

Off Campus

Alumni Magazine
2014 IN REVIEW



Lyon twins

Zac and Josh:
Adventure
Enthusiasts

Page 22

Distinguished
Alumni Awards

Focus on Alumni:
Singing Phantom

Around the Faculties:
1000 Geothermal Features

Off Campus

2014 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.

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 regularly, enabling us to stay in touch throughout the year with a very light carbon footprint. If you wish to receive the E-News, send us an email at alumni@waikato.ac.nz

Off Campus magazine showcases the year's top stories and achievements and is sent 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

Printed on Golden Sun art paper made from FSC mix credit pulp, and manufactured in a totally elementary chlorine free process.

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.

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 and External Relations Office

Phone: +64 7 838 4144

Email: unipr@waikato.ac.nz

Alumni Office

Phone: +64 7 838 4439

Email: alumni@waikato.ac.nz

FRONT COVER: Zac and Josh Lyon in Greenland on the first leg of their 4Caps expedition. Story page 22.



4

Stay connected with us

The University of Waikato has alumni all around the world – and we want to keep in touch with as many as possible. Check out our 'lost alumni' list to help us find fellow alumni and keep your details updated here: www.waikato.ac.nz/alumni

Every year we produce communications for our alumni, host events in New Zealand and overseas, and provide opportunities for alumni to connect.

You can also go online to see a list of our worldwide Alumni Representatives and their contact details. Alumni representatives get involved with events in their area and act as a liaison with other alumni in their region. If this sounds like something you'd be keen to do, send an email to alumni@waikato.ac.nz – we'd love to hear from you.



19

Contents

Welcome to <i>Off Campus</i>	2
Postgraduate Month	3
50th Celebrations	4
Distinguished Alumni Awards	6
Graduation	8
In the Bay	10
Research	11
Awards and Honours	12
In the News	14
In the Community	18
Scholarships	20
Focus on Alumni	22
Alumni Updates	32
Sport	33
Around the Faculties	36



26



39



From the Chancellor

2014 has been a year of celebration for the University of Waikato. As we have marked the milestone of our first 50 years, we have reflected on how far we've come and acknowledged our many achievements. We have also taken the opportunity to focus on the challenges and opportunities that the next 50 years will bring. Our Strategy 2014-2017 has put us on the path to further success in meeting the needs of our students and our communities.

Anniversary functions held throughout the year brought old friends back to campus and our Community Open Day welcomed future students and their families. Graduates from the University's early years were particularly struck by the attractiveness of our campus – the mature grounds and gardens, the vibrant Student Centre and social spaces, and the exciting new Law and Management building currently under development.

Our first half-century has been filled with challenges, but through the years we have never lost sight of the values set by our founders. We have been constant in our enthusiasm and drive to keep building and promoting the value of the education we deliver and the research we undertake, ensuring our graduates are equipped with the knowledge and skills they need for lifelong success. I am confident that over the next 50 years, the University will play an even more central role in building and promoting the economic, social, cultural and environmental prosperity of our region and nation.

Rt Hon Jim Bolger ONZ, Chancellor



From the Vice-Chancellor

This is my final Off Campus column as Vice-Chancellor. I joined the University of Waikato in 2005 and it seems appropriate that I am retiring 10 years on, after a year of 50th celebrations, enjoyed by students, staff, alumni and friends and supporters of our University.

It is a tribute to our University that during its first 50 years there have been only four vice-chancellors. That has provided us with continuity of leadership and a strong commitment to create a foundation for the future. We have all been quite different personalities and have dealt with very different student populations, both in number and ethnic composition; we have worked in different political and economic climates and we have overseen many building projects. We all faced many challenges and regularly enjoyed the achievements of staff and students.

Looking back over my years, the library's transformation to the Student Centre stands out for me. What we have today is a world-class facility that offers a whole range of services for students. I am also very proud of the changes that were made to the lakes area – we now have a vibrant heart to the campus that is well-used by students and staff.

It is very pleasing to see the new Law and Management building under construction and to know planning is underway for a new partnership campus in Tauranga.

In keeping with our motto, Ko te Tangata – for the people, we continue to increase the number of public events we host on campus, from the Winter Lecture Series to Kīngitanga Day, the Inaugural Professorial Lectures, film festivals, lunchtime recitals and Balloons over Waikato Nightglow, to name a few.

I have huge admiration for the staff who keep the University functioning and I take great pleasure in learning of our students' successes. I remain committed to my original vision of what creates a great university – ensuring that we have excellent staff and students, and providing them with first-class facilities so they can perform to the best of their abilities. I may be leaving the campus, but my interest in the University and our graduates will certainly remain.

Professor Roy Crawford, Vice-Chancellor

From the Alumni Relationship Manager

The University of Waikato's alumni network is a global one, and we want to further widen its reach to ensure it is relevant and useful – a network you want to be a part of.

Looking at the stories inside this magazine, we know that our alumni are making a real difference in the world. We want to keep telling your stories and sharing your successes, whatever and wherever they might be. Your success enhances the University's unique story, inspires current students, and helps make your alumni experience distinctive.

The support we receive from alumni, whether it be through knowledge-sharing and speaking at events, to supporting internships and scholarships, is invaluable to us. Alumni are our strongest asset, and our biggest supporters.

When we know who our alumni are, where they are, and what they're doing, we know how to stay relevant to them. I encourage you to update your details with us, either online or through the postcard provided, and to ask your fellow Waikato alumni to do the same.

Stay tuned next year for our alumni survey. This will be your chance to tell us what you want – how you would like to hear from us, the types of things you want to know about, and ways you can continue to be involved with your University.

Leonie Woutersen



Brainy students outline their research

The 10 finalists were cool, calm and collected as they took to the stage to give their presentations at the Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition, the culmination of Postgraduate Month at the University of Waikato.

The PhD students each had three minutes and a static Power Point slide to explain their thesis to three judges and a full house at the Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts.

Comedian Michele A'Court was MC for the event and described it as "brainy people talking very fast" to an "intelligent but non-specialist audience". The presentations included topics as diverse as turning blood-meal into foam packaging, solar flares, and reimagining disability.

The winner was Onyekachi Raymond from the Faculty of Science & Engineering, whose presentation was entitled "The Beauty Without the Beast: A Chemical Search for Beryllium's Partner". Beryllium

is an indispensable but toxic metal used in high-tech devices such as smartphones and computers. Raymond's research looks at finding chemical agents that help remove beryllium from these products when they are disposed of.

From Nigeria, Raymond is now 18 months into his PhD in Chemistry at Waikato University.

"I was really excited to win the 3MT and I dedicate the prize to all my friends who gave me feedback on my presentation as I was preparing for the competition."

Raymond took away \$3000 and has secured a spot in the Trans-Tasman 3MT competition

next year in Australia. He also won the People's Choice Award of \$500, based on audience votes.

Two runners-up prizes, worth \$1500, were awarded to Sripriya Somasekhar from the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences for her thesis presentation "Navigating safety in the context of immigration: Indian Women Experiencing Domestic Violence in New Zealand" and Liam McMahon from the Faculty of Computing & Mathematical Sciences for "Mathematics of Solar Flares".

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Postgraduate) Professor Kay Weaver said she was incredibly proud to see what the PhD students presented on the night.

"The standard was so high the judges found it difficult to make a decision, so ended up awarding two runners-up prizes. The students are a huge credit to themselves and the University."

3MT, supported by Prior Blackburn and the University of Waikato Foundation, is the highlight of the University's Postgraduate Month in October. The event showcases research being carried out by the University's PhD students. Presentations were judged on comprehension, engagement and communication by judges Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Alister Jones, University Council member Mervyn Dallas and Chair of the Waikato Regional Council Paula Southgate.



PROUD MOMENT: Pro Vice-Chancellor (Postgraduate) Professor Kay Weaver with 3MT runner-up Liam McMahon, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Alister Jones, 3MT overall and People's Choice winner Onyekachi Raymond, Waikato Regional Council chair Paula Southgate, runner-up Sripriya Somasekhar and University Council member Mervyn Dallas.

Guardian of our environment

University of Waikato PhD candidate Monica Peters is harnessing the power of citizens to make discoveries in science.

Monica's research is inspired by volunteer community groups throughout New Zealand that are carrying out environmental restoration in degraded landscapes such as gullies, lakes, wetlands and forests. She is exploring whether their "citizen science" monitoring data can be integrated with "professional science" data to build a more complete picture of environmental health.

Science provides a set of tools for objectively measuring changes, and groups' use of these tools has been a long-term interest of Monica's, along with how to communicate science to non-scientists.

She says the US has a long history of water quality monitoring being carried out by community groups. Dedicated volunteers collect data which scientists then analyse on behalf of research managers.

"In New Zealand, water quality monitoring is largely the domain of scientists. What can we learn from these successful volunteer programmes in the US that could be applied to New Zealand? Community volunteer involvement represents a whole spectrum of data collection and observation that otherwise wouldn't be done."

In November this year, Monica hit the road. She was awarded a \$3000 Fulbright New Zealand Travel Award to attend the 34th International North American Lake Management Society Symposium in Tampa, Florida to present her research into citizen science and water quality monitoring in New Zealand. Before that, she went to Perth to represent the University of Waikato at the Trans-Tasman 3MT competition after winning last year's Waikato final.



Celebrations to mark our first half-century

This year was one of celebration for the University as we marked our first 50 years. There was plenty of reminiscing as current and former staff, students, alumni and supporters gathered at assorted functions.

The celebrations kicked off in February with the launch of *Ko Te Tangata – a history of the University's first 50 years*. More than 400 people turned up to hear author Emeritus Professor Noeline Alcorn give a quick run-down on the University's history and achievements.

Emeritus Professor Alcorn touched on a number of "firsts" the University had achieved, including leading the way with Women's Studies, the teaching of law in context and being the first university to amalgamate with its local teachers' college.

People queued to buy copies of the book and followed that up with a lot of talk over tea and cake.

In March, Prime Minister John Key unveiled a commemorative plaque at a function attended by about 100 guests. Chancellor Jim Bolger spoke of the early days on campus where buildings were few and farmland was plenty.

Hamilton Mayor and law alumna Julie Hardaker talked about the strong connection between Hamilton city (celebrating 150 years) and the University,

reinforcing the integral role the University plays in the region, both educationally and economically. She gave a gift to the Vice-Chancellor to be added to a time capsule, to be opened in another 50 years.

VC Professor Roy Crawford highlighted many of the areas where the University has contributed in significant ways, in the sciences and the arts, and said that while the University was celebrating its history, it was also looking to the future and the opportunities ahead.



THANK YOU: The Vice-Chancellor thanks Emeritus Professor Noeline Alcorn.



CELEBRATING: Professor Roy Crawford and former Vice-Chancellors Wilfred Malcolm and Bryan Gould.



Statue unveiling

A sculpture to celebrate the University of Waikato's first 50 years was unveiled at a dawn ceremony in October.

"L Blocks" is by artist Sophie Hermann and sits between the Student Centre and L Block on campus.

"L" is the Roman numeral for 50 and five of the wooden black and red elements represent the University's first five decades while the sixth is a symbol for the future.

The day began with a karakia to bring the sculpture to life, performed by tohunga Mataia Keepa, before Ms Hermann gave an insight into her inspiration for the work. She said it represented "what was here before, where we've come from and where we are going".

The vertical forms represent the kahikatea and tawa forest that sat on the land many years ago and the peach tree in the middle is a nod to the nearby peach grove that once flourished in the area.

The poetic text inscribed in the wood and on the surrounding glass is a metaphorical representation of the four compass points.

Ms Hermann said she wanted people to engage with the art, use it as they would outdoor furniture. "Make them yours," she said.

First grad comes to Open Day

About 3000 people were welcomed onto campus in May as the University held its first Community Open Day.



(L-R) Mayor and alumna Julie Hardaker, Chancellor Jim Bolger, Prime Minister John Key and Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford.



Emeritus Professor Peter Oettli, former Dean of Humanities, and Ron Lycette, former Grounds Supervisor.



Tom Roa from PVC Māori, Emeritus Professor Jane Ritchie and Isa Ritchie.



University Foundation Trustees Jon Tanner, Michael Crawford and Pat Peoples.



Maria Huata from Pro Vice-Chancellor Māori Office and former SMPD Dean Aroha Yates-Smith.

As part of its golden jubilee, the University opened its doors wide for people to wander around, take a good look at facilities, find out about research and programmes, and enjoy a stroll around the campus.

"It was a great opportunity to show off some of our expertise," said Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford who was impressed by the turn-out, and talked about "doing it all again next year".

"We always say that the University is for the community. This was an opportunity to get mums, dads, grandparents and so on onto the campus, many of whom live around here but may previously have felt a bit timid about coming."

The day concluded with an alumni and friends event where past graduates and friends came to eat, drink and reminisce. Among the attendees was Peter Allen, a foundation student who was the first graduate – simply by virtue of his surname starting with the letter 'A'. Peter and other students from the early days had their own reunion during Open Day.

Peter arrived at uni fresh from Cambridge High School in 1964 to do his BA, graduating in 1967, and left with a Masters in Philosophy at the end of 1969. "I handed in my thesis one day and got married the next." His wife Helen was also a foundation student at Waikato.

"A lot of my friends thought I'd made a bad choice to study at Waikato, but I wanted to be part of a new university, one without a history." He's never regretted his decision.

While he was completing his Master of Philosophy on the military settlements of the central Waikato basin, Peter was also involved in student politics, captained the University hockey team and was a sub-warden in the Student Village.

Peter was part of the first student demonstration in Hamilton. "We got some hostile coverage by the Waikato Times, marching against the installation in New Zealand of a US naval navigation system called Omega. We were pleased that staff from Social Sciences supported us by writing to the newspaper."

Peter became a teacher then a secondary school principal, finishing his teaching career at Rangiora High School in Canterbury. He was a member of the Teachers Union and president of the PPTA.

"I feel really proud to have been part of the University when it started, when it was uncertain and feeling its way. And it's now leading the way, making its mark in New Zealand and overseas. The region should be proud of its university. I look forward to it becoming the leading university in New Zealand and it's something special to feel I have been a part of it," he says.



FIRST GRADUATION: Peter Allen (front right) leads the first graduation procession in 1967.



FIRST GRADUATE: Peter Allen is the University of Waikato's first graduate.

Distinguished Alumni honoured in 2014

An adventurer, an economist, a CEO and an education advocate are the University of Waikato's Distinguished Alumni for 2014.

They are Jamie Fitzgerald, a management consultant, adventurer and motivational speaker; Dr Arthur Grimes, one of New Zealand's best-known economists; Le Mamea Taulapapa Sefulu Ioane, a Pacific education advocate; and Parekawhia McLean, CEO of Waikato-Tainui.

More than 190 guests attended the black-tie event at the Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts, which featured musical performances by several Hillary Scholars.

The Distinguished Alumni Awards are an annual event celebrating Waikato alumni who have made significant contributions to their careers and communities. Each recipient receives a limited edition cast-glass figurine created exclusively for the awards by local artist Di Tocker.



DISTINGUISHED: (L-R) Parekawhia McLean, Dr Arthur Grimes, Jamie Fitzgerald, Chancellor Jim Bolger, Le Mamea Taulapapa Sefulu Ioane, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Alister Jones.



Mark McCabe, alumnus and partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers, and wife Sian.



Sonja and Craig Stephen, Chief Investment Officer at Tainui Group Holdings.



Rob and Rachel Hamill with Magda and Kevin Biggar.



Pokaia Nepia and Dr Sarah-Jane Tiakiwai, alumna and Academic Director at Waikato-Tainui College.

Jamie Fitzgerald

Jamie Fitzgerald has a Bachelor of Communication Studies from the University of Waikato, and his time at University was punctuated with several moments of sporting success. He twice captained the University's rowing eight in the Great Race, and at just 22 he rowed across the Atlantic with fellow adventurer Kevin Biggar.



MOTIVATING: Adventurer Jamie Fitzgerald inspires many as a motivational speaker and consultant.

Jamie and Kevin later became the first New Zealanders to reach the South Pole unassisted – a feat fewer than 50 people have achieved.

Citing his work with young people and businesses as the true highlights in his career, Jamie owns Inspiring Performance, a management consultancy that helps individuals, groups and organisations reach their goals.

Jamie was a Celebrity Speakers Gold Elite Speaker from 2009-2012, a Halberg finalist in 2004 and was the University of Waikato's Sportsman of the Year in 2003.

He spoke to Waikato's Hillary Scholars this year as part of their leadership programme, and to secondary school rowers taking part in the Head of the Waikato event.

Dr Arthur Grimes

Dr Arthur Grimes has a Bachelor of Social Sciences with First Class Honours from the University of Waikato. He also holds a Master of Science, with distinction in economics, and an award-winning PhD from the London School of Economics.

