is a major driver of New Zealand's international migration system, and New Zealand is Australia's largest single-country source of migrants. However, because very little was known about the ongoing movement of New Zealanders who went Australia, **Elsie Ho** and **Jacques Poot** were awarded in 2005 a Marsden grant of \$557,000 for a three-year research programme to examine for the first time the multiple moves of individual New Zealanders who have moved to Australia. The research team also includes **Richard Bedford**, and **Graeme Hugo** of the University of Adelaide. **Lynda Sanderson** carried out a statistical analysis of the database of the movements of New Zealanders for her MPhil thesis. She used the movements of United Kingdom migrants to Australia for comparison. During 2006, Professor **Philip McCann** joined the team for developing microeconomic theoretical perspectives on short-run mobility of migrants.

The second year of the three-year programme was devoted primarily to the analysis of data that inform on the characteristics of New Zealanders in Australia and their international mobility. Using a unique longitudinal dataset provided by the Australian Department of Immigration, Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA, now replaced by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship, DIAC) on 126,193 New Zealand (NZ) citizens arriving in Australia for a stay of 12 months or longer between 1 August 1999 and 31 July 2002, the team tracked all subsequent 931,921 moves of these migrants out of and back into Australia, up to July 2005. Data on a similar group of migrants from the United Kingdom (a "control group") were also analysed. In addition, trends in movements between NZ and Australia using arrivals, departures and census data from both countries were studied. Procedures were also developed for extracting multi-level (individual, family, household) census data on migrants in the family contexts.

The team found that policy changes in 2001 that removed labour market-related social security eligibility of new NZ migrants to Australia increased the probability of remigration from Australia among those who had intended to settle permanently. Moreover, subsequent migrants also make more overseas trips and stay away from Australia for longer. It was also found that there is a high degree of circularity in the trans-Tasman flows. New Zealanders in Australia are a young population and have a high level of labour force participation. However, controlling

for age differences the NZ and Australia-born populations are similar. This is not the case for the Australia-born in NZ. The latter are quite a selective group in terms of income, education and occupation.

Results were reported at a number of forums, including an invited presentation by Professor **Jacques Poot** at an international conference at the Australian National University. Several papers are close to submission to journals. Presentation of some aspects of this research by **Lynda Sanderson** at the 2006 NZ Association of Economists conference won the Jan Whitwell Prize for the best student paper. Lynda also completed her MPhil thesis, which was highly commended by the external examiner.

Enhancing Wellbeing in an Ageing Society (2004-2009)

Since February 2004, the PSC, in partnership with the Family Centre Social Policy Research Unit (FCSPRU), a community based research organization located in Lower Hutt, has been engaged in a FRST-funded research programme that aims to identify a wide range of aspects of wellbeing of older persons in New Zealand, both now and in the future. Demography, gerontology, sociology, geography, economics, psychology, leisure studies and business studies are among the disciplinary angles of ageing that are covered in the research.

Following the departure of EWAS objective leaders Dr **A. Dharmalingam** and Dr **Sarah Hillcoat-Nallétamby**, Professor **Ian Pool** and Professor **Peggy Koopman-Boyden** took over the research leadership. **Ian Pool** returned to the PSC in April 2006 after completing a two-year James Cook Fellowship during which he worked on several monographs focusing on the long-term dynamics of many dimensions of the New Zealand population, such as fertility, family structures, age composition and ethnicity. **Peggy Koopman-Boyden** completed a term as Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the University of Waikato at the end of 2005 and joined the PSC as Honorary Professor in February 2006. She is a past president of the New Zealand Gerontology Association and chairs the Waikato branch of this Association.

The research team intends to obtain a better understanding of what contributes to wellbeing of older persons through researching aspects of ageing that have not as yet been adequately studied in New Zealand, such as issues of mental health, security and aspirations. An important aspect of the research is the study of support systems available to older people, and the support and other resources they provide themselves to society. The researchers are, therefore, particularly interested in the support networks of older people, such as the strength of the relationship with their children.

Given the staffing changes in 2006, a considerable time was devoted during the year to plan research activities up to 2009 and to continue the development of a questionnaire for a national Computer-Aided Telephone Interview (CATI)-based survey of older persons (aged 65 and over), the mid-life group (40-64) and their interactions. Seven research papers were published on the EWAS website www.ewas.net.nz.