During a lengthy career at the Reserve Bank, Arthur worked his way up to chief economist and played a major part in the revision of the Reserve Bank Act. He then became chief economist at the National Bank of New Zealand, and was also appointed chief executive of Southpac Investment Management Ltd. Until September last year, Arthur served a decade as chair of the Reserve Bank Board and was also non-executive director.

Arthur was director of Victoria University's Institute of Policy Studies from 1998-2002. He is an adjunct professor at the University of Auckland (and formerly an adjunct professor at the University of Waikato), chairs the Hugo Strategy Panel, is a member of the Financial Markets Authority Board, is principal of GT Research and Consulting and Senior Fellow at Motu Economic and Public Policy Research Trust.

In 2005 he was awarded the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research Economics Award and last year he received the NZ-UK Link Visiting Professorship to the University of London.



ECONOMIST AND ACADEMIC: Dr Arthur Grimes is a renowned and influential economist.



PACIFIC TIES: Le Mamea is one of the University's first Pacific graduates.

Le Mamea Taulapapa Sefulu Ioane

Le Mamea is one of the University of Waikato's first Pacific graduates. He completed a Bachelor of Arts in Humanities in 1974, later attaining a Master of Arts with Honours in English literature in 1976.

In 1976 he became the first director of the Pacific Island Education Resource Centre, where he stayed until 1992.

Le Mamea received a Fulbright Scholarship in 1980 to visit US educational research centres involved in educating non-English speaking nations, and in 1987 was admitted as a Fellow of the Royal Society.

From 1986 to 1989 he was chairman of a UNESCO group charged with researching programmes on innovation in education, and in 1990 was awarded the Queen's Service Order for Public Service.

He was deputy chairman of the Council for Māori and South Pacific Arts of the QEII Arts Council, chairman of the New Zealand Festival of South Pacific Arts and Culture from 1984-1988 and an Auckland city councillor for three years.

Now back in Samoa Le Mamea is a well-respected member of Waikato's Samoa Alumni Group. This year he spoke at a Pacific alumni event in support of and to encourage young Pacific students.

Parekawhia McLean

Parekawhia McLean (Waikato, Ngāti Maniapoto) has a Bachelor and Master of Social Sciences from the University of Waikato and an MA in Public Administration and Development Policy from the University of Wisconsin.

Parekawhia has had a distinguished career in public service in Wellington, working for several agencies and ministries, including the Ministry of Māori Development, Women's Affairs, the Ministry for the Environment, the State Services Commission and Te Puni Kōkiri.

She has been an adviser to former prime ministers Jim Bolger, the current University Chancellor, Jenny Shipley and Helen Clark and had two stints in ministers' offices – with the Honourable Sir Douglas Kidd in the 1990s and with the late Honourable Parekura Horomia in 2001.



ESTEEMED: Parekawhia McLean has had a notable career in public service.

For seven years she directed her own company, Mauriora-ki-te-Ao/Living Universe Ltd, which was dedicated to advancing the creative potential of Māori knowledge, people and resources.

Parekawhia is also a former director of Mighty River Power and former board member of Te Mangai Pāho (the Māori Broadcasting Agency) and Te Wānanga o Aotearoa.

She is currently CEO of Waikato-Tainui Te Kauhanganui and a Director of Te Putahitanga o Te Waipoumanu – the whānau ora commissioning entity for the South Island.

Congratulations graduates

There were 11 graduation ceremonies this year, three held at Te Kohinga Mārama Marae, one at Holy Trinity in Tauranga and the remaining seven at Claudelands Events Centre in Hamilton. In total, nearly 4000 qualifications were conferred on more than 3600 students.

Speakers included Julian Wilcox from Māori Television, inaugural chief executive of Callaghan Innovation and terrorist kidnapping survivor Dr Mary Quin, and former High Court judge Sir Grant Hammond who also had a Doctor of Laws conferred in recognition of his internationally recognised legal scholarship on the law of remedies and in the area of the role of the judiciary and judicial boundaries. Two recipients of honorary doctorates were guest speakers at October graduation ceremonies (see below).

All graduates automatically become part of the alumni family and the University encourages graduates to retain their links to the University and share their success stories.



WEARING THE KOROWAI: Marilee Matenga at the April graduation ceremony.



PROCESSION: October graduates receiving their degrees at Claudelands Events Centre.



CELEBRATING: Graduands pose in Civic Square before marching to Claudelands.



FINISHING TOUCHES: Communications graduate Amy Hacon gets ready to march in the procession.

Honorary Doctorates for popular locals

Businessman Sir Dryden Spring and litigation lawyer Warren Scotter received honorary doctorates from the University of Waikato in 2014.

Warren Scotter

Mr Scotter is a senior partner at Harkness Henry in Hamilton, a specialist in litigation who has worked tirelessly for his clients and to improve aspects of legal administration. He's also supported Te Piringa - Faculty of Law during its 25 year history.

Mr Scotter has appeared in hundreds of cases, frequently acting for the underdog. He has never been known to refuse a deserving client because of lack of funds.

Throughout his career, Mr Scotter has taken active roles in law administration, as president of the Waikato Bay of Plenty District Law Society, chair of the High Court Practice Committee, chair of the society's Complaints Committee, councillor of the New Zealand Law Society and a member of the New Zealand Law Society's executive. More recently, he has chaired the Law Society's Standards Committee for Waikato – Bay of Plenty.



Sir Dryden Spring

Sir Dryden has spent a lifetime making significant contributions to Waikato, New Zealand and international commerce.

He served as chairman of the New Zealand Co-operative Dairy Company and then the New Zealand Dairy Board for the better part of 20 years, leading major industry reform and building international relations.

He received the New Zealand Commemoration Medal in 1990, was made a member of the APEC Eminent Persons' Group in 1993 and in 1994 he was knighted for services to the dairy industry.

Sir Dryden also served as chairman of the ANZ National Bank from 2007 until last year and has been a director of many companies including Nufarm, Maersk NZ Ltd, Affco, Fletcher Building, Sky City, National Bank, Port of Tauranga Ltd and Northport.

He has been chairman of Ericsson NZ and Tenon Ltd and deputy chairman of Goodman Fielder, Ports of Auckland and The Rural Banking and Finance Corporation of New Zealand.

Sir Dryden served on the APEC Business Advisory Council from 2000 to 2010 and is a Laureate of the New Zealand Business Hall of Fame.



A rare qualification in New Zealand

Soprano Beverley Pullon is Waikato's first Doctor of Musical Arts, and just one of two people in New Zealand who has the qualification.

Beverley received a doctoral scholarship in 2010 to complete her DMA at Waikato and managed to do this while participating in a number of operas with lead roles, and working part-time as a haematology scientist at Waikato Hospital.

Her doctoral research combined scientific measurement and practical opera singing by looking at the relationship of the cricothyroid space (in the larynx) to vocal range in females.

"The idea originally came from attending a singing seminar. The professor told me I had a really small cricothyroid space and when I asked him what the significance of that was, he couldn't really answer me," she says.

She used ultrasound scanning of singers' throats to find out if the cricothyroid gap, which is one of the parts of the human throat essential for forming sounds, has a determining effect on how high or low a soprano voice can sing.

She found that singers with a smaller cricothyroid space can sing higher notes.



NEW DOCTOR: Beverley Pullon is Waikato's first Doctor of Musical Arts.

Leaving the family behind

Honiara Salanoa had to leave her 10-month-old son behind in Samoa while she studied for her MA (Applied) at Waikato. He was three when she graduated in April.

"While I was studying, I kept saying to myself, 'you're doing this for your son... your family and friends back home', and it all paid off in the end."

The two language teaching papers she did were a highlight of her study. "I thoroughly enjoyed them as they focussed on the overall development of teaching skills and on the preparation and delivery of a series of purposeful and focussed language lessons for second-language speakers of English."

She says her Waikato study enhanced her understanding of theory and practice in language teaching, and enriched her professional life.

Honiara has returned to the National University of Samoa where she lectures in Communication Studies.



BACK HOME: Honiara Salanoa is now teaching in Samoa.

Haimona graduates with a career in mind

There are three main reasons Haimona Te Nahu chose to study at the University of Waikato: it's where his parents studied, it's close to home and it has a strong cultural focus.

Haimona, from Rotorua, graduated in October at Te Kohinga Mārama Marae on campus with a Bachelor of Laws and a Bachelor of Arts in Te Reo Māori and Ngā Tikanga Māori.

He says during his study, some of the things he enjoyed the most were his involvement with "whānau away from home, Te Whakahiapo Māori Law Students Association, and Te Hunga Roia Māori in Wellington, Rotorua and Tauranga".

"And also winning the National Māori Moots was a highlight for me. The friendships I've made throughout my time here have been awesome."

The moot competitions give Māori law students an opportunity to research and present legal argument relevant to contemporary Māori legal jurisprudence in a situation that approximates a court hearing. Haimona was the only student in the competition to deliver his entire argument, including responses to the robust questioning process, in te reo Māori.

Haimona was also part of Te Āhurutanga Māori Student Leadership Programme

at Waikato, a programme that fosters leadership qualities.

"Tikanga Māori and te reo Māori play a huge part in identifying leadership qualities. The programme brought to my attention opportunities for Māori throughout the world to be leaders in all aspects of life, and how this leadership can contribute to the betterment of the world."

Haimona is completing his law Professionals papers and looking for work that will contribute to iwi development, Māori organisations, business and corporate structures, and the future of his tamariki.



PROUD DAY: Haimona Te Nahu at graduation with his brothers in support.

Progress on Tauranga campus

A six-person team has been set up to guide the establishment of a University-led tertiary campus in downtown Tauranga after major conditional funding decisions in 2014.

The Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Tauranga Energy Consumer Trust agreed in principle to fund up to \$15 million each towards the construction of the Bay of Plenty Tertiary Education Partnership campus while the Tauranga City Council agreed to provide land in Durham Street.

The contributions are subject to satisfactory funding conditions, which will be negotiated by the project team, led by Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Alister Jones.

Professor Jones says the first step will be to negotiate funding conditions – likely to take some months – before a Heads of Agreement is signed, potentially in early 2015.

Following the Heads of Agreement, work will begin on two fronts – design and construction, and the development of the teaching and research that will be delivered.

Another key component of the process will be the establishment of governance arrangements for the project.

The project will be led by the University, in partnership with the Bay of Plenty Polytechnic, Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangī and Waiariki Institute of Technology.

A senior academic appointment will lead the teaching and research programme development, which will include working



IN AGREEMENT: (L-R) Dr Alan Hampton, Professor Margaret Noble, Distinguished Professor Graham Smith and Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford celebrating when Waiariki joined the partnership.

with Partnership groups, such as the Joint Academic Programme Development Committee.

The building design process will take 12-18 months and it is anticipated the campus may be opened sometime in 2018.

University Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford says the conditional funding decisions mark a significant milestone for the Partnership and the project.

“The University of Waikato has long had a presence in the Bay of Plenty and we consider the region an important part of our future. To have a University-led Partnership campus in downtown Tauranga will allow us to provide more options for students and enable our world-leading researchers to work with the region’s businesses to provide real-world benefits.”



SIGNIFICANT: Dr Nadine Ballam is the first to complete all her tertiary study in Tauranga.

Doing it all in Tauranga

Dr Nadine Ballam graduated with her PhD in April this year – the first student to complete all her tertiary study in Tauranga. A lecturer in the Faculty of Education in Tauranga, Dr Ballam’s research focused on gifted children.

For her doctoral research, Dr Ballam surveyed 93 people aged between 17 and 27, then interviewed eight. They were a cultural mix of Māori, Pasifika, Pākehā, Asian and Indian.

“My focus was risk and resilience. The literature suggested that giftedness is a protection against negative life outcomes, and poverty is a risk or hindrance to success, that it increases the likelihood of adverse outcomes, but my research was not so clear cut.”

What she found was that despite knowing their talents could take them places, their giftedness brought a lot of pressure to succeed. “But they also were aware that their talents could enable them to break the poverty cycle and change their circumstances. While a lack of money hindered access to resources, the majority of respondents found their experience of adversity promoted resilience.”

So while gifted young people facing socio-economic constraints face challenges developing their gifts and talents, those challenges are mostly physical. “I think we need to think about what broader support these particular young people should be given. Perhaps rather than trying to fix those limitations the focus needs to extend to the more intrinsic aspects, on supporting and empowering these people to develop a strong and secure sense of their own identity.”



GROUNDBREAKING: Professor Jonathan Scott with an electrode.



REPLICANT: PhD candidate Steven McCabe, the phantom case and Professor Jonathan Scott.

Human replicant helps prevent overheating

It may just look like a clear acrylic human-shaped box, but it is hoped this replicant – or phantom case – will play a vital role in the future of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanning.

The phantom case was built by Technical Officers Martin Gore and Michael Hoogeveen in the University's Science and Engineering Workshop. It is designed to be filled with a phosphate-buffered saline jelly into which electrodes will be inserted before the case is run through an MRI scanner.

Engineering Professor Jonathan Scott is on the search for a new and safer design for implantable electrodes, so that people with medical implants to which the electrodes are connected can have MRI scans, something that can't be done at present.

"So many people are fitted with medical equipment such as spinal cord, deep brain and cochlear implants and pacemakers, but if you have one of these devices, you can't go into an MRI machine because of the electromagnetic and magnetic risks. Most people are

aware of the magnetic risk, where an object can be pulled out of place in the body. However, an MRI machine also has 10 times the Radio Frequency (RF) heating power of a microwave oven. This RF field strength is so great that an electrode attached to an implant can heat up and cook the area surrounding it. Our goal is to find a non-magnetic material for the electrode that won't be affected by the RF fields."

Marsden funding for four projects

Four projects led by University of Waikato researchers have received Marsden Funding.

The four grants total \$2.8 million (including GST) and were announced in November.

The projects are:

- » 'Maintaining stable mangrove swamps', Associate Professor Karin Bryan, Dr Julia Mullarney (Faculty of Science & Engineering, Earth and Ocean Sciences) received total funding of \$816,500.
- » 'Will 'sin' taxes reduce consumption?', Professor John Gibson (Waikato Management School, Economics) received \$805,000.
- » 'Te Mauria Whiritoi: the sky as a cultural research', Dr Rangi Matamua (School of Māori & Pacific Development) received \$816,500.
- » 'The Terrestrial carbon cycle in transition: tracking changes using novel tracers on multiple timescales', Dr Adam Hartland (Faculty of Science & Engineering, Chemistry) received \$345,000.

In addition, University of Waikato Professor Vic Arcus is Associate Investigator on a University of Canterbury Marsden project looking at "Allosteric regulation and the dynamics of a molecular pendulum that controls a catalytic clock". That project is worth \$874,000.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Alister Jones says Marsden Fund grants are highly competitive, and he's delighted with Waikato's success. "These projects reflect the breadth of exciting research being conducted by our researchers that has clear relevance to New Zealand's social, cultural and environmental well-being."

The 2014 round of Marsden funding will distribute \$63.9 million to 101 research projects nationwide, each for a three-year period.

The Marsden Fund is administered by the Royal Society of New Zealand on behalf of the Marsden Fund Council, and funded by the New Zealand Government. It supports projects in the sciences, technology, engineering and maths, social sciences and the humanities.

Major funding for Waikato research

The University of Waikato received more than \$35 million in the 2014 round of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment's new science research funding, claiming two of the top four amounts awarded in the \$160 million (inc GST) pool.

In addition, the University is also involved in a further \$3.5 million in subcontracts where it is supporting other researchers.

The four main projects to receive funding are:

- » \$12,223,770 – Dr Ryan Ko – Security Technologies Services in the Cloud. Research will focus on creating a suite of cyber-security tools to ensure security in the Cloud.
- » \$14,490,000 – Professor Brian Gabbitas – Titanium Technologies New Zealand (TiTeNZ). TiTeNZ is to develop a titanium research platform in New Zealand and create a multi-company, multi-sector manufacturing base for high value exports.
- » \$5,519,123 – Professor Jacques Poot – Capturing the Diversity Dividend of Aotearoa New Zealand (CaDDANZ). The research analyses demographic change in New Zealand.
- » \$2,898,000 – Professor Craig Cary – Assessing Sensitivity to Change in the Dry Valleys. This research programme will address the challenge of conservation in the Dry Valleys in Antarctica.

Sub-contracts went to Professor Peter Kamp and members of the University's Energy Centre, with Scion Research – Wood-Energy Industrial Symbiosis; Waikato University Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford and Professor Kim Pickering with the University of Auckland's Lightweight products: the next generation; Associate Professor Rainer Kunemeyer and Dr Mike Duke with the University of Auckland's Multipurpose Orchard Robotics; and Dr Shaun Barker with GNS Science's Mineral Exploration Models.



TEACHING HONOUR: Enoka Murphy received one of the highest awards available for tertiary teaching.

Award recognises te reo teaching

A lifetime immersed in education was recognised in July when Enoka Murphy was presented with one of the highest awards available for tertiary teaching.

At a ceremony in Wellington, the te reo Māori and tikanga lecturer from the School of Māori & Pacific Development received a Sustained Excellence award for teaching in a kaupapa Māori context at the Ako Aotearoa Tertiary Teaching Awards.

Mr Murphy, (Ngāti Manawa, Ngāti Ruapani) says his life has been about education since the beginning. His parents were teachers and "I've been teaching since I was 15 or 16. I finished School C and started teaching".

He's taught in kohanga reo, kura kaupapa Māori and at tertiary level, along with being

involved in theatre, kapa haka and speech competitions.

Teaching te reo, he says, is not like teaching any other subject. "It's not just getting up in the morning and going to work. We're part of it. Te reo is at the core of the reclamation of our language, our culture, our rights. Without language, it is so much more challenging to have a culture."

The Ako Aotearoa Tertiary Teaching Awards recognise and encourage excellence in tertiary education. Up to 12 Sustained Excellence Awards of \$20,000 each are awarded annually.

Ted Zorn Award

Jared Rigg's extraordinary achievements with the United Nations saw him win this year's Ted Zorn Alumni Award.

Jared's worked at the UN for more than a decade in a number of leadership positions, often in the world's troubled hotspots. He's currently serving as deputy of the Security Sector Reform Unit in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations at UN headquarters in New York.

Before that, he spent a year as Senior Security Sector Reform Officer in the United Nation Support Mission in Libya and earlier assignments included supporting the establishment and performance of UN security sector teams in Kosovo, Liberia, Nepal, Somalia and Timor-Leste.

Jared graduated from Waikato with a Master of Management Studies with distinction in 1998. The Ted Zorn award is given annually to a Management Communications student who has excelled in a communications position and served as a role model for students.



Distinguished research medal for Waikato alumnus

Faculty of Science & Engineering alumnus Professor Greg Cook has been awarded the 2014 Otago University Distinguished Research Medal for microbiology.

Greg is a staff member of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Otago. He is renowned for his research on how bacteria grow and survive in extreme conditions and is the first microbiology recipient of the award.

"I'm particularly proud of the fact that I completed my undergraduate and postgraduate degrees at the University of Waikato. The multi-disciplinary nature of the Bachelor of Science programme gave me the opportunity to gain an appreciation for many different subjects and enabled me to discover my passion for biochemistry and microbiology," says Greg.

Retired University of Waikato Professor Hugh Morgan guided Greg throughout his study.

"He has done exceedingly well in his research. His latest award is particularly meritorious and follows a stellar research career," says Professor Morgan.

"Hugh Morgan was an inspirational teacher, supervisor and mentor," says Greg. "I am indebted to him for letting me loose in his laboratory and giving me the opportunity to express myself and find my own path. This was crucial in my development as a microbiologist and I am fortunate to have trained with one of the global leaders in extremophile biology. I have very fond memories of my days at Waikato and I couldn't think of a better place in which to study."



RESEARCH MEDAL: Alumnus Professor Greg Cook has been honoured for his microbiology research.

KuDos Awards for Waikato University staff

University of Waikato staff took out three of the big awards at the 2014 KuDos Science Awards in Hamilton in October.

Professor Craig Cary won the Environmental Science Award, Advanced Technical Officer Chris McBride won the Hill Laboratories Laboratory Technician Award and Emeritus Professor Roy Daniel won the Lifetime Achievement Award.

The awards – now in their eighth year – support and recognise outstanding achievement in scientific research and innovation from the Waikato region.

Professor Cary considers himself a Microbial Ecologist and his interest lies in researching bacteria which live in extreme environments, including deep sea thermal vents and the soils of Antarctica. He says it was an honour to receive the award. His work also includes areas such as lake restoration in the region, and didymo research, where his laboratory is charged with monitoring for this pest throughout the North Island.

The Hill Laboratories Laboratory Technician Award was presented to Advanced Technical Officer Chris McBride for his work on web-accessible water monitoring stations which provide real-time data for the management and restoration of lakes and are creating a stir internationally.

Mr McBride has overseen these devices from design through to implementation as part of his role with the Lake Ecosystem Restoration New Zealand (LERNZ) group.

“My role begins with using and developing hardware and software tools for collecting and analysing ‘big data’ on lakes. We process and apply the data for research aimed at managing and restoring water quality, as well as studying global patterns and long-term change through the GLEON network,” says Mr McBride.

Emeritus Professor Roy Daniel received the Lifetime Achievement Award, which recognises a Waikato scientist whose research has made a major contribution to the region and the international profile of New Zealand science.

Emeritus Professor Daniel’s career at Waikato spanned 38 years, and he established an international reputation for his research on



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT: (L-R) Emeritus Professor Roy Daniel with Pro Vice-Chancellor Research Professor Al Gillespie.



ACHIEVEMENT: (L-R) Advanced Technical Officer Chris McBride with Dr Bart Challis from Hills Laboratories.



HONOURED: (L-R) Professor Craig Cary and Emeritus Professor Warwick Silvester.

thermostable enzymes and their commercial implications. He says that, like all endeavours, science has its ups and downs, but this award is primarily a reminder of the constructive and supportive Waikato School of Science environment. “Most of all, the award reminds me of what huge fun it all was.”

Other finalists at the KuDos Awards from the University of Waikato this year were Associate Professor Nicola Starkey for the Gallagher Medical Science Award, and Dudley Bell, who was a finalist alongside Chris McBride for the Hill Laboratories Laboratory Technician Award.

Award for research into transnational crime

A chance meeting on Robben Island, outside the prison where Nelson Mandela was held for 27 years, has led to a profitable and rewarding collaboration for Waikato law professor Neil Boister.

Professor Boister has been awarded a Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Research Award by the German-based Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in recognition of his achievements in international and transnational criminal law research.



He was nominated by Dr Florian Jessberger, professor of criminal law at the University of Hamburg. They met at Robben Island in 2001, got talking and a working relationship has

subsequently developed. The pair are now planning to research the EU’s influence on the development of transnational criminal law.

“The EU is quite advanced with its laws around corruption, money laundering and cyber-crime, so I’m curious to know how it’s pushing those beyond EU boundaries. New Zealand tends to follow global legislative trends in regard to transnational criminal law so ultimately changes pioneered in the EU usually do have ramifications for us,” says Professor Boister.

The research Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel award is worth €45,000 a year.

Agreements signed with Indonesia

A successful trip to Indonesia earlier in the year saw the University of Waikato sign two significant agreements and celebrate its anniversary with alumni abroad.

A high-level, multi-disciplinary delegation from the University spent a week in Indonesia in late May.

The delegation was headed by Chancellor, the Rt Hon Jim Bolger, and Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford and included faculty deans Professor Roger Moltzen (Education), Professor Bradford Morse (Law), and Professor Geoffrey Holmes (Computing and Mathematical Sciences), along with South East Asia International Market Manager Elle Freestone.

On May 12, the University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Airlangga University, based in Surabaya and one of Indonesia's top tertiary institutions.

The delegation then headed to the capital, Jakarta, and on May 15 the University signed an agreement with Indonesia's Directorate General of Higher Education of the Ministry of Education and Culture (DIKTI) which will open the door for up to five Indonesian postgraduate and three doctoral students to study at the University of Waikato each year. One is already at Waikato, studying law.

In Jakarta the delegation also visited secondary schools before hosting an event at the New Zealand ambassador's residence for alumni and friends to mark the University of Waikato's 50th



CATCH UP: Waikato Alumni and friends got together in Jakarta at the New Zealand ambassador's residence.

anniversary. Among the high-profile University of Waikato alumni attending was Teuku Faizasyah, Indonesia's presidential spokesman for Foreign Affairs, who completed his PhD at Waikato in 2004.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford says it was exciting to be able to establish new agreements with international partners and to catch up with alumni.

"We see Indonesia as an important nation, not only for the prominent role it plays in the Asia-Pacific region but also because we value the opportunity to form partnerships with highly regarded tertiary institutions in Indonesia.

"This was a good opportunity to grow the University of Waikato's presence in the region and to reconnect with the many alumni we have in Indonesia."

Visiting politician explains Penang's transformation



ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY: Malaysian politician Boon Poh Phee discusses Penang's leading sustainability measures in a public lecture.

New Zealand isn't the only country working hard to protect the environment. At a public lecture on campus, the audience heard what Malaysia is doing to become environmentally sustainable.

Charging for plastic bags, banning Styrofoam containers, car-free days in the CBD and community-led recycling schemes are among the measures which have helped the Malaysian state of Penang become a leader in environmentally sustainable transformations.

About 70 people heard visiting politician Boon Poh Phee explain the journey Penang had been through as it aims to become a leader in sustainability, when he spoke at the Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts.

He says Penang's Solid Waste Management Policy is the backbone of the transformation and includes strategies such as separating waste at the source – an idea Mr Phee says he learned from New Zealand's street-side recycling – and diverting waste from landfill.

Food waste, which makes up most household waste, is turned into fertiliser

while a series of education and awareness campaigns – which include home visits – has seen a decrease in total waste.

Penang aims to see a fall in waste generated per person per day from about 1kg currently to 0.58kg by 2020 and recycling rates climb from about 30% currently to 59% in 2020.

The development of community gardens has seen further inroads made into lessening waste going to landfill and has also strengthened community ties, he says.

Penang has also introduced a series of green awards for schools and businesses and Mr Phee says education has been the key to the project's success.

Following awareness and education campaigns, there has been an attitude change among communities but these would also be followed up by warnings and enforcement measures.

Mr Phee's family is well-known to Waikato University. More than a dozen family members have studied at Waikato, including the 2014 student representative on the University Council, Wei Cheng Phee.

Doctoral research helping understanding of Parkinson's disease

People with Parkinson's disease often suffer hypomimia, more commonly known as facial masking. It's a lack of mobility of the facial muscles and is one of the lesser acknowledged symptoms of the disease. Masking results in a watering down of facial expression, with movements becoming smaller and slower. Eventually, the face may appear blank or expressionless most of the time.

Waikato University psychology student Adrienne Wootton is studying facial masking for her PhD because there is currently little information to be found on it worldwide.

"It's speculated that masking is linked into the key neuropathology of the disease. There is a reduction in a neurotransmitter called dopamine which is essential for muscle movement," says Adrienne.

"My research aims to find out about the impact facial masking has on people with Parkinson's disease and people with whom they have a close relationship, be it spouse, family member or close friend.

"I want to find out how people are coping, what their needs and concerns are and what they might need in the way of help," she says.

In the first phase of her study, Adrienne interviewed people who had Parkinson's and some of their close associates, such as their partner or spouse.

She says preliminary findings indicate masking can have a deep and dramatic impact for some individuals, with participants commenting "it divorces me from her" and "it's like an emotional, sort of, stone wall".



FACIAL RESEARCH: Psychology student Adrienne Wootton is studying facial masking as part of her PhD research.

Close associates reported their partners often appeared disapproving, disinterested, angry, bored and disengaged. Assumptions of a negative emotional state were directly attributed to the loss of expressivity by some individuals. "For a vast portion of the time, he has no expression whatsoever and that always looks like he's bored or he's angry," said one participant.

For two couples, assumptions around this negative appearance were reported to be

a central factor in considerations to end a marital relationship. The recognition of masking as a symptom of Parkinson's disease was reported to bring relief, reassurance and partial resolution of relationship and individual difficulties.

Upcoming phases of the research will involve the development of a brief screening tool to assess the severity and impact of masking, and the final phase of research will involve the development and evaluation of an educational intervention, which aims to address the psychological and social impact of masking.

Adrienne hopes that her research will generate greater recognition of facial masking as a symptom and improve understandings of masking's impact on close relationships and quality of life. The project will also provide guidance for future facial masking research.

Adrienne's study is supported by the Bryant Trust Postgraduate Research Scholarship and a Waikato University Doctoral Scholarship.

If you are interested in participating in her study, Adrienne Wootton can be contacted at aw107@students.waikato.ac.nz or 020 472 7546.

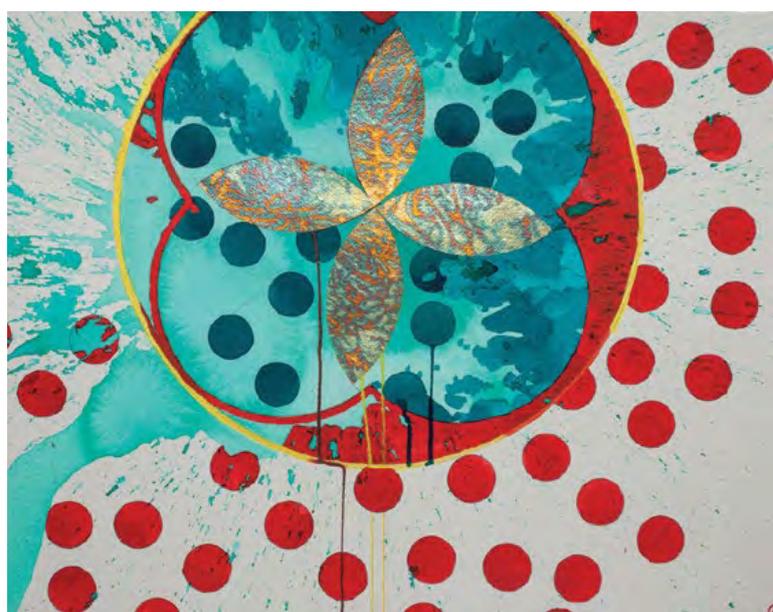
The gift of fine art

As part of the University of Waikato's 50th jubilee, internationally acclaimed New Zealand artist Max Gimblett made a substantial donation of his works to the University.

The 22 works on paper, representing a cross-section of his work on paper practice, and two hand-made books make up a collection titled *The Universe* and were exhibited at the Calder & Lawson Gallery from June to August this year. The works include gestural splashes, vibrant colour and metallic leafing, alongside sumi-ink drawings on delicate handmade papers.

At the exhibition launch, Mr Gimblett, who's based in New York, gave a talk about his life as an artist, his 50-year studio practice, his belief in spiritual values and his spiritual and artistic teachers. He's a lay Rinzai Zen Buddhist monk.

Mr Gimblett also ran a series of sumi-ink workshops while he was on campus. Sumi-e is an ancient form of Japanese ink brush painting that developed from the practice of Japanese and Chinese calligraphy and is rooted in Zen Buddhism as a meditative practice.



WORKS ON PAPER: *The Universe*, 2010, one of 22 works Max Gimblett has donated to the University of Waikato.

Lecturer wrote the book on resources

John Moorfield didn't have the most auspicious beginning to an academic career when he first started work at the University of Waikato in 1976.

"I was scared of being a lecturer, I didn't know what to do," he says. Mr Moorfield had answered the call from Tīmoti Kāretu and joined the ranks of te reo Māori teaching staff at the University.

Joining Mr Moorfield and Mr Kāretu were Te Wharehuia Milroy and Hirini Melbourne.

"We were a great team. We did some good things I thought."

The achievements of Kāretu, Milroy and the late Melbourne are well documented and they are rightly hailed as pioneers and leaders in the teaching and revitalisation of te reo Māori.

Mr Moorfield's role is less well known but no less important.

It's his name which appears on the spine of the four books in the seminal texts *Te Whanake: Te Kākano*, *Te Pihinga*, *Te Māhuri* and *Te Kōhure*.

Google 'Māori dictionary' and it's John Moorfield's name which comes up first.

There are audio resources, podcasts, study guides and many other resources that have the Moorfield name and which owe their existence to a Pākehā boy from Te Kauwhata who got turned on to te reo while attending St Stephen's School in Bombay.

He had been enrolled at Whanganui Collegiate but was given a choice and "I chose the one closer to home".

"Dad was always receptive to Māori things and had a big library of Māori books so it didn't seem unusual." It may not be but it's remarkable that Mr Moorfield became so interested in te reo he decided to continue his studies when he left school.

"Hoani Waititi was my teacher at St Stephen's. He just got me hooked on the language," Mr Moorfield says.

"I went on to Auckland University and the main reason I went was to learn a bit more about the language. There were people like Bruce Biggs, Pat Hohepa, Hugh Kawharau, George Ngata, they were all there."

Te reo was still a fledgling university subject and Mr Moorfield was among the first intake of students able to take it at Stage Three level.

There followed a stint at teacher's college, where the lack of te reo teaching positions saw him teaching geography and social studies.

It was there he met wife Sue, a French teacher.

"I picked up things they were doing in terms of teaching language."

He had teaching stints at Ngaruawahia, Wesley and Tuakau before moving to the University.

"I was teaching mainly first and second year students. The main resource we had was Te Rangatahi, which was a book for school kids, not adults."

The late 1970s was a time of transformation in New Zealand culture. Women's Studies was a growth area at Waikato and it didn't take long for students to rebel about the inadequacy of resources.

"We got some flak from students who said they were sexist. The boys had the fun, the girls were in the kitchen. They were also largely rural based and students were saying 'but we live in the city.'"