Strangers in Town: Enhancing Family and Community in a More Diverse New Zealand Society (2002-2008)

This six year programme of research is building new knowledge about the increased mobility of families (their movements into, out of, and within New Zealand), how these families adapt to living in their new communities, and how mobility affects communities. It is also applying this knowledge to assist with the development of policies, and approaches that can be taken to enhance the wellbeing of individuals, families and communities. The programme co-ordinator is **Richard Bedford**, who also led in 2006 Objective 1 of the research. Objective 2 is led by **Elsie Ho**.

The programme has contributed to the most significant immigration policy development in New Zealand in recent years -- the shift towards a deliberate strategy of allowing people to transition from a work or study visa/permit to residence without having to leave the country. This is a very important change in policy in the context fostering social cohesion and economic inclusion in a society characterised by increasing cultural diversity. Settlement outcomes for migrants are likely to be much better for migrants who have worked or studied in New Zealand, and who know something about the country's distinctive bi-cultural heritage, the labour market and employment opportunities, our settlement system, our education and health services and so on. Understanding how families from diverse cultural backgrounds adapt to living in their new communities in New Zealand has also been a key focus of a major inquiry, co-sponsored by the New Zealand Police, into ethnic community perceptions of the Police. This research, plus some co-sponsored research into the experiences of international students in the culturally diverse class-room, and the responses of different communities to New Zealand's ACC environment, have enriched the contribution that the FRST-funded programme is making to developing new knowledge about how families adapt to their new communities.

Research on internal migration continued and the national survey of reasons for migration, that is being undertaken in association with Statistics New Zealand, is in the final stages of preparation. This survey is scheduled to be carried out as a supplement to the regular Household Labour Force Survey in March 2007. A synthesis of the programme's key findings about the mobility and settlement experiences of Somali refugees and their families is nearing completion.

In response to on-going shortages of both unskilled as well as skilled labour in New Zealand, the programme has made contributions to the debate about migration from Pacific countries to New Zealand. The Pacific Co-operation Foundation sponsored a conference in late June 2006 on the future of Pacific labour markets and a keynote address was delivered.



Dr Elsie Ho



Prof. Peggy
Koopman-Boyden



Jenine Cooper

Strangers in Town: Enhancing Family and Community in a More Diverse New Zealand Society (2002-2008) - continued

Finally, the Maori research component of Objectives 1 and 2 continued in 2006. In the case of Maori international migration, several hundred Maori living overseas were surveyed by KEA, the Kiwi Expatriates Association in their "Everyone Counts" census between March and May 2006. KEA has requested the "Strangers in Town" programme to assist with analysis of these data and some preliminary findings were reported both through a TV1 interview in June and in a feature article by **Bruce Ansley** entitled "Far-flung whanau" in the New Zealand Listener, 1 July 2006, 22-26. Further analysis of the Maori component of the "diaspora" will be carried out during 2006/07 in association with a New Zealand doctoral student at Oxford University, **Alan Gamlem**, who is writing a thesis on New Zealand's transnational community, and **Robert Didham** of Statistics New Zealand, our collaborator in the survey of reasons for migration. The micro-scale research into Maori mobility using Kaupapa Maori researchers in the Maori and Psychology Research Unit (MPRU) at the University of Waikato continues in association with Maori community groups. Maori postgraduate students continue to be involved in this research.

Demographic book Age-structural Transitions: Challenges for Development launched in Paris and Singapore

A book that pioneers an area in demography, termed "age-structural transitions" (ASTs), was launched by Professor **Ian Pool** of the PSC firstly in Paris on the 30th June, at the Institut National d'Etudes Demographiques, and then in Singapore at the National University on July 4th at a ceremony hosted jointly by the Asian Research Centre and the Meta-Centre for Population and Sustainable Development. To accompany the launchings in both Centres, Professor Pool was invited to give a seminar outlining theoretical and analytical aspects of ASTs and their major policy implications. The leading French expert on demographic transitions, Professor **Jean-Claude Chesnais** initiated discussion on this subject at the Paris seminar, while in Singapore Professor **Gavin Jones**, the top expert on population and development in the Asia-Pacific region led the discussion.

While descriptive studies on age structures have long been a central part of any standard demographic analysis, the contributions of age-structure to overall demographic change operating through momentum effects has been a neglected area except in theoretical mathematical demography. Instead, the focus in demography over recent decades has been the high growth rates seen worldwide. But with declines in fertility occurring over much of the globe, growth driven by natural increase is now slowing dramatically, and what is called "momentum-driven growth" is having a major effect on population sizes, and thus on policy and development. Moreover, what Pool has called "secondary momentum" (when fertility rates have reached lower levels, yet the inflated generations born in the past when fertility was much higher reach parenting ages and produce many births) is a major issue today in many countries such as Bangladesh.

Age-structural Transitions: Challenges for Development was co-edited by Professor Pool with Professors **Laura Rodriguez Wong** of the Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil and **Eric Vilquin** of the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium, and published by CICRED (the Comité International de Coopération dans les Recherches Nationales en Démographie, a Paris-based research organisation coordinating 700 population centres worldwide; Ian Pool has been a Scientific Consultant to this agency for a decade).

This book also follows publication of the book *Population, Resources and Development: Riding the Age Waves* in 2005 by Springer (co-edited by Pool, with Professors **Shripad Tuljapurkar**, Stanford University, and **Vipan Prachuabmoh**, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok). The “wave” metaphor is highly apposite. Together these books show that the effects of population waves, whether as in Nigeria a single “tidal wave”, or in Kenya or Mexico a series of waves produced by primary and then secondary momentum effects, or numerous turbulent, disordered flows as in China or Rumania, can impact on populations at any life cycle phase typically with highly disruptive impacts for both policy and markets. Ageing, the most widely recognised stage of an AST, is merely its last phase when the proportions at older ages rise. For most countries, including New Zealand, ageing is a long way off, despite the fact that it is a high profile issue. But the waves produced by birth cohorts of different sizes are an immediate and major problem, producing major structural changes with policy implications in New Zealand within the next quinquennium.

James Cook Fellowship – Ian Pool (2004-06)

The James Cook Fellowship permitted **Ian Pool** to carry out baseline research, and complete and publish research on the demographic history of New Zealand. In this context he published a New Zealand paper in one of the top demographic journals on a theme that is of major international theoretical interest: human longevity. This paper and other publications are listed at the end of this report.

The role of family in population change, the most pivotal question of New Zealand’s demographic history, is the subject of a long book entitled *The New Zealand Family From 1840: A Demographic History* (jointly with **A Dharmalingam** and **Janet Sceats**), which is in press with Auckland University Press.

The research on the demographic history of New Zealand is contributing to another new book that has the provisional title *Population Change and New Zealand’s Development Since 1840*. In addition, an appearance as an expert Waitangi Tribunal witness in Central North Island hearings provided the impetus for a rethinking of issues of Maori demography that are to be incorporated in the book noted above, but may also lead to a rewrite, requested by AUP, of the out-of-print book *Te Iwi Maori*.

Ian has also been the senior author of a large number of published discussion papers on New Zealand’s regional social, labour force and population trends that may also be synthesised in a general book. Finally, Ian has been continuing to contribute during the James Cook Fellowship to the theme of age-structural transitions that is of critical importance internationally for population and development. Various local and international presentations and publications resulting from this research are also listed at the end of this report. Finally, after completion of his own James Cook Fellowship, Ian Pool was appointed to the 2006 James Cook Fellowship Selection Panel of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

Building Research Capacity in the Social Sciences (BRCSS, 2004-2009)

This \$8 million initiative aims to improve the research capacity of social sciences through a network of senior social science researchers from New Zealand universities, combined with the Family Centre’s Social Policy Research Unit in Lower Hutt. Massey University is responsible for coordination of the network, Professor **Richard Bedford** of the PSC acts as part-time Director of BRCSS. The website is www.brcss.net.

Building Research Capacity in the Social Sciences (BRCSS, 2004-2009) - continued

The Network brings together around 40 medium-term strategic research projects to extend them into new areas based on themes of New wealth creation and distribution systems in a globalised context; Social justice and development; Transmission of wealth/knowledge in a context of demographic change; and Sustainability of diverse households, communities and settlements.

The funding is used to develop research capability as well as encourage new research. New and emerging researchers are mentored and helped to develop their skills. The network uses the latest information and communication technology (such as Access Grid videoconferencing).