TEACHING TE REO: John Moorfield was part of the original group that spearheaded the teaching of te reo at Waikato.

He'd already started compiling audio resources for students "and I thought I'd better start writing some books".

"I did a lot of reading about language teaching and the audio-lingual method was popular then. There was more emphasis on speaking the language, not just writing, and I developed ideas to be a better teacher. I made resources for students to use at home, and that way I could maximise the time I had with them, because there was never enough time."

Mr Moorfield was also behind the development of the Te Tohu Paetahi Programme, and credits former Vice-Chancellor Wilf Malcolm for supporting its introduction.

"He came to a meeting with us and asked if we were happy with the quality of the language of our graduates and we said no. Te Tohu Paetahi grew out of that."

Mr Moorfield spent 21 years teaching at the University of Waikato, before moving to Otago for 10 years. He now works at AUT, where he's Professor of Māori Development.

He says teaching te reo now does not suffer from a lack of resources. In fact, one of his latest projects is creating a programme to pull together the myriad online resources into a structured programme.

"It was pretty hard when we had no resources. I was always quite envious of those Spanish, German or French teachers because of the resources they had available to them. Now we are up with them, and might even be better."

It's nothing he did on his own, of course, and Mr Moorfield says Kāretu, Milroy, Melbourne and other Te Tari Māori staff helped immensely.

"If I ever had a question, they were always there and always open with their knowledge. I was lucky to have access to those guys and I'm quite proud of what we did. Maximising access to the language, that's what it was always about."

New experiences for Kristie

It's been quite a year for New Zealand sprinter and Waikato Hillary Scholar Kristie Baillie.

She was an 11th hour selection for the New Zealand women's 4 x 400 relay team to travel to the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, and a recipient of the 2014 University of Waikato Step Higher Award which allows Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarship students to travel to the Khumbu Valley in Nepal to work on projects run by the Himalayan Trust.

Award recipients have to raise \$1000 for the Himalayan Trust before they go, so Kristie, who lives at KIWITAHĪ and is a member of the Te Aroha Athletic Club, decided to do a sponsored climb of her local Mt Te Aroha four times. That's the equivalent to the height of Mt Everest and she accomplished it over two days and in rotten weather.

The other Step Higher Scholarship winners for 2014 are doctoral candidate and composer Jeremy Mayall, music student Blaire White, and middle distance runner Timothy Stewart who's studying management. Kristie's completing a Bachelor of Social Science (Hons).

The announcement of this year's Step Higher Awards coincided with the anniversary of Sir Edmund Hillary's conquering of Mt Everest on May 29. University of Waikato Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford says the chosen students have met the criteria of excellence in their academic work, leadership and their specialist field.

The awards are sponsored by the international Compass Group which supplies campus hospitality services.



COMMONWEALTH COMPETITOR: Hillary Scholar Kristie Baillie, heading to Nepal.

Construction on track

Work is proceeding at pace on the new Law and Management building off Hillcrest Road and the huge site crane can be seen from all over the campus.

Since the Christchurch earthquakes, extensive design checks to ensure earthquake stability of structures have become mandatory. This additional design work took longer than expected and gave rise to some delays during the early stage of the project, but construction is now back on track.

There are great views of the new structure rising out of the ground from over the hoardings or looking down from the upper floors of the Waikato Management School building. Many of the initial pre-cast wall panels have been erected and before long the full building outline will be apparent. The building is due to be completed at the end of 2015 and will house Te Piringa - Faculty of Law and Waikato Management School's Centre for Corporate and Executive Education, and student services.



GOING UP: The new Law and Management building under construction.

Lectures provide glimpse into the future

As the University of Waikato celebrated its 50th anniversary, this year's Winter Lecture Series turned its attention forward – examining the future of business, cybersecurity, entertainment and the city of Hamilton.

First up was a look at the future of business practices. Alumnus Chris Insley, Executive Director of 37 Degrees South, said the Māori economy – currently worth \$37 billion – is growing at more than twice the rate of the national economy, and future importance will lie in diversifying the interests of the primary sector. Online menswear retailer Steve Crowhurst spoke of his experiences setting up an online business, and how he uses social media as his primary promotional tool. Business sustainability academics Professor Juliet Roper and Associate Professor Eva Collins looked at the bigger picture, urging the government to promote business sustainability for economic and environmental wellbeing.

Netsafe Executive Director Martin Cocker counted the cost of cyber-crime in New Zealand at the second lecture. Cyber-crime currently costs hundreds of millions of dollars each year, and most of this crime can be stopped with simple online safety measures. Dr Ryan Ko, head of the University's new Cyber Security Lab, showed

the elaborate lengths hackers go to in order to install malware on computers, and how the Lab's researchers are working to combat this. Senior Law Lecturer Wayne Rumbles talked through the legal issues associated with sophisticated cyber-crime and the need for the criminal justice system to catch up in terms of legislation.

Alumnus and TV presenter Jesse Mulligan hosted a panel of entertainment buffs at the third lecture. Waikato's Associate Professor Geoff Lealand predicted good things for the local film industry with recent productions leading a new wave of Kiwi filmmaking. Author Julie Thomas discussed the ins and outs of self-publication online, and The Wireless' Megan Whelan discussed news culture in the digital age.

The final lecture looked at the future of Hamilton. Canadian Neil Everson skyped in to talk about how he led the revitalisation of Hamilton, Ontario, from a steel-worker town to one of the most financially stable cities in Ontario. Professor Natalie Jackson talked about the implications of an ageing

population on Hamilton's future growth, and alumnus and property developer Andrew Yeoman discussed ways the city could better utilise vacant inner-city spaces to create dynamic, mixed-use areas.



BUSINESS HEADS: Alumna Karla Randrup and Steve Crowhurst from Fallenfront.co.nz



ENTERTAINING: Julie Thomas, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Alister Jones, alumnus Jesse Mulligan, Associate Professor Geoff Lealand and Megan Whelan.



FUTURE FOCUS: (L-R) Professor Iain White, DVC Professor Alister Jones, alumna Mayor Julie Hardaker, Professor Natalie Jackson and alumnus Andrew Yeoman.

Fieldays partnership goes from strength-to-strength

The University has now been a strategic partner of the National Agricultural Fieldays for eight years and will continue in years to come.

In March this year Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford and Fieldays Chief Executive Jon Calder signed their latest strategic partnership, sealing the relationship between the two organisations for the next three years.

Professor Crawford says the partnership "makes sense" as both organisations have always shared a mutual interest in contributing to, and growing, the agricultural sector.

Mr Calder says Fieldays will support the University's research and work in areas such as agribusiness, earth and water science, as well as helping to build awareness of careers in agriculture.

"It's exciting to have a partner that is actively solving problems and providing solutions that advance agriculture, which is one of Fieldays' founding principles," says Mr Calder.



During Fieldays, the University showcased research around freshwater, fitting into the event's overall theme Managing Resources for a Competitive Advantage.

Balloons wow audiences again

Thousands of spectators gathered on the University of Waikato campus fields in March for the Balloons Over Waikato ASB Nightglow.

The annual week-long event finishes with the Nightglow on campus, which includes live music and entertainment followed by a choreographed light show by tethered hot air balloons accompanied by music. A fireworks display is the cherry on top.

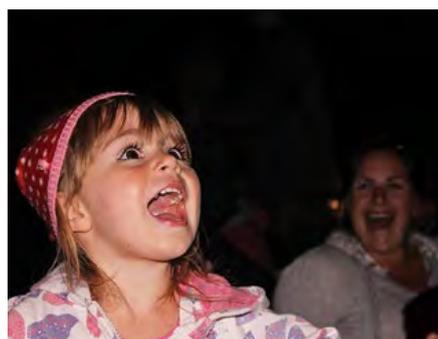
This year, to celebrate the University's 50th anniversary, music at the Nightglow was from five decades, from the 1960s through to today, and the Royal New Zealand Air Force conducted a flying display in a CT-4E Airtrainer.

The University and Hamilton City Council were two of the strategic partners of the event – fitting because Hamilton city was celebrating its 150th, says Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford.

"Every year we welcome thousands of people on to our campus through the Balloon festival and other events, giving the community a chance to connect with us on our beautiful campus."



ALL AGLOW: Balloons light up at the annual nightglow on campus. *Photo by Wendy Peel.*



IN WONDER: Ava Watson enjoys the show.

Community Open Day popular

About 3000 people were on campus for the University of Waikato's first Community Open Day, held as part of the 50-year celebrations.

There were activities fun and serious, from chemistry demonstrations held by Garon the Wizard, to video games with banana controllers, dog-patting, campus tours and mini-lectures.

The success of the day means Community Open Days look set to become an annual event.



MAD SCIENTISTS: Enjoying being scientists for the day.



HIGH FIVE: Meeting the friends Waikato Rugby cow, Mooloo.



TALENT ON SHOW: A Kapa Haka demonstration by Waikato students.



HIGH NOTES: Wai Taiko member and former lecturer in Japanese, Ken McNeil.



FAMILY FUN: Community Open Day provided a great day out for families.



HELPING HAND: Renee Ewens-Bettridge teaches flax weaving at one of the workshops.

Nearly \$400,000 dollars awarded to future leaders

As part of its jubilee celebrations, the University has awarded 10 scholarships for secondary students who are starting at the University of Waikato in 2015.

More than 200 students from across New Zealand applied for the scholarships, awarded on the basis of academic excellence, leadership potential and community citizenship. They're valued at \$10,000 a year for four years.

In addition, more than 100 secondary school students have been awarded a Vice-Chancellor's Excellence Award. This flagship scholarship is given to students in recognition of academic excellence and merit in the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA), or the Cambridge International Examinations (CIE), or International Baccalaureate (IB).

And the University launched its Excellence Scholarship for Asia to support pre-degree (foundation), undergraduate and postgraduate students with scholarships of up to \$10,000 in 12 Asian countries. Available in 2015, the scholarships can be used for study in any subject and any faculty and will be awarded to students who have an average result of 80% or equivalent in their previous studies.

Biodiversity on land and sea

When Nicole Sturgess was at intermediate in New Plymouth, she'd tell her friends she was going to be a marine biologist, and now she is.

Nicole is studying for her Master's degree in biological science at Waikato and earlier this year was awarded a George Mason Charitable Trust Scholarship to assist with her research. The scholarship is worth \$5000 for each year of her study.

Nicole's doing a biodiversity assessment within the Paranihinihi Marine Reserve in Taranaki, to examine the factors that may explain the high biomass of encrusting organisms within the ecosystem. She'll also be doing some sonar mapping.

"I'll be using multi-beam echo sonar to map large sections of the seabed habitat on Pariokariwa reef." This will help her classify the different biogenic habitats on the reef.



SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIP:
Nicole Sturgess.

"What interests me is finding out how effective marine reserves are as a method of conservation and what effect a 'no-take' reserve has on the functioning ecosystem."

George Mason scholarships were first established in 2002 and are awarded to postgraduate students with links to Taranaki and/or are carrying out research relating to Taranaki's natural history.

Another Waikato University student and George Mason Scholarship recipient, Kiri Cutting, is studying urban ecological restoration for her doctorate.

She's comparing restoration projects in New Plymouth and Hamilton. In New Plymouth she'll be studying restoration areas administered by different organisations, such as the New Plymouth District Council, Forest and Bird and the Taranaki Tree Trust.

"I want to know how restoration plantings measure up as they age and how their environments change over time. I look at things such as soil moisture and chemistry, air temperature and humidity. Often my research sites have previously been farm land, or degraded in some way, so I monitor the various changes as the plants grow into maturing bush, becoming a complex ecosystem once again."

Kiri's research will help increase understanding of how to maintain bush in urban areas and identify what plants yield the best results in particular locations.



ECOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP:
Kiri Cutting.

Bequest supports Pacific students

The late Edna Money, a Morrinsville farm owner, accountant and philanthropist, bequeathed \$1 million to the University of Waikato, and part of that money will be offered to Pacific students.

The Edna Money Future Pacific Leaders' Scholarship will provide support for students to achieve academically and develop leadership skills through a tailored leadership and personal development programme.

Three scholarships will be offered each year for students undertaking full-time study. The scholarships are worth \$6000 a year for up to three years.

Edna Money, who died last year aged 94, was thought to be one of New Zealand's first female qualified accountants. The bequest has become part of the University's Endowment Fund with the interest earned funding the scholarships.

Senior Policy Advisor Pacific at the University, Elena Fa'amoe-Timoteo, says the financial support offered by the scholarships

will be hugely beneficial to the scholarship recipients but the leadership programme will provide much wider advantages.

"Having that tailored leadership and personal development programme will help our Pacific students develop as leaders and that will benefit the entire community for many years to come," she says.

Applicants need to be New Zealand citizens or permanent residents, of Pacific Island descent and enrolling at the University of Waikato for the first time in 2015.



Fulbright for more law



University of Waikato law graduate Ashiq Hamid left his job at the New Zealand Takeovers Panel in August to begin masters study at New York's Columbia University. He won a Fulbright graduate scholarship, "a dream come true," he says.

"Columbia is an ivy league university and one of the best and most select universities in the world. Columbia Law School is a giant in corporate law and New York is the heartbeat of the world economy, so this is a really fantastic opportunity."

The focus of Ashiq's study will primarily be financial and economic regulation.

"I plan to study reforms like the Dodd Franks Act 2008 and other legislation the US government took after the global financial crisis of 2008 and how financial institutions and banks have responded to those regulations as well as the impact they've had," he says.

Ashiq's study year is nine months but he plans to remain in the Big Apple to sit his New York bar exam.

Understanding citizen science

Monica Peters, investigator of citizen science, was awarded a Fulbright New Zealand Travel Award to attend the 34th International North American Lake Management Society Symposium in Tampa, Florida to present her research into citizen science and water quality monitoring in New Zealand. You can read more about Monica on page 3.



Travel award follows urupā research

Dr Vince Malcolm-Buchanan had only just handed in his doctoral thesis when he heard he'd been awarded a Fulbright Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Travel Award in Indigenous Development to travel to the US to lecture and present a paper at the Association of Social Anthropologists of Oceania (ASAO) conference in New Mexico.

His PhD research was inspired by a walk through his family graveyard or urupā. "I was surprised at the elaborate and expensive headstones. My aunties called one strip, which includes the headstone of my mother, the 'Hilton Hotel row', which infers notions of extravagant wealth."

Vince says this embracing of extravagant aspects of traditional Western burials by modern Māori got him thinking about the changes in Māori memorial traditions and how they have variously changed through time.

His PhD thesis is titled *Cloaked in Life and Death: Tangi and Taonga in a Contemporary Māori Whānau*.



USA BOUND: Vince Malcolm-Buchanan will travel to the US as a Fulbright Scholar.

Characteristics of pinot noir



Waikato alumna Emma Sherman is studying at the University of California Davis after she was awarded a Fulbright Science and Innovation Graduate Award to research mouth

feel properties of red wine using sensory and metabolomic techniques.

"Wine is a complex biological product and attempts to determine the origins of flavours, aromas and mouth feel properties using traditional targeted analyses are often difficult," says Emma. "Pinot noir in particular is a low phenolic and low tannin wine variety, so the mouth feel can be quite different from other red wines."

She hopes her research will identify metabolites that are important contributors to pinot noir sensory attributes. "I'd like to see the information used to develop viticultural and winemaking methods that can modify concentrations of those metabolites to allow targeted manipulation of wine flavour, aroma and mouth feel."

Women in tribal governance



Sharon Toi left a lush, green Waikato in August to spend a year in the desert heat of Tucson, Arizona. She's the recipient of a Fulbright Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga Graduate Award,

which will see her spend a year at the University of Arizona to research and write her PhD in law about the invisibility of women in tribal governance.

Her research in Arizona – mainly on the experiences of Pueblo and Navajo women – will be used as a comparison to what she has already learned about the roles Māori women play in tribal governance and Toi says she expects to learn that, in general, Māori women are doing better than their American counterparts.

She says her PhD is aimed at developing "what I'm calling gender analysis tools" for her iwi.

"My case study is of Ngāpuhi. I'm from the Hokianga and women there are very vocal, informed and active," she says.

Uni twins on 4Caps ice adventure

They say it was great to be away, but it's even better to be home, back to warm, comfortable beds and plenty of food.

Zac and Josh Lyon returned to Hamilton at the end of September after completing the first leg of their 4Caps Expedition, a trek from one side of Greenland to the other. The 22-year-old twins and University of Waikato graduates are self-described "adventure enthusiasts" who plan to ski-walk across four ice caps: in Greenland, the South Pole, Patagonia and the North Pole. They will do this over a period of three years, pulling everything they need with them on sleds across the ice.

For the Greenland leg, the twins joined a group of three others and a guide to cross from Tassilaq on Greenland's east coast, to Kangerlussuaq in the west, covering a distance of 600km in 27 days, climbing 2500 metres and experiencing temperatures as low as -30 degrees Celsius.

Zac says there were six days of complete white-outs during the crossing, and only one day they couldn't make any progress at all due to bad weather.

"We saw amazing things such as a sunset with halos, and what looked like three suns setting on the horizon. After not seeing anything but white for six days, sights like this were incredible."

The twins dragged sleds laden with gear, food and fuel, weighing 60-70kgs, across the ice. By the end of the journey, the sleds weighed 40kgs. They spent an average of eight hours a day ski-walking at the start of the journey, which stretched out to 10 hours a day towards the end.

After 27 days of eating mainly noodles, salami, soup, crackers, nuts, raisins and chocolate, the Lyons are relieved to now be tucking into some fresh food back home.

"We spent 89% of our time on the journey thinking about food," says Josh. "We made lists of what we'd eat when we got home and are tackling that now, putting back the 14 kilograms we lost. On the ice, our whole existence revolved around when we would eat. Food became such a big deal."

Zac and Josh both graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Earth Science from Waikato University, and Zac is currently completing a Master of Science in sedimentary geology. He says their time at Waikato had been instrumental in inspiring their 4Caps Expedition.

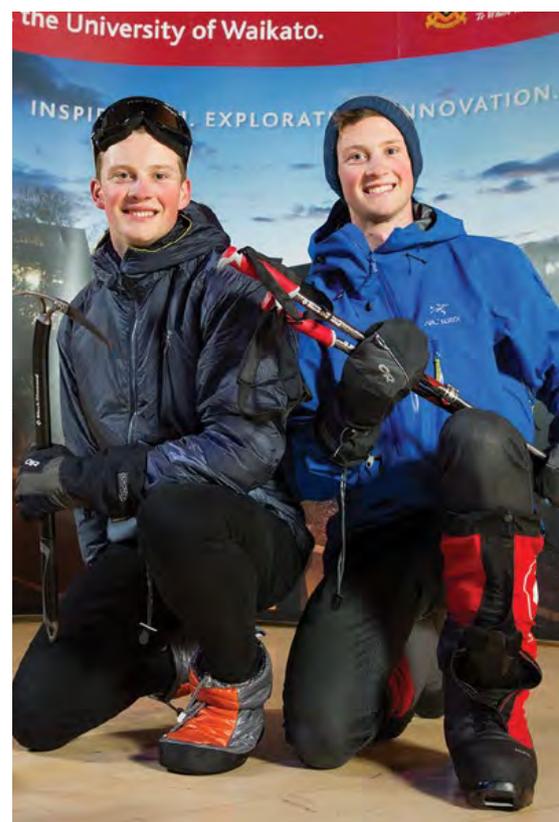
"As undergraduates, we studied geology in Earth Sciences. We heard and talked about places such as Antarctica in our studies, but we wanted to experience those places as well."

Zac says the most surprising thing for him about the Greenland trip was how well they held up physically to the challenging conditions.

"We had no frostbite and were really pleased with the gear we took and the preparation we'd done."

Josh says he was expecting to have some down days, "but I was really pleased with how we handled it all mentally".

The twins say they want to be the first and youngest people to complete the expedition



INSPIRING: Adventurers Zac and Josh Lyon pose in front of a Waikato University banner at a function to celebrate their adventure.

to the four ice caps, testing the limits of their physical and mental endurance.

"We also want to inspire young people to take action on their dreams and achieve at their highest potential," says Josh.

The twins spoke at Community Open Day and are developing a programme where they visit schools to work with children to build confidence.

Follow Zac and Josh on their travels at www.4caps.kiwi or www.facebook.com/fourcaps

What's next?

South Pole: October 2015-January 2016. This trek will take 70 days across the South Pole, a 2,260km trip with a gradual climb of 3,000m in temperatures of -40 degrees Celsius in 24-hour sunlight.

Patagonia Southern ice cap: September/October 2016. A 390km trek across glaciers, ice cliffs and crevasses, predicted to take 55 days through high humidity, torrential rain and gale-force winds.

North Pole: December 2016/January 2017. This is a 775km trek over the frozen Arctic Ocean and will take approximately 55 days in temperatures of -30 degrees Celsius.



BREATHTAKING: Halo sunset on the ice in Greenland.

There's no place she would rather be

Sarah Rolton's eyes light up as she describes one of many heart-warming moments in her job as a co-ordinator at a home-based childcare service.

"I pulled into a driveway of an educator's home, and I could hear, before I even knocked on the door, the stampede of little feet coming to greet me. It was so cool."

Sarah is a co-ordinator and co-owner of Hamilton home-based childcare service Family Matters.

Home-based childcare places children in groups of up to four with educators in their own home, where each network of educators is supervised and supported by a co-ordinator like Sarah.



Sarah, a mum of two, says it was inevitable that she would end up in early childhood education.

"By the age of seven I was an aunty, and at 14 my four nephews were at home with us before and after school, while my sisters worked. So I've always been around kids," she says.

Born in Melbourne and educated in Hamilton, Sarah attended Hamilton Girls' High School. After leaving school, she completed a diploma in business administration, but dreamed of becoming a teacher. "So I decided to follow my passion and enrolled in a Bachelor of Teaching at Waikato," she says.

She completed her degree at the University of Waikato, during which time she fell pregnant and had her son Brodi. In 2009 she returned to study, this time with three-month-old daughter Mea in tow, and completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Early Childhood Education.

"It was definitely challenging studying while being pregnant and then raising two small children. But I think when you really want to achieve something you'll do whatever you can to make it happen," says Sarah.

Now as co-owner of a successful early childhood education service, Sarah says no two days are ever the same.

"You can try and plan your day to a tee, but it can all go out the window at any minute. One day I could be doing visits with educators, then I might be covered in slime with our children at playgroup, or meeting with the Ministry of Education, discussing successful learning outcomes for children. This isn't your average nine-to-five job, but that's why I love it."

Sarah says the home-based environment stimulates early learning through natural experiences, enabling children to build a solid foundation on which to become life-long learners.

"It's learning within context," says Sarah. "My children went into home-based care when I returned to work, and their educator was able to provide the same environment and learning experiences as they had at home with me."

Sarah has fond memories of her time at Waikato, particularly her classes with Rosina Merry, a senior lecturer in the Faculty of Education and a transition to school expert.

Sarah couldn't imagine ever doing a different job. "In this role, you wear your heart on your sleeve, and it can be tough at times. But knowing you are making a real difference in children's lives makes it worth it."

Express yourself

Naomi Roche had such a good time at university first time round, she's come back to study some more, and has also found time to encourage staff and current students to get creative.

Naomi has a BA in English and History and a Graduate Diploma in Teaching. After a long career in education, she's now back studying psychology.

And she is one of the people behind a new art gallery on campus – Art Fusion Gallery, situated on the ground floor of the Student Centre, between Pita Pit and the hairdressers. Naomi and artist Wairehu Grant are the gallery's key drivers, but are well-supported by a group of keen students.

"I had this idea that I wanted to give something back to the university I enjoyed so much," Naomi says. "And it also bothered me that while we talk a lot about physical or academic fitness, we don't place enough emphasis on creative fitness."

So she and Tanya Hollatz initially formed the Society for Art Fusion (subs, \$30 a year) to focus on the sharing and collaboration of different art forms, and staff and students from all over campus



have signed up to display their art, "including a maths student who makes perfect shapes from icing sugar".

"Like any gallery, we take a commission for any works we sell, but we also display art that isn't for sale – work that people simply would like exhibit," Naomi says.

Recently Fusion held a matchbox exhibition. About 25 artists submitted works in matchboxes, and as a result some artists were awarded private commissions.

"The other thing we do is hold art demonstrations during the Wednesday cultural hour, and this gives people a chance to try something new, whether it be oil painting, clay sculpture, tattooing or weaving."

Working for the underdog

Waikato alumnus Simon Buckingham stood as a Labour list candidate in this year's general election. He missed out, but the experience hasn't deterred him. Far from it; he'll have another go in another three years if he's back in New Zealand.

He leaves shortly for the UK for two reasons – to rekindle a romance that started and fizzled out 30 years ago, and to work for the British Labour Party as it heads towards next year's UK general election.

Simon's originally from the UK and has worked at Westminster before. That was before he came to New Zealand and found himself studying law at Waikato. "A friend recommended I study law in Hamilton. I made some enquiries, didn't think my grades would be good enough and didn't think any more about it, until I received a letter saying they expected me to come and register."

He was working in IT support at Manukau City Council at the time, so handed in his resignation and headed down State Highway 1.

What makes Simon's study history a little different is that he has Asperger's, sometimes called autism spectrum disorder, usually characterised by significant difficulties in social interaction and nonverbal communication. It is his disability that made him stand for Parliament. "New Zealand currently has one disabled MP [Mojo Mathers, Green Party], and

yet 24% of New Zealanders have some form of disability. They are badly under-represented," says Simon.

His own disability was both a help and a hindrance when he was studying law. While he completed his degree in three years, fitting his first two years' papers into one, he found it "very, very, hard" keeping to schedules, making sure that lectures and tutorials were not missed, and even with things like note-taking.

"I couldn't have done it without the ongoing help from Waikato's disability support staff, especially Marg Dobson. It was incredible. They knew about autism and how to handle me and my needs. I've recommended Waikato to a number of disabled people thinking about doing university study."

He says the way law is taught at Waikato suited him and the way his brain works. "They allowed you, in fact they encouraged you, to think outside the box. Because I don't think conventionally, I don't follow normal formulas to solve a problem, I wriggle round problems until I find a solution. And Waikato also knows and understands social justice, which is what I strive for with my clients."



One of Simon's clients was Arie Smith-Voorkamp who was accused of looting two light bulbs after Christchurch's February earthquake. The charges were dropped. He takes on a number of beneficiary cases but has been on a benefit himself because he doesn't have enough clients to work full time.

"I sent out letters to every law firm in Auckland asking for a job and not one replied. There are so many lawyers graduating in New Zealand, 50% don't end up working in law, so law firms get to choose those who they think are the pick of the crop."

So Simon's off to the UK, likely working as a political adviser at a local council in the first instance. "I've taken on a Waikato law graduate to keep my law office in Auckland ticking over, and with Skype and the internet I'm hoping things will work out. I hope to be an Anglo-New Zealand lawyer and an Anglo-New Zealand politician."

Chinese Professor a New Zealand literature expert

At Jinan University in Guangdong Province, China, a Waikato-educated, Chinese-born professor is teaching his students all about New Zealand literature.

Professor Youbin Zhao is a Waikato alumnus known to his Chinese colleagues as a "New Zealand expert".

It's a fair way from the University of Waikato to Jinan University, especially for a New Zealand literature enthusiast. Youbin has had several books and more than 60 papers published in China – most of them about New Zealand.



A trained teacher, in 1990 he was selected as one of 10 young scholars by the Chinese government to study in New Zealand. "I was chosen because I had published translations of New Zealand poetry. It was recommended that I study at Waikato because of the outstanding English professors, and so off I went," says Youbin.

He spent a lot of time as a student in the library devoted to his studies. "I spent so much time there reading and writing – even taking a nap on the cosy sofas when I was tired!"

After finishing his postgraduate English studies at Waikato in 1992 Youbin returned to China to teach. In 1995 he was appointed Associate Professor and in 2003 was promoted to Professor.

"I taught classes on literature in English-speaking countries at a few different universities, and also established a Centre for New Zealand Studies which received a lot of support from the New Zealand Embassy in China."

His first book *The Bright Pearl in the South Pacific – New Zealand* was published in 2000. On the back of its success, he was awarded a scholarship from the Chinese Government to Cambridge University in the UK where he finished writing a book on Katherine Mansfield. Three years later *Singing in the Land of the Long White Cloud – a Study on the Postcolonial Literature of New Zealand* was published.

Recently Youbin was elected Dean of the School of Translation Studies at Jinan University.

Award-winning special effects

University of Waikato alumnus Jon Allitt was seen celebrating earlier this year, in the lobby of a Hollywood hotel.

He was raising a glass because he and his colleagues from Weta Digital, Martin Hill and Nick McKenzie, had just been honoured by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (yes, that Academy) with a Technical Achievement Award.

Their award was for the creation of the spherical harmonics-based efficient lighting system, a technique they developed to allow for more efficient computation of complex lighting in computer graphics.

It was originally developed for James Cameron's *Avatar*, which won the 2010 Academy Award for Best Visual Effects. It went on to be used in the creation of visual effects for many Oscar-winning movies, including *Iron Man 3* and *The Hobbit* trilogy.

How does an ex-Tauranga Boys' College student find himself on the Academy Award circuit? Jon says it all began with a childhood fascination with making movies which, combined with his Waikato education, led to his current role in computer graphics with Weta Digital in Wellington.

"When I was a kid watching TV shows like *Thunderbirds*, I just knew there was all of this amazing stuff happening in the background, this sort of magic that was making it all come to life," says Jon.

He finished high school early and enrolled in a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Computer Science, at the University of Waikato in 1983. This was the only degree of its kind in New Zealand at the time – well before the days of Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop.

It was at Waikato that Jon developed his passion for computer graphic design.

After graduating in 1987 and completing his masters, Jon continued developing computer graphics applications for computer animation for TV commercials and using rendering and animation software he had developed.

Since 1998 he's worked at Weta Digital on the visual effects for many well-known movies, including *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy, *King Kong*, *Avatar*, and most recently Peter Jackson's *The Hobbit* trilogy.

"Much of my work at Weta includes developing computer graphic rendering processes and the use of artificial intelligence for generating crowd shots, like in the big battle scenes with thousands of characters in *The Lord of the Rings* films," Jon says.

"In the future with these kind of shots we'll be able to do computer rendering with more fidelity, making it less time-consuming and less expensive. Reality will become more achievable without having to rely on conventional filming techniques."

And how did it feel like to stand on stage in Hollywood to accept an Academy Award? "It was pretty surreal," says Jon. "You're in front of a thousand people, producers, directors and the graphics technicians – the pioneers – that worked on the greats like *2001: A Space Odyssey*."

But it wasn't the standard Hollywood bash after the awards ceremony for Jon. "We went to the bar in our hotel, had a gin and tonic and went up to bed. We were pretty tired!"



AWARD WINNING: Alumnus Jon Allitt at the Academy Awards podium earlier this year.

Chemistry at Imperial College



Chemistry graduate Sophie Sim has joined 12 top young scientists from all over the world at Imperial College London to participate in the NexGenAgriChem Innovative Doctoral Programme.

The programme is funded by Syngenta, one of the world's largest crop protection companies, and brings together talented physical sciences graduates to investigate new ways to improve crop protection.

Sophie will be using a novel form of a technique called 2D Infra-red Electron-Vibration-Vibration Spectroscopy "to better understand the mode of action of herbicides on plant protein systems, which will improve herbicide design and contribute to the agrochemical industry".

She will be working alongside Imperial College London chemistry academics Dr Laura Barter and Dr David Klug, and Syngenta scientist Dr John Evans.

The primary objective of the three-year PhD programme is to nurture the group of early-stage researchers in a way that will create a new generation of multidisciplinary researchers to support the challenges of the future.

In conjunction with the PhD research, the programme also includes substantial training in the form of lecture courses, and a transferable skills course in areas such as science communication, as well as professional internship placements. There will also be industry visits to Syngenta in Switzerland and Bayer CropScience in Germany.

"I'm really excited to have this opportunity to research at one of the top 10 universities in the world, and in such a vibrant city as London," Sophie says.

Singing with the Phantom a challenge

For a chunk of 2014, soprano Julia Booth became Christine – the star of Andrew Lloyd Weber’s Phantom of the Opera. The show ran through the month of May in Hamilton’s Founders Theatre, but rehearsals began more than six months before that.

Julia has a Master of Music in performance from Waikato and most of her singing has been opera, so playing the role of Christine was an enjoyable challenge. “Musical theatre demands a different set of skills – for me, I feel there is more scope and freedom – because you wear a microphone, you can play with a broader range of colours without having to consider being heard over the orchestra.”

The production was a huge success for the Hamilton Operatic Society. “People have come to expect a high quality product, and it’s wonderful to see people entertained and moved by art and live theatre. If people are satisfied and moved, then you’ve done your job well. It’d be great if the city could support a pro-am company in the city,” Julia says.

Following Phantom, Julia spent three and a half weeks in London to further her training to be a Certified Master Teacher in Estill voice training. It’s a specialist qualification and there’s only one other in New Zealand qualified to the same level.

“When sports people become fatigued, their performance is likely to suffer, and they’ll seek out treatment or exercise to help them recover or enhance their performance. It’s the same for people who use their voices all day, not just singers, but teachers and court room lawyers for example – we can help them refine their voices and improve their vocal function.”