BRCSS identified the development of New Settler research expertise as a priority, and formed a working party involving **Elsie Ho** (University of Waikato), **Manying Ip** (University of Auckland) and **James Liu** (Victoria University of Wellington) to help develop a strategy and programme in relation to building research capability amongst new settler postgraduates and postdoctoral researchers. The working party drafted targets and quality standards for new settler research development. During 2006, a conference new settler issues was planned for February 2007.

Collaborative research with the National Centre for Social Applications of Geographic Information Systems, University of Adelaide

As Honorary Visiting Research Fellow in the Discipline of Geographical and Environmental Studies, University of Adelaide, **Elsie Ho** spent two weeks in Adelaide in December working with Professor **Graeme Hugo** and his colleagues at the National Centre for Social Applications of Geographic Information Systems, on the use and analysis of Australian census data. The primary purpose of this visit was to analyse the Australian Basic Confidentialised Unit Record Files (Basic CURF) to develop procedures for extracting multi-level (individual, family, household) census data on migrants in the family contexts. This work forms part of the larger Marsden-funded research project on the settlement and circulation of New Zealanders living in Australia that is reviewed elsewhere in this report.

Economic Impact of Immigration Research Programme (2005-08)

In early 2005, the New Zealand Government approved a three-year programme of new research on the economic impacts of immigration (EII) that is funded from the Cross Departmental Research Pool. The EII programme commenced in autumn 2005 2005 and finishes on 30 June 2008. The programme, of nearly 1 million dollars in new research, is administered by the Department of Labour. During 2006, the programme was primarily concerned with defining and commissioning a range of sub-projects on specific themes such as the impact of immigration on labour market outcomes of New Zealanders, migrant post-settlement assimilation, housing market impact and fiscal aspects of immigration. Several reports on these topics are forthcoming in 2007.

Professor **Jacques Poot** of the PSC convenes the International Experts Panel for this research. The Panel also includes Professor **George Borjas**, Robert W. Scrivener Professor of Economics and Social Policy, Harvard University, USA and Professor **Deborah Cobb-Clark**, Director Social Policy Evaluation, Analysis and Research (SPEAR) Centre, Australian National University.

International Trade Negotiations and the Trans-Border Movement of People

This project consists of a review of the international literature on the two-way interrelationships between international trade and international migration. Immigration policy is usually formulated independently from trade policy, and different government departments are responsible for these respective policies. However, there is empirical evidence that migration flows affect trade patterns. Conversely, new trade agreements and foreign direct investment may induce temporary and permanent migration. The so-called mode 4 of the General Agreement of Trade in Services (GATS) administered by the World Trade Organisation (WTO) explicitly allows for negotiations concerning temporary worker movement. This research project, conducted by Professor **Jacques Poot** and Department of Economics senior lecturer Dr **Anna Strutt**, together with graduate student **Jason Dubbeldam**, reviews these and related issues. The project also assesses the relevance of this literature for trade and immigration policies in New Zealand. A final report will be published in early 2007.



William Cochrane



Michael Cameron



Dr Anna Strutt

End-user Informed Demographic Projections

The PSC has a long tradition of assisting regional and local authorities in the Waikato and adjacent regions in reviewing future population trends and their policy implications. During 2006, Professor **Jacques Poot** together with PSC research fellows **Michael Cameron** and **William Cochrane** developed new population projections for Hamilton City. These take into account local-level information on major structural changes in and around the city (such as the development of new suburbs and roading infrastructure) that can have a major impact on future population trends. The methodology used, the cohort-component method, is similar to that employed by Statistics New Zealand in official projections. However, the assumptions and the extent of sub-city spatial projections are different from the official projections. Trends in the future labour force, the number and structure of households, and ethnic composition at the Hamilton urban zone and sub-city levels are also identified. The final report is expected in early 2007.