Julia will get referrals from ear, nose and throat specialists, who, having addressed any medical issues a patient may have, will then go to Julia to improve their vocal technique. “There is also a physiotherapist in Christchurch, Peter Chum, who works with performing artists and I work with him too. People’s voice function can change for a variety of reasons. Aside from the obvious cause of overuse, things like dental work, accidents causing physical trauma – even childbirth can have an unexpected impact. We work together to essentially rehabilitate what is responsible for improving vocal function.”



Photo: *Waikato Times*.



Julia was introduced to Estill training while she was a student at the New Zealand Opera School. “Paul Farrington was a voice lecturer at the school but he only came to New Zealand once a year, and I could see the good it was doing me and how it was helping others, I just wanted more access to it.” So once she had time, Julia decided to become a trainer herself.

“I’m starting to think there may be a PhD in this field, but I’d only do that if I knew my research could advance the industry.”

Not right now though. The mother of one juggles her family life with her voice consultancy, teaching and performing. You’ll have heard her singing national anthems at international netball tournaments, and she’s also been working with former Waikato Hillary Scholar composer and turntabalist Jeremy Mayall – currently Mozart Fellow at the University of Otago. Jeremy’s composed electronic pieces with parts especially for Julia, including one where she had to sing in the Tropical Butterfly House at Otago Museum.

Alumnus at the forefront of property development in Hamilton

When Andrew Yeoman is asked how he knew property development was for him, he gives a pretty straight-up answer.

"I didn't at first," he says. "At uni, I started reading business books – in addition to the prescribed ones – and I started to think then that the business world was for me, and moving into property development came from that initial thinking."

While studying at the University of Waikato, Andrew started buying and selling houses. By the time he graduated with a Bachelor of Management Studies, majoring in Strategic Management and Finance, he was making enough to live on.

And that was the start of his property development business, Yeoman Developments.

"Over time I grew the business from buying and selling individual houses into the neighbourhood developments we're involved with today, and I've also started involving joint venture partners on several of my business deals," says Andrew.

His neighbourhood developments are examples of his preference for urban design, a philosophy that favours sustainable buildings and focuses on maximising the relationship between people and the environment they live in.

"Good urban design is about making the urban environment a great place for people to enjoy," he says. "Having a mix of business, retail and residential together makes for lively spaces where people enjoy spending time."

It seems to be paying off, with Andrew being awarded the New Zealand Property Council's 'Young Achiever of the Year' award in 2013.

He returned to campus this year to share his property expertise as part of the University of Waikato's Winter Lecture Series, speaking about the benefits of high-density housing and urban design.

Andrew says his Waikato education still comes in handy, particularly in the past few years as he's become involved in more complicated development projects.

"The strategic management papers helped me create a good foundation of business knowledge, and the finance papers have helped with the financial modelling that I find myself involved with on a daily basis.

"The third-year strategic management paper was a stand out too. And, while it was challenging at the time, I can say in hindsight that I enjoyed the third year finance paper – it had a lot of great content I'm still using today."



In a monkey world



MONKEY BUSINESS: Jenny Stringer is a team leader at a monkey rehabilitation centre in the UK.

The international black market trade in primates continues to thrive, threatening the survival of some wild species.

At the same time, there are people all over the world working to put a halt to illegal trade, dedicated to rescuing and caring for animals that have been smuggled from the wild or have been kept as pets and suffered abuse or neglect.

Waikato alumna Jenny Stringer is one of those people. For more than seven years she's worked at the Monkey World Ape Rescue Centre, tucked away in Dorset, England and home to 250 primates.

Jenny is team leader for the capuchin section at Monkey World, a job that involves daily care, rehabilitation and management of four troops of capuchins. "We look after 82 of them, plus three spider monkeys. Most of the capuchins were rescued from a lab in Santiago, Chile, back in 2008. Others come from pet trading in the UK, Spain and Slovenia.

"The best part of my job is being able to help with the rehabilitation of the animals and seeing a real difference in their wellbeing, both physically and mentally. And no day is ever the same – monkeys don't always stick to the plan you have for them, so you need to have a lot of patience and a flexible attitude to do the job well."

Jenny says the capuchins will never be able to be released back to the wild as a lot of them are very humanised and although they have improved a lot since arriving they're quite prone to stereotypical behaviours. "Some of them spent years in cages smaller than a metre square, so sadly we would not expect them to cope well back in the wild, but we do our best to give them as natural and stimulating life as possible."

Back in the days when she was Jenny Leaming, Jenny came from Whakatane to Waikato to complete a BSc(Tech). The degree has a work experience component and Jenny was able to work at Hamilton Zoo for a year during her study and was subsequently offered a permanent position there once she graduated.

It was while she was working as one of the zoo's primary chimpanzee keepers that she saw the Monkey World job advertised online. That was in 2006. She applied, headed to the UK in early 2007 for a three week trial and has been there ever since.

"But I've also kept in touch with and travelled with a lot of the people I was at university with. I liked the Waikato set-up, and I played hockey for the uni club while I studied. I have good memories of playing and socialising."

Bridging the gap between New Zealand and Mongolia

Chuluun Munkhbat says New Zealand is not that different from his home country of Mongolia.

"The sheep, the livestock, the countryside. It's very similar to home," says Chuluun.

Chuluun is passionate about New Zealand and Mongolia, and he manages to combine his love for both countries for a job – as New Zealand's Honorary Consul-General in Mongolia.

Nearly 20 years ago, Chuluun was half a world away from his future study at Waikato. He was a senior officer with the Mongolian Police force, and had worked his way up to District Police Chief of the Songion-Kharkhan region.

Before joining the police force, Chuluun completed a Bachelor of Law from the Institute of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Leningrad, Russia. He also earned a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Administration from the Academy of Management in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Then when the time came to look at overseas postgraduate study, New Zealand was the obvious choice to Chuluun.

"I was drawn to New Zealand because of the similar values to Mongolia. Both countries have an immense respect for nature and because of that I feel like New Zealand is my second home," he says.

Chuluun began his studies at the University of Waikato in 1996, graduating in 1998 with a Master of Social Sciences, majoring in Public Policy and Administration.

And he made sure every second of study counted.

"I was in the library and computer labs seven days a week," he says. "One night, I typed up an essay, but couldn't find it on the computer the next morning – and the deadline was 10am. I was panicking! I finally managed to retrieve it with the help of one of the IT people and get it handed in, with just five minutes to spare."

After graduating, Chuluun headed back to his homeland where he had a variety of roles in public administration, including Deputy Prosecutor General of Mongolia from 2005 to 2012.

In May 2014 he was named New Zealand Honorary Consul-General in Mongolia, a job he is relishing.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for me to support and assist New Zealanders in Mongolia and to strengthen the relationship between the two countries politically, economically and culturally."

Chuluun returned to his "second home" in October 2013 as a guest lecturer in the School of Social Sciences.

"I have very fond memories of Waikato and very much look forward to returning again," he says.



Advantage gained with study at Waikato

For Marina Doretto, the lure of New Zealand was too hard to resist.

That, combined with a desire to upskill in her profession saw Marina leave her native Brazil to begin postgraduate studies at the University of Waikato in 2009.

Marina was working in online media in Sao Paulo when she started getting itchy feet. She knew she wanted to work in online marketing and advertising, but felt she needed further qualifications to get there.

"I was in this world where I was unable to understand the terms and logic being used. Sometimes I felt excluded and it was really frustrating. Also, I knew that to have a better competitive advantage I needed to have a specialisation from an English speaking country," she says.

"I did some research and found out Waikato Management School had partnerships with other good business schools in Brazil, and they also had the Triple Crown rating, so I thought, why not?"

Marina completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Marketing in 2010 and her Masters degree in Marketing in 2011.

Campus life suited Marina. She made loads of friends living in the Halls of Residence

during her first year, was a regular at the UniRec gym, worked at a bar in town and was involved in AISEC, a youth-driven global network of young professionals.

"I also travelled around New Zealand when I could. Being in Hamilton, it's so easy to travel around and it's close to great beaches and Auckland. I just had the best time."



HONORARY KIWI: Marina Doretto loves New Zealand.

Marina's now putting her education and skills to great use as an Account Specialist at DataXu, a global programmatic marketing organisation.

DataXu leverages data and analytics from advertising through real-time bidding, a practice that lets advertisers manage and optimise ads from multiple networks by bidding on 'impressions' online. If that impression is won, the buyer's ad is instantly displayed on the publisher's website. Deals can be made in a matter of milliseconds.

To Marina, her job is one big highlight. "I'm combining all of my skills in finance, marketing and analysis, as well as being able to speak fluent English, to the benefit of the company I work for," she says.

"There's also an entrepreneurial aspect to my job because real time bidding is new to Brazil; I'm entering a new market with a product that's already so established in first-world countries."

Marina raves about the time she spent at the University of Waikato. "In class, the students weren't just spectators, and you needed to have done your readings – which were actually pretty interesting – to be able to interact with each other in class."

She mentions Associate Professor Carolyn Costley and former lecturer Associate Professor Mark Koslow as standouts.

Alumnus a champion cheesemaker

Science graduate Miel Meyer is at the helm of one of New Zealand's fastest growing cheese manufacturers – Meyer Cheese.

Miel took over the family business as general manager in 2007, more than 35 years after his parents established the business in Holland before they immigrated to New Zealand in 1984.

"Growing up, it was normal for us to be involved with cheese, and I always knew taking over the business could be an option. But when I went off to university I was glad to see the back of the factory for a little while!" Miel says.

After finishing secondary school at Hamilton's Melville High School, Miel was a bit unsure about what he wanted to do next, but found some great advice on offer at the University of Waikato.

"I was able to choose papers from each faculty while still maintaining the requirements to achieve a Bachelor of Science, just so I could explore what my interests were," he says. Miel chose to major in Microbiology and Biochemistry, graduating in 2005.

He also found the non-academic side of his studies just as beneficial as working towards his degree.

"Waikato University taught me skills that enable me to talk to anybody – whether that's public speaking or talking to people from different backgrounds. This life skill was worth my time at uni alone."

Having adaptable skills is helping Miel in his career immensely, and the business is reaping the rewards.

"My days are usually spent in the office and travelling to key account regions. We're a small business so I don't have a staff member for every role, so I get involved with everything – sales and accounts, GST and tax returns, promotions and marketing... you name it, I've done it.

"But most of all I've learned to appreciate the amount of work my parents have done and what they've achieved."

Miel's not bad on the production side of things either. In 2011 he was named the New Zealand Cheese School Champion Cheesemaker of the Year, and since then Meyer Cheese has won a string of industry awards.



CHAMPION CHEESEMAKER: Miel Meyer is an award-winning cheesemaker and owner of family business, Meyer Cheese.

For now, Miel's looking toward the future of Meyer Cheese by developing its export capability. They currently export to distributors servicing the Eastern states of Australia but are looking to take their product further afield.

"We've been guiding growth in the supermarket sector for a few years now, but I also enjoy the exporting side so that's an area we will focus on in the coming years."

Whānau benefits from Te Tohu Paetahi

A graduate of the first intake of Te Tohu Paetahi has gone on to become a mentor for others learning te reo Māori.

Leah Fitzpatrick graduated with a BA from the intensive total immersion language programme in 1994 and is now one of three national kaiārahi (mentors) for Ako Wānanga (the teaching and learning philosophy, theory and practice) at Te Wānanga o Aotearoa.

Leah is Pākehā and of Irish ancestry but says learning te reo Māori "has always been in my consciousness I suppose".

"Having grown up in Kawerau, I was always around te reo Māori in some form or another."

She took bilingual classes at school but couldn't hold a conversation, even after five years of study.

"I was able to read and write, but didn't have the confidence to speak it," she says.

That all changed on Te Tohu Paetahi, where she was the only Pākehā in a class of 25.

With no English allowed during the programme, she learnt quickly by listening to conversations around her.

"The understanding of the language came faster than learning to speak it. It was frustrating when there was a debate going on and I couldn't contribute. It was a huge learning curve for me," she says.

But the benefits have been worth it. "It has allowed me to become a bilingual citizen of Aotearoa, to raise my children in te reo Māori and has been instrumental in what became my chosen career – first teaching te reo Māori at Te Wānanga o Aotearoa for 10 years and now as a kaiārahi for the same organisation."

She says author, educationalist and fellow Pākehā John Moorfield – who also features in this edition of *Off Campus* on page 16 – has been an ideal role model.

"He has been, and continues to be, a huge inspiration to me so it is nice to be in the same publication as he is."

Leah is married to Te Wānanga o Aotearoa Waiariki regional manager Neville King (Ngāti Pikiao), whom she met at Waikato, and they have two sons, aged 11 and 13.

The whānau lives at Tapuaekura on Lake Rotoiti after spending time teaching te reo in Christchurch.

She says her time on Te Tohu Paetahi held many fond memories.

"I loved my time at Waikato and will always remember all of my kaiako in te tari Māori and peers with great aroha and warmth – e kore e mimiti te aroha, e kore e warewaretia. I will always be grateful for the privileges my relationships and experiences have afforded me and being at Waikato was a huge part of that," she says.



Award-winning communicator sets her sights on New Zealand

Organisations of New Zealand, listen up. Award-winning, London-based communicator Julia Bell will soon have her sights set on New Zealand, and we don't think it will take long for someone to snap her up.

Julia is currently the Corporate Public Relations Manager for Visa Europe, and she's also the winner of the European Association of Communication Directors' Young Communicator of the Year Award – an award that recognises an outstanding and innovative communication project that actively contributes to shaping the future of the communications profession in Europe.

Julia took out the top prize at this year's European Communication Summit for the project 'Slovakia: Mobile payment becomes a reality', a project that created a groundswell of awareness and excitement around mobile payments, motivating Europe's change-resistant banking industry to make the products available to their retail customers.

Graduating from the University of Waikato in 2007 with a Bachelor of Management Studies with First Class Honours in Public Relations and Marketing, Julia has amassed an impressive line-up of career highlights in a pretty short time.

She was part of the team at Telecom New Zealand that managed the XT crisis and launched the new Spark logo; she also started

and led its first social media team. In London, she's done work for Air New Zealand, the All Blacks BackingBlack and top UK PR agencies Freuds and Bell Pottinger.

Then Visa knocked on her door with an offer she couldn't refuse.

"It was 2012 and they wanted help with the Olympics – an opportunity I just couldn't turn down," says Julia. "Two and-a-half years on and I'm still here. I'm responsible for strategic communications programmes that enhance and protect Visa's reputation, all in support of wider business objectives across 37 markets, with the wonderful help of a PR executive and 24 agencies."

The London 2012 Games were a stand-out for Julia, where she worked to deliver the Olympic and Paralympic Games innovation campaign – 'The Contactless Olympics', which included hosting 80 European journalists at 24 press events to publicise Visa's contactless payment method.

Of course, her recent European Communicator award win is a highlight too. Her winning project focused on a two-day event in Slovakia, where journalists and bloggers experienced a unique press trip. The event was then brought to life with smart story-telling to amplify authentic messages and proof-points across Europe socially.

"The tricky thing about this piece of work was that to meet the business's needs, I had to challenge the perception that the new products would only be a mass-market success if they were adopted in Western European countries first," says Julia.

The campaign's unique approach meant that in just one year the number of Visa mobile payment products available to Europeans doubled.

Julia credits the BMS programme at the University of Waikato as the foundation she needed for her career.

"In my day-to-day work there are still specific skills and cases I studied in my papers that I continue to use," she says.

"Doing honours was also a real benefit. The added strategic thinking honours provides has definitely been worth the time and effort it took, especially in the early years of my career."

In her third year at Waikato, Julia also leapt at the chance to do an overseas exchange at Lancaster University in the UK. "It was a great way to live away from home, be challenged personally, travel and meet great friends," she says.

Julia's already looking for her next challenge – one that hopefully involves a step up the career ladder. And coming home isn't off the radar either.

"Ultimately I'd like to be a chief communications officer for a New Zealand brand or organisation, and continue to work with creative, smart, fun and hard-working people."



TOP COMMUNICATOR: Julia Bell won the prestigious Young Communicator of the Year Award in Europe.

From Whakatane to Wellington, and all the jobs in between

Chris Roberts didn't think about going to university until he was turned down for a job at a bank.

"After finishing high school I had wanted to get a job as a teller in a bank in Whakatane, but the bank manager took one look at my grades and told me to go to university. I owe him a great debt of thanks!"

Today, Chris is the Chief Executive of the Tourism Industry Association of New Zealand (TIA), the largest representative body for the tourism industry, with around 1500 members.

Chris' career has been built upon one simple rule: to always do what he loves.

He picked his degree at the University of Waikato based on the subjects he enjoyed most – politics and history, then began his working career in 1985 after graduating with a Bachelor of Arts, back in Whakatane at the local radio station.

"That started as a holiday job and then became permanent," says Chris. "I found my BA degree was a good foundation to start from, and I got to learn everything else I needed to know on the job."

After a three-year OE in the UK and Europe, Chris returned to radio journalism and his experience started to build up. He took on senior editor roles at Radio New Zealand before moving to the Beehive, where he worked for the Minister of Tourism – his first taste of the tourism industry.

After his stint at Parliament, followed by a decade in corporate affairs in the energy sector, Chris came back to tourism.

He was General Manager Corporate Affairs at Tourism New Zealand (where fellow Waikato alumnus Kevin Bowler is CEO) before accepting the chief executive role at TIA in May this year.

As chief executive, Chris acts as the voice of the tourism industry in New Zealand, leading a team of 18 that looks after the interests of their 1500 members and the wider tourism industry.

And he's pretty happy with how things have gone. "I do have a sense of pride that having started as a journalist, and come through the channel of corporate communications, I've been able to reach chief executive level," he says.

Chris has fond memories of student life in the 80s, including time spent propping up the bar at The Hillcrest Tavern (better known as The Hilly), and knocking about with his fellow residents of Bryant Hall – who included now assistant All Black coach Ian Foster, Judge Edwin Paul and BNZ Head of Research Stephen Topliss.

"I had a fantastic experience at Waikato University. I got a lot of life experience and I made friendships there that still endure today."



Coincidence leads to best decision ever

Alyona Medelyan didn't see her first computer until she was 16. Now she's making a living from teaching computers to understand text and speech.



Alyona runs Entopix Consulting, the company she set up a year ago providing advice to organisations on natural language processing, text analytics and text mining while also carrying out research and software development.

"I think it is on the verge of really expanding," she says.

She is essentially commercialising the research she did while completing her PhD in Computational Linguistics in 2009.

"I developed an algorithm during my PhD and released it as open source. Many companies are already using it, while others can't due to licensing issues. So, I've created a better version from scratch and want to licence it. That's being evaluated by a couple of companies now," she says.

Ultimately she would like to be able to sell the software at the same time as keeping her consulting business going.

Alyona, a new mother and now living in Auckland, says opening her consultancy proved an ideal way to ease herself back into the workforce and was one she encouraged other women to consider.

She says her field of expertise is unique in New Zealand and valuable for organisations wanting to make sense out of large amounts of textual data. "It's knowing what to do with that text data and how to understand what that means. This field is very new for New Zealand, I'm the first consultancy in this area and I think it will grow," she says.

Alyona is originally from Ukraine and says the first computer she had was when she was a teenager and was for the whole family.

"I used it mainly as a tool for learning languages. German and English. For me, it was a tool."

After leaving school, she was originally training to be a linguist. "That's quite common for women in the Ukraine, to become a teacher or an interpreter. But there were so many of us I thought 'how will we all get jobs?'. Then I heard about computational linguistics. I didn't know then that this field existed."

That took her to Freiburg University in Germany – where she completed a Masters in Computational Linguistics – and, eventually, to the University of Waikato, where she completed her PhD in Computer Science.

"The (University of Waikato) Computer Science Department had a collaboration with Freiburg University," she says.

"I wanted to go somewhere else other than Germany and when I saw the kinds of problems they were working on, I thought 'that's where I want to go'. If they take me, I'll come."

"It was the best decision I've ever made."

Honours for alumni

The University of Waikato is proud to congratulate several alumni awarded in the 2014 Queen's Birthday Honours.

Queen's Birthday Honours

OBE – Order of the British Empire

- » Mr Warren David Gatland OBE; DipT, 1986 (services to rugby), Distinguished Alumnus, 2012

CNZM – Companions of the Order of New Zealand

- » Dr Huirangi Eruera Waikerepuru CNZM; Honorary Doctorate, 1995 (services to Māori)

MNZM – Members of the Order of New Zealand

- » Mr David Stewart Scott JP, MNZM; CertContEd, 1994 (services to the community)
- » Mr Deryck Jonathan Shaw MNZM; BSc, 1978 (services to the community), Distinguished Alumnus, 2007

» QSM – The Queen's Service Medal

- » Mr Ian Charles Hunter QSM; PGCertSchPrinc, 2006; PGDIP, 2008; MEdLeadership, 2011 (services to education)
- » Mr Alan Charles Spence QSM; DipT, 1997 (services to brass bands)

QSM – Honorary Award of the Queen's Service Medal

- » Ms Aufaga Faimai Tuimauga QSM; MA(Applied), 2000 (services to the Pacific community and education)

Golden Key aim high in 2014

The University of Waikato chapter of the Golden Key International Honours Society has capped off a stellar year with news of its latest achievement, a Gold Standing rating at the 2014 Asia-Pacific Regional Conference in Hobart, Australia.

Golden Key uses standards to measure each chapter's involvement and adherence to the pillars of Academics, Leadership and Service. Gold Standing is the highest possible standard of achievement and shows the chapter has been active in member engagement, events and community service.

In addition, the Waikato Chapter received Key Chapter Status, an indication of outstanding academic and community contributions, at the 2014 Golden Key International Summit in Boston, USA. Fewer than 30 of the more than 400 Golden Key chapters worldwide have Key Chapter Status.

Throughout the year Golden Key Waikato hosted a variety of community and academic events including the annual Daffodil Day fundraiser, a speaker panel on graduate employment, scholarship seminars and a pre-election lecture series inviting politicians to speak to students.

Golden Key Alumni who wish to be kept informed about Golden Key Waikato activities can follow the chapter on Facebook: www.facebook.com/WaikatoGoldenKey



KEY CHAPTER STATUS: Derek Swemmer, Chair of the Golden Key Board of Directors, presents the Key Chapter trophy to Waikato Golden Key President, Tim Ng in Boston.

Alumni Association awards high achievers

Congratulations to the winners of the 2014 Alumni Association Prizes for Excellence. These prizes are awarded to second-year students with the highest grade point average in each Faculty or School during their first year of study.



The winners were: Maria Captein and Bernard de Witt (FASS), Adam Fleming and Nathaniel Watson (FCMS), Carlos Dobson and Natasha Staheli-Lowe (FEDU), Harsimran Mahal (FLAW), Chris Eager, Hannah Freeman, Alistair Lockley, Nicola Lovett, Carissa Muruges, Marlena Prentice and Ben Shirley (FSEN), Tawai Tawhara (SMPD), Michaela Barker and Fabienne Pislro (WMS).

Sporting connections

With the Waikato region fast becoming a major centre for high performance sport, the University of Waikato recently signed Memorandums of Understanding with BikeNZ and Triathlon NZ.

The partnerships provide a framework for top and up-and-coming young athletes to focus on sport and academia at the same time.

"Often people will give away sport to focus on education, or delay study to focus on their chosen sport," says University of Waikato Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Alister Jones. "What we want is for these high achievers to reach their full potential in both fields by making their journey through university as smooth as possible."

BikeNZ and Triathlon NZ now have their headquarters in the Waikato, so Professor Jones says it makes good sense to establish a formal relationship with both sporting bodies and their elite athletes.

The University will offer Sir Edmund Hillary Scholarships to outstanding cyclists and triathletes, which means their course fees are paid, they'll receive academic support, access to extra coaching and training advice and facilities, and opportunities to develop their leadership skills.

"This will be attractive to cyclists and triathletes from outside the region who want to attend university, and it will also encourage Waikato-based athletes to remain in the region to study," says Professor Jones.

The University of Waikato is the tertiary partner with the Avantidrome in Cambridge where both BikeNZ and Triathlon NZ are based and University sports scientists have already been working with the world champion track cyclists and the junior track cycling team.



GEARING UP: BSc student and triathlon Hillary Scholar Nicole van der Kaay.



ON TRACK: BSc student and cycling Hillary Scholar Madison Farrant.

Star University win Howden Cup

The Star University Cricket Club ended a lengthy Howden Cup drought, winning by an innings and 25 runs in the three-day final against Old Boys in April.

Skipper Ben Speake scored 104 in the first innings and was backed up by a 131-run partnership between Freddy Walker, 95, and Peter West, 77 as they posted an imposing first innings total of 350.

West also claimed 4-42 in Old Boys' first innings to be judged man of the match.

Old Boys were all out for 152 early on the third day, before Star enforced the follow on rolled them for 173 in their second innings.

It was Star University's first Howden Cup victory since 1997, when Daniel Vettori took 10 wickets in the final.

Closer ties with rugby

The Chiefs Rugby Club and the University of Waikato signed a Memorandum of Understanding earlier this year, formalising what was already a strong relationship.



RESEARCH AND RUGBY: The Deputy Vice-Chancellor with Chiefs players Liam Messam, Aaron Cruden and Rhys Marshall.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Roy Crawford says the University is committed to extending its research contributions to include high performance sport and formalising the relationship with the Chiefs also served to strengthen the University's engagement and partnerships regionally and nationally.

The MoU will see the two organisations working together in a range of areas of interest, with key priorities identified as education and research programmes, student projects and internships.

Chief Executive of the Chiefs, Andrew Flexman, said attendance was a big challenge for the club, as it is for all live sports. "So some more research into fan behaviour would be good. How we go about attracting the next generation of fans is an obvious area to look at."

There were also likely to be opportunities for players to undertake study to prepare for a life after rugby, he said. "We're aligning our approach for players, particularly younger players, and giving them the opportunity to study. The main problem is time," Mr Flexman says.

Sport and arts winners announced at University Blues Awards

World champion rower Zoe Stevenson and surf lifesaver Samuel Shergold took out the top two sporting accolades at the 2014 Wallace Corporation University of Waikato Blues Awards held in October.

This year, more than 60 Blues Awards were given out to the University of Waikato's top sporting and arts students. Award winners represented a range of disciplines, from snowboarding to beach volleyball, kapa haka to music composition. The Blues Awards are one of the University of Waikato's most prestigious awards and one of its strongest traditions.

Zoe was named Sportswoman of the Year, and Sam was named Sportsman of the Year. The Pou Ahurea Award for Māori Person of the Year went to Tupuria King, and Teresa Connors took away the award for Creative and Performing Arts Person of the Year.

The past two years have been very successful for new rowing world champion Zoe. After coming second in the women's double sculls at the 2013 Rowing World Championships in Korea she went on to win a national title in the premier women's quad at this year's New Zealand champs and came second in the single and double scull finals. Then it was on to Amsterdam and the 2014 World Championships where she teamed up with Fiona Bourke to win gold in the double sculls.

Zoe's studying for a Bachelor of Science while Sportsman of the Year Sam Shergold is a management student. Like Zoe, he hails

from Tauranga. His sport is surf life-saving. He won 2013 national titles in the men's board rescue, the board relay and Taplin relay and then was selected to represent New Zealand in Nicaragua in May this year at the ISA World Championships for stand-up paddleboarding and paddleboarding. He competed in the 18km prone-paddleboard "lactic-lashing" race around Lake Nicaragua, finishing second in a sprint up the beach and taking the silver medal.

Māori Person of the year Tupuria King is the 2014 250 metre, 500 metre and long distance New Zealand waka ama national premier champion. He was also selected to compete in Australia where he came first in the 28km race in the Waka Ama Te Aito race there and qualified to represent New Zealand in Tahiti. Then it was on to South America where he won bronze at the world waka ama Sprint Championships in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Back on dry land Tupuria is studying for a Bachelor of Sport and Leisure Studies.

Creative and Performing Arts Person of the Year went to Teresa Connors, who also received a Blue for Music Composition. Teresa is a music PhD candidate and was invited to feature her latest work *Lines* at the Toronto International Electroacoustic Symposium this year. She presented *Terroir*, a fixed media audio-visual work, at the Sweet Thunder Music Festival in San Francisco, at the Seeing Sound Symposium at Bath Spa University and at The Listening Room: Landscapes in San Diego. Teresa also won a Terry Stringer sculpture commissioned by arts patron Sir James Wallace for the Creative and Performing Arts Person of the Year.

Zoe, Sam and Tupuria are all Sir Edmund Hillary Scholars. The Hillary programme provides full-fee scholarships to academic high achievers who show significant leadership qualities and also excel in either sport or the creative and performing arts.

Other major awards were given for:

- » University Club of the Year – University of Waikato Netball Club
- » Don Llewellyn Trophy Sports Team of the Year – University of Waikato Premier Netball
- » Sports Coach – Rebecca Gabel, Netball
- » Service of the Year – Beverley Pullon, Music
- » Margaret Nicholson Long Service Award (10 years or more service) – Mark Donnelly, Cricket
- » Creative and Performing Arts Group of the Year – The Stravinsky Trio



SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR:
Surf lifesaver Samuel Shergold.



Main winners: (L-R) The Pou Ahurea Award for Māori Person of the Year went to Tupuria King, Teresa Connors was named as Creative and Performing Arts Person of the Year and rower Zoe Stevenson was Sportswoman of the Year. Absent on the evening was surf lifesaver Samuel Shergold who took away the Sportsman of the Year Award.

Waikato men, Washington women claim titles in Gallagher Great Race

The Waikato University men's eight lost a rower overboard but recovered to claim victory in the 13th running of the Gallagher Great Race on the Waikato River in September.

The Gallagher Great Race pitted university crews from Harvard, Washington, Melbourne and hosts Waikato in the 3.8km boat race, upstream into the strong currents and winds on the Waikato River and negotiating their way under three bridges.

Waikato clashed with the highly ranked Harvard University crew under the first bridge, with No 3 seat Richard Power tipped out of the boat. The judges ruled a re-start – and also gave Harvard a five second penalty – but the delay fired up the home crew, who dominated from the re-start to win the coveted Harry Mahon Memorial Trophy for the ninth time in 13 years, shutting out Harvard and Melbourne.

However, the women's race was a different story, with the visiting Washington University women's crew coming from behind after clipping a couple of trees to beat the hosts and Melbourne University and win the Bryan Gould Cup. Perhaps fittingly, there were three Kiwis in the Washington crew.

Waikato men's coxswain Caleb Shepherd was just back from the World Rowing Champs in Amsterdam where he'd guided Hamish Bond and Eric Murray to gold, and the Under 23 eights at their world champs before that.

Waikato women were led by new world champion sculler Zoe Stevenson in the stroke seat and behind her Kayla Pratt, part of the world champion women's four.



CHAMPIONS: The University of Waikato's rowing eight took out the top spot for the ninth time in 13 years.

Gold's her favourite colour

Sir Edmund Hillary scholar and snowboarder Natalie Good won gold in the slopestyle event at the Trentino 2013 World Winter Universiade, an international sports festival.

Natalie was part of the seven-strong New Zealand team competing at the Universiade in Italy in December.

"I was very proud to wear black and bring home a medal for New Zealand," says the 23-year-old law and management student. "It was an awesome feeling to be the first Kiwi to medal at these games, and gold is my favourite colour!"

In slopestyle, athletes attempt to perform difficult tricks while getting the highest amplitude off jumps, with emphasis on performing different types of tricks instead of doing one trick repeatedly.



The International University Sports Federation awards three scholarships a year to students around the world. Natalie was the Oceania recipient of the scholarship for the academic year 2014-15.

She's now hoping to qualify for the 2018 Winter Olympics in Korea and will be following the competition circuit for the next four years.

Under 19s get uni support

A new grade of rugby kicked off this year and the University was right behind it.

The Waikato Under 19 side, known as the Waikato Juniors, was sponsored by the University in its inaugural competition, which involved a round of games against other provincial sides before the Jock Hobbs Memorial National U19 Tournament in Taupo in early October.

Many of the Waikato Junior players were Waikato students, and played either for the University club or other clubs around the region. Waikato qualified for the Taupo tournament as one of the top four seeds thanks to their earlier wins over Bay of Plenty, Counties Manukau, North Harbour, Taranaki and a Harlequins Under 19 side.

Captain Mitchell Jacobson, fellow loose forward Mungo Mason and prop Atu Moli are Hillary Scholars at Waikato University, and Tau Koloamatangi, Josh Dowsing and Te Raina Richards-Coxhead are all students who play for the University club.

Waikato Juniors made the semi-finals of the Taupo tournament, going down to Canterbury who were then beaten in the final by Wellington.

Cyber experts battle zombie outbreak

A zombie outbreak was successfully repelled, just, during the inaugural Cyber Security Challenge held at the University of Waikato in September.

While cyber security challenges are held regularly overseas, it was the first university-initiated challenge held in New Zealand and the director of the only cyber security lab in the country, Dr Ryan Ko, says it tested the skills of those taking part as much as those organising it.

Faculty of Computing & Mathematical Sciences students Matthew Law, Marc Tiehuis and Carlin St Pierre from Team Double MC won the challenge from another undergraduate team, CyberTeemos, made up of Joshua Scarsbrook, Danial Roslan and Janik Singh.

Honours students Mickey Law, Caleb Donnelly and Julian Melchert came in third.

The challenge involved teams attempting to solve 11 cyber security problems in a scenario based around a zombie outbreak. Eleven teams managed to clear half the challenges while there was one challenge that no one was able to solve.

Dr Ko says the event was a great success and he hoped it would become an annual event and open to teams from industry and the public as well.