Population Prospects for Niue

During 2005, NZAid commissioned the PSC to write a report on past population change in Niue and likely scenarios for the future. The de facto population of Niue decreased markedly in recent decades to about 1,536 in November 2005. However, there are some 20,000 Niueans living in New Zealand. The team studying Niue's population prospects consisted of **Richard Bedford**, **Tom Ryan** (a University of Waikato anthropologist who is an expert on Niue) and **Jacques Poot**. Bedford and Ryan visited Niue in late 2005 to collect data and interview a large number of people. The report resulting from this research outlined a framework for assessing Niue's contemporary population dynamics in a transnational context and introduced a new concept of the "effective" population for Niue that took account of an intensified effort both on the island and in New Zealand to re-position "the Rock of Polynesia" at the heart of Niuean cultural identity. The effective population includes Niuean and other people who may not be residing in Niue but who are likely to visit the island within a twelve month period. The "effective" population may be at present around 1,800. The report was published in February 2006. A revised and condensed report will be disseminated as a PSC Discussion Paper in 2007.

By far the most important recurring theme in the research relating to Niuean aspirations was the need for a reliable air transport system to Auckland. The report assesses the likely impact of the regular weekly direct air service provided by Air New Zealand since November 2005. The future of Niue's "living community" is dependent on transactions and interactions within its transnational community. The occasion of the New Zealand and Niue population censuses in March and September 2006 respectively provide real opportunities for a further detailed assessment of Niuean population dynamics.

Mobility of Pacific Peoples

During 2006, **Richard Bedford** gained a contract from the Institute of Policy Studies of the Victoria University of Wellington to study the mobility of Pacific peoples. The study, which forms a component of the larger interdisciplinary *NZ-Pasifika Interactions Project*, addresses the circulation of people between the island countries and New Zealand by some new in-depth probing of two major extant data bases: the arrival and departure records maintained by Statistics New Zealand, and the residence approvals data collected by the Department of Labour. The study explores the concept of an "effective" population—a concept that has particular relevance for states that have a sizeable share of their populations living offshore, such as Niue, Cook Islands, Samoa and Tonga, where the overseas-based populations continue to play a major role in the economic and social transformation of their former homes through remittances, ownership of land, and most importantly, circulation between the islands and New Zealand.

'We are where we eat': Food, Place and Identity for New Migrant Women in Aotearoa New Zealand

In 2006, **Elsie Ho**, together with Geography Department colleagues **Robyn Longhurst** and **Lynda Johnston** were awarded a seeding grant from BRCSS. The proposed interdisciplinary project is aimed at using the subject of food to understand further the relationship between identity, place, and power for new migrant women in New Zealand. The seeding funding is used to further develop the topic for a Marsden grant application in 2007.

Evaluation of Settlement Support NZ (2006-07)

Settlement Support is a component of the New Zealand Settlement Strategy that was launched by the Government in December 2004. This contract research project for the Department of Labour's Workforce Group is evaluating how four SSNZ initiatives around New Zealand are contributing to improving access to appropriate settlement information and responsive services for migrants and refugees. The research team consists of **Elsie Ho**, **Jenine Cooper** and graduate student **Joanna Lewin**.

Understanding Transitions from Temporary to Permanent Residence (2007)

With New Zealand's continued shift towards a knowledge and skills-based economy, one of the greatest issues facing the country is our ability to attract and retain talented people as a means of facilitating the goal of economic transformation. The purpose of this contract research for the Department of Labour's Workforce, Research and Evaluation Group is to develop and administer an online survey amongst both temporary migrants on work permits, and international students who subsequently obtain permanent residence in New Zealand. The survey is designed to gain an understanding of their pre-settlement information needs, their reasons for choosing NZ and the decisions to apply for residence, their employment activities prior to arrival and post-arrival, their expectations and experiences of living in New Zealand, and their future plans. The project brings together an experienced, multi-disciplinary team of researchers from two research centres: **Richard Bedford**, **Elsie Ho**, **William Cochrane** and **Charlotte Bedford** of PSC and **Colleen Ward** and **Sue Hanrahan** of the Centre for Applied Cross-Cultural Research (CACR) of the Victoria University of Wellington.