Representatives from sponsors Aura Information Security, PwC and Insomnia

had been impressed with the large turnout and organisation of the challenge, he says,

Much of the work organising the challenge was done by students.

"A lot of credit goes to the graduate students from the Cyber Security Lab, Alan Tan and Baden Delamore, and Grace Nolan, Sam Hegarty and Jessamy Topping."

Day one of the two-day challenge included training sessions for participants along with talks about the cyber security industry.

Day two saw participants use their security skills and knowledge to take part in the fictional scenario.

Dr Ko believed the challenge would build networks for both students and industry.

"We want to create a platform which enables the industry experts to quickly identify talent, and for our students to show what they can do through the competition and networking sessions," he says.

Demand for cyber security experts is growing at 3.5 times the pace of the overall IT job market and 12 times faster than the total labour market internationally. The cyber security market is expected to grow to \$94 billion in 2017.

The University of Waikato offers New Zealand's only masters degree in cyber security and CROW (Cyber security Researchers of Waikato) is the only cyber security lab in the country.

SMPD celebrates five new doctors

In an historic day for the School of Māori and Pacific Development, five of its PhD candidates graduated at Te Kohinga Mārama Marae on 21 October.

They were Roger Lewis – *The Application of Critical Discourse Theory: A Criterion-Referenced Analysis of Reports to Language Revitalisation in Australia and New Zealand*; Vincent Malcolm-Buchanan – *Cloaked in Life and Death: Tangi and Taonga in a Contemporary Māori Whānau*; Jillian Tipene (O'Brien) – *Te Tuhirau i Rehu i Ringa: Translating Sacred and Sensitive Texts: An Indigenous Perspective*; Saburo Omura – *The Treaty of Waitangi and Asian Immigrants in Aotearoa: A Reflective Journey*; and Murray Peters – *Reclaiming the Māori Language for Future Generations: Flax Root Perspectives Tikina Te Mana o Te Reo Māori: Te Putaketanga o Te Pa Harakeke.*

Associate Professor Winnie Crombie, along with Dr Hemi Whaanga, supervised three of the five graduates, which she says has been a rewarding job. "Mentoring PhD students over the years has been the most satisfying aspect of my work. It's always very special to watch them graduate and then follow their careers, sometimes working with them later on a range of academic projects."

Since coming to the University in 1991, Dr Crombie has supervised more than 30 PhD students from France, Germany, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, the USA and New Zealand.

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Postgraduate) Professor Kay Weaver says having five SMPD doctoral students go through graduation together at the recent marae ceremony is testament to the hard work, commitment, and passion for their subject on the part of the graduands and their supervisors.

"This is a major achievement and an important contribution in furthering Māori and indigenous knowledge and research capability."



ZOMBIE FIGHTERS: Matthew Law, Marc Tiehuis and Carlin St Pierre won the inaugural Cyber Security Challenge.

Springs project bubbling along

The value of many of New Zealand's hot springs will be quantified in an ambitious two-year project mapping the physical, chemical and microbial diversity of 1000 geothermal features in the central North Island.

When completed, the 1000 Springs project will provide a unique resource telling New Zealand's geothermal story.

Researchers are part-way through the mammoth task of sampling and analysing the geothermal features and loading the data onto a publicly available website.

It's a joint project between the University of Waikato and GNS Science and Professor Craig Cary from the University's Thermophile Research Unit says many other interested groups have also been involved.

"We've got DoC, Fish and Game, many iwi, councils, landowners, anyone who has an interest in geothermal features."

He says while New Zealanders value the country's geothermal features, "we know very little about them, what is in them and how best to manage this resource".

"There are more than 3000 features in the North Island and only a handful have been looked at. The chemicals in the pools are all different, the PH levels range from extreme acid to alkaline, and temperatures from warm tap water to 95 degrees Celsius."

The project will provide a "unique metric" of information about each surveyed feature to enable the best management measures to be put in place. "Nothing like this has ever been undertaken before," he says.

"We'll carry out the survey, analyse the chemistry, extract the DNA, look at the bacteria living there under different conditions, the different thermophiles, and extremophiles living at the edge of biology. At a genetic level, we'll find out who's there and what they are doing."

Along with providing a massive amount of scientific data, an app is being developed by University of Waikato computer science senior lecturer Dr Annika Hinze which will tell the story of each site.

"Ultimately it will provide a medium to value these systems, backed up with hard data," Professor Cary says.

The central North Island provides a wide variety of geothermal features and Professor Cary says they are working hard to ensure as wide a range as possible are included. "We've got mud pools, dirty pools, clear pools, flowing pools, and springs."



BUBBLING AWAY: An ambitious two-year project will map the properties of 1000 geothermal features in New Zealand.

He says there is "real interest" in the project from a biological perspective but also from commercial organisations hoping to use the database to search for organisms which may be commercially useful.

"Commercially, some could be very valuable," he says.

Professor Cary says the research team has applied for funding from MBIE for Phase Two of the project, which will expand its reach to include genome-level surveys and to "fill in the gaps".

"We'd like to include the whole country and the Kermadecs as well," he says.

The latest information from the 1000 Springs project is available at www.1000springs.org.nz/



SISTERS STUDYING: Scholarships for Willow-Jean Prime and Season-Mary Downs.

Smart women

Two Northland sisters are the recipients of the inaugural Centre for Indigenous and Māori Governance PhD scholarships. They're Season-Mary Downs and Willow-Jean Prime who are both studying aspects of Māori governance for their PhDs.

The scholarships have been provided through a decision by the University to allocate scholarships to each of the six research institutes on campus.

The sisters are law graduates who both completed Masters of Law in Māori, Pacific and Indigenous Peoples Law.

Season-Mary is currently practising at Hamilton-based McCaw Lewis Lawyers where she specialises in Treaty of Waitangi claims processes. Willow-Jean was elected councillor for the Far North District Council at the last local body elections and also has her own consultancy business.

Season-Mary is researching the topic of 'Nga Taumata o te Moana – Reconciling the Ownership and Governance of the Takutai Moana, under the supervision of Professor Brad Morse and Linda Te Aho, while Willow-Jean is researching the 'Local Government and Māori in Te Tai Tokerau' under the supervision of Professor Brad Morse, Professor Margaret Wilson and Andrew Erueti.

Benefits for all from work placements

More than 250 University of Waikato students benefit from real world experience each year as part of the Work Placement Programme, run by the Co-operative Education Unit for BSc(Tech) and BE(Hons) degrees.

The work placement programme is the combination of study and relevant, authentic work which benefits employers, students, and the University.

The University's Co-operative Education Unit is New Zealand's foremost co-operative education-type programme, which helps students find relevant work placements to fulfil their degree requirements.

Many of the employers involved with the programme are former students themselves.

Two long-term supporters of the programme, and former students from the University of Waikato, Auckland Council's Phil White and

Hayden Goble from Gallaghers, have both been recognised with the programme's Outstanding Employer Award.

Mr White is manager of Environmental Services at Auckland Council and has taken placement students in hydrology since 2001 while Mr Goble, team leader and lead engineer at the Hamilton-based Gallagher Group, has taken two or three electronic engineering students each year for nearly 10 years.

The programme itself has been recognised as among the best, with Unit Director, Dr Karsten Zegwaard and former Unit Director Professor Richard Coll last year jointly receiving the Ralph W Tyler Award for Outstanding and Distinguished Research and Publication in the Field of Co-operative Education, Internships, and Work-Integrated Learning.

The accolade is awarded by the US-based Co-operative Education and Internships Association, and is based on international nominations.

Dr Zegwaard says the benefits of the programme include students gaining authentic practical experience and building contacts, the University enhancing its relationship with employers and employers having access to reliable, motivated, and skilled individuals, and the opportunity to explore collaborative research opportunities with Faculty of Science & Engineering researchers.

Alumni or others wanting to know more about the work placement programme or the opportunity to have science and engineering placement students, can contact Dr Zegwaard on 07 838 4892 or email k.zegwaard@waikato.ac.nz



THE REAL WORLD: Phil White from Auckland Council with Sue McCurdy, placement co-ordinator for sciences.

New dean has big plans for WMS

He successfully launched an online suite of postgraduate programmes across Africa and introduced that continent's first graduate school in quantitative finance and risk management, and now Canadian economist Professor Don Ross is taking the reins as Dean of Waikato Management School.

Professor Ross is coming from the University of Cape Town (UCT) where he's currently Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Professor of Economics. He also holds down a part-time position as Program Director for Methodology and is a Research Fellow at the Centre for Economic Analysis of Risk at Georgia State University in the USA.

He says the time was right for a change – he was at UCT for nearly two decades.

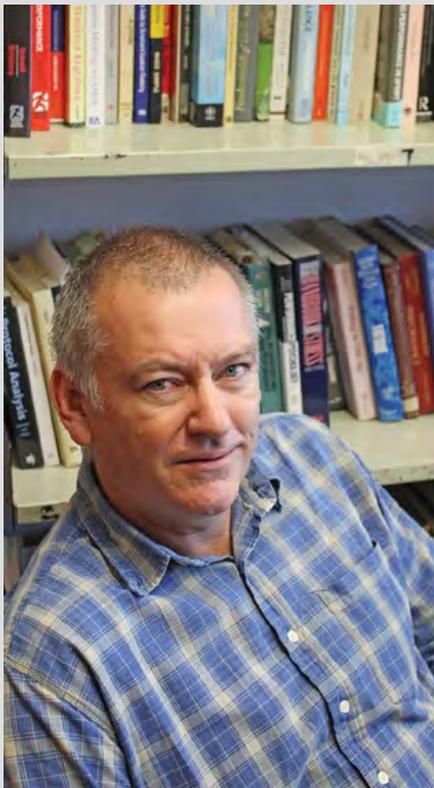
"Having been with UCT for the past 18 years, and having thoroughly enjoyed my past four and a half years as Dean, I was looking for another university to try my hand at," he says.

He was attracted to the position because it comes with an appointment in the Economics Department, which ranks highly in the world.

Leveraging the international relationships formed through his current roles in Africa and the USA has led Professor Ross to deliver a number of successful ventures. Under his leadership, UCT launched 'Across Africa', a premium online suite of graduate and postgraduate programmes and qualifications within the private sector, and the introduction of the externally-funded African Institute for Financial Markets and Risk Management, subjects not taught previously in Africa.



He's planning to take the 'Across Africa' model and roll it out on a global level, supported by a three university consortium which would include Waikato, UCT and Georgia State, and he's also looking to grow Waikato Management School's research portfolio.



I did it without thinking

Delegates at an international cycling symposium got a lesson in unconscious thinking from University of Waikato's Professor Rich Masters. He was speaking at an international cycling seminar run by the University of Waikato and being held at the Avantidrome in Cambridge.

Professor Masters showed the group how the eyes and mind play tricks on people's perceptions; how surroundings, preconceptions, fear and anxiety all influence how people perceive and interpret things, which can then affect their performance. "But when people use unconscious thought they are often much more accurate in how they see and judge things," Professor Masters said.

He's an experimental psychologist who this year joined the Department of Sport and Leisure Studies in the Faculty of Education after 13 years at the University of Hong Kong where he was Director of

the Institute of Human Performance. His work in the field of implicit motor learning is widely recognised in disciplines that require movement, such as sport, surgery, rehabilitation and geriatrics.

Some of the ways people learn implicitly are through observation rather than instruction, through doing secondary tasks alongside a difficult activity, through analogy, subliminally, by not working towards results, and through errorless learning – that is, creating steps or situations where people can't fail but slowly build up their skill, almost without realising what is happening.

A hand in gold

University of Waikato's sports scientists Joe McQuillan and Dr Matt Driller spent a good deal of 2014 at the Avantidrome. They worked with New Zealand's world champion sprint cyclists before they headed to the Commonwealth Games to test and monitor aspects of the cyclists' fitness, including oxygen consumption, training intensity and recovery between workouts.

The information obtained gave coaches a better understanding of the cyclists' aerobic and physiological condition and enabled coaches to modify training and optimise specific target areas.

"You bet we're pleased with the Glasgow medal haul," says Joe McQuillan from Sport and Leisure Studies. "It's always great to work with athletes, and in this case to have performance and training data on the Commonwealth's most successful track cycling sprinters is great in determining the pathway for aspiring sprinters."

Mr McQuillan also worked with the national junior cycling team as they prepared for their world championships in Korea, while Waikato Sport and Leisure students have been using the Avantidrome to learn more about lab work and data analysis. "We've got a win-win situation here with the lab," says Mr McQuillan. "The coaches get questions answered and we get access to elite athletes."

Meanwhile, Mr McQuillan, who manages the Sports and Exercise Science Lab at the University, is studying the benefits of beetroot juice supplementation on cycling performance for his PhD. And his research shows that it is good for you; more so if you're an average rather than elite athlete.



TESTING SUCCESS: World and Commonwealth champion cyclist Sam Webster works with experts from the University of Waikato and BikeNZ in the lead up to the 2014 Commonwealth Games.



SPORTS SCIENTIST: Joe McQuillan is studying the effects of beetroot juice on cycling performance.



WELL-BEHAVED: Dr James McEwan with an obedient Romsey (named after a town in the south of England).

A degree for good behaviour

The pet business is big business. New Zealanders spend \$1.5 billion a year on companion animals and Australians spend \$8.4 billion. As well as feeding and immunising their animals and addressing health issues, many people seek behaviour therapy for their pets.

From next year the University of Waikato will be offering postgraduate qualifications in clinical animal behaviour.

Dr James McEwan from the School of Psychology says while there are veterinary science qualifications available in New Zealand and Australia, no university in the southern hemisphere offers a qualification in clinical animal behaviour.

"We know from vets and other professionals working in the sector that they need graduates who understand clinical practice and the science of behaviour," says Dr McEwan.

TV One's *Purina Pound Pups to Dog Star* trainer and animal behaviour consultant Mark Vette says a qualification like this is well overdue.

"Animal behaviour problems are the number one cause of euthanasia in dogs," he says. "A proportion of these can be dealt with by every day dog trainers, but more serious problems like phobias, separation distress, serious aggression and the like need an in-depth understanding of the causes, functions and prevention of these behaviours. A thorough understanding of ethology and psychology is absolutely critical for an animal behaviour consultant."

The University of Waikato's School of Psychology already has a Learning, Behaviour and Welfare Research Unit and the new qualifications, a masters degree, a postgraduate diploma and certificate, will build on existing expertise and research.

The qualifications will be delivered entirely online, and therefore accessible to students all over the world and will be aligned with the British Animal Behaviour and Training Council standards.

Go to www.waikato.ac.nz/fass/cab/ for more information or email clinab@waikato.ac.nz

Expertise leads to a new job

Dean of Faculty of Science & Engineering Professor Bruce Clarkson landed himself a new job for a few months this year. He was appointed full-time interim director of New Zealand Biological Heritage Science Challenge.

The Biological Heritage Science Challenge, Ngā koiora Tuku Iho, is one of 10 national Science Challenges funded by the New Zealand government, designed to allow more strategic science investment with the aim of delivering major and ongoing benefits for New Zealand.

A total of \$25.8 million has been committed to the challenge to cover research over the next five years.

Professor Clarkson was tasked with setting up the framework for the challenge, while allowing time for the group to recruit a permanent director.

Hosted by Landcare Research, the research for this challenge will be designed to protect and manage New Zealand's biodiversity, improve biosecurity and enhance the country's resilience to harmful organisms, says Professor Clarkson who's recognised as one of New Zealand's foremost authorities on ecological restoration.

"I'm passionate about making a difference on the ground and this programme has the potential to be a game-changer in terms of a fundamental shift in research thinking, alignment and collaboration. The proposed research will require new ideas to flourish and work at a much larger scale compared with now."

In fact, Professor Clarkson describes the five-year research programme as the biggest of its kind for this topic in New Zealand to date. He hopes that the integrated 'one ecosystem' research agenda will synergise benefits, deepen collaboration across research boundaries and most of all, increase the focus of investment on the 'mission critical' research that works with and for the community.

"The proposed national partnership, coupled with a high-performing, integrated research agenda, will deliver fit-for-purpose, socially acceptable, cost-effective and well-tested solutions to address national priorities in both natural and production ecosystems," he says.





THE FUTURE IS CALLING FOR EXPERTS IN THEIR FIELD

At the University of Waikato, we're answering the call.

Our flexible postgraduate qualifications are designed to open up more career opportunities, and expand your knowledge and expertise.

With a vibrant campus life, strong links with industry, and an innovative, future-focused study environment, the University of Waikato is a great place to take your study to the next level.

PhD candidate Monica Peters, pictured, is taking advantage of these benefits so she can research whether community volunteers' data can integrate with professional science to build more complete pictures of environmental health.

Set yourself up for where the world is going. Find out more about our range of certificate, diploma, executive education and masters degree programmes at waikato.ac.nz or call 0800 WAIKATO.



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato

WHERE THE WORLD IS GOING
TE AHUNGA O TE AO

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