Conferences, Visitors and Seminars in 2006

New Public Good Research on Population, Migration and Community Dynamics End Users' Seminar: "Pathways, Circuits and Crossroads"

This event was held over two days (20-21 April 2006) at the Victoria University of Wellington's Law School Annex, with Professor **Richard Bedford** and staff from the Migration Research Group responsible for the programme. The seminar provided an opportunity for researchers from two Marsden-funded and four FRST-funded population, migration and community research programmes to report on findings from their research. These programmes included: Understanding Adjustment and Inequality (Motu), Building Attachment in Families and Community (CRESA), Strangers in Town (Waikato University), Enhancing Well-Being in an Ageing Society (Waikato University and the Family Centre), Pacific Migration (Motu), and Maori-Chinese Encounters (Auckland University). This year's seminar opened with a panel presentation from **Lesley Haines** (Group Manager – Workforce Policy, Department of Labour), Professor **Graeme Hugo** (University of Adelaide) and Professor **Richard Bedford** (University of Waikato) on the policies and strategies dealing with current immigration and settlement trends. There were also presentations from postgraduate students and new researchers, partly as a capability building dimension of the seminar. Over 90 individuals with an interest in contemporary migration and population issues, representing a wide range of agencies and organisations, attended the seminar. Full details of the programme, abstracts and powerpoint presentations are

available from the web-page of the Migration Research Group:
www.waikato.ac.nz/wfass/migration

Visitors

In May, **James Newell**, director of Monitoring and Evaluation Research Associates (MERA) and former President of the Population Association of New Zealand, visited PSC in May and gave a seminar on “Trends in the contribution of tertiary education to the accumulation of educational capital in New Zealand”. His seminar focussed on intercensal changes in human capital and identified the relative contributions of “onshore” completions of educational qualifications by age group versus international migration flows. James discussed long term trends over the 1976 to 2005 period, and also compared trends in persons obtaining non-degree post-secondary qualifications with those obtaining university degrees.

David Conradson of the School of Geography, University of Southampton, visited PSC in August and gave a seminar presentation on multinational business providing residential care for the elderly, with specific reference to a South Island City (Christchurch). Dr Conradson noted that the landscape of residential care facilities for elderly citizens in New Zealand had undergone significant change in recent years, with many voluntary organisations reconsidering their involvement. There has also been a notable increase in private sector providers. David noted that such developments have potential impacts on both the range of accommodation available and its affordability. Since Joseph and Chalmers’ (1996) study, however, there has been little geographical work on these macro-level trends. Research had instead tended to focus on the experiences of care recipients or informal carers. In response, and drawing on research undertaken in Christchurch, Dr Conradson considered the changing landscape of residential care provision in New Zealand cities, exploring both the processes of privatisation and internationalisation.

In the context of the PSC’s Enhancing Wellbeing in an Ageing Society research and in collaboration with the Waikato branch of the NZ Association of Gerontology, Dr **Robin Sekerak** gave a seminar in October entitled “Use It or Lose It: Myth or Reality?” on being physically active in later life. The seminar was followed by a film about five women aged 50 – 82 who get involved in masters sports.

Len Cook, Honorary Research Associate of the PSC presented in November a seminar on “The questions we now need to ask about retirement provision in New Zealand”. Len Cook stated that retirement provision in New Zealand has been based on a simple mix of elements since 1938, which despite a variety of changes over the last three decades, has retained a simplicity, economy and relevance not seen elsewhere. Len argued that given the impacts of globalisation and population change expected over the next three to five decades, continued iteration in policy without a commonly accepted framework could well reduce confidence in saving. Len’s seminar distinguished between period and cohort issues and ways in which to measure changes being experienced over the life course of older people. The goal of Mr Cook’s research is to contribute to an overall framework for future research and statistics in this area that could reduce the future volatility in policy in this area.

Professor **Barry R. Chiswick** and **Professor Carmel U. Chiswick** visited the PSC and Waikato’s Economics Department in late November. Barry Chiswick is University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) Distinguished Professor and Head of the Department of Economics. He is also Director of the UIC Center for Economic Education. Professor Barry Chiswick’s current research interests include the analysis of the skill acquisition, labour market adjustment and economic impact of immigrants;

the determinants of immigration and immigration policy; the identification, human capital and labour market behaviour of racial, religious, and ethnic groups; and the economics of religion. Carmel Chiswick is Professor of Economics at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She worked as an Economist at USAID, the United Nations, and The World Bank before coming to UIC. She is a Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) in Bonn, Germany. Professor Carmel Chiswick's research includes studies of household work, family formation, and immigration impacts. Her research on economic development deals with problems related to employment and education, especially in Thailand, and with systems of household and labour force statistics. Her recent work focuses on the economics of religion, especially as it applies to the American Jewish family.

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