



**Massey University**

# Massey News

Auckland • Palmerston North • Wellington • Extramural

31 Poutū-te-rangi, March 2008 Issue 3

Te Kunenga  
ki Pūrehuroa



Conservation researchers  
smell a rat to catch a rat  
**Page 3**



Mother and daughter  
mathematicians  
**Page 8**



More backing for student  
athletes  
**Page 10**



Study unlocks the health  
benefits of a cuppa  
**Page 16**



Dr Lisa Emerson, Dr Hamish Anderson and Dr Heather Kavan will represent Massey in the National Tertiary Teaching Excellence awards this year.

## More teachers honoured for excellence

The standard of nominees for this year's Massey University teaching excellence awards was so high, the awards committee decided to make two additional awards, says Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Warrington.

"We are delighted to have further confirmation that the high standard of teaching at the University exists across a range of disciplines and academic levels," Professor Warrington says. "This distinctive feature of Massey creates advantages for both undergraduate and postgraduate students studying at the University.

"There is further, striking evidence of the quality of our teaching excellence in our continuing success in the National Teaching Excellence Awards. The University has won nine national awards over the six years since they were introduced. Only the University of Otago, which has won 10, has performed as well and as consistently," he says.

Professor Warrington says it is also significant that four of this year's awards are for sustained teaching excellence. "This shows that our academic staff ensure the quality of their teaching methods is enhanced over time, and remains up-to-date with the latest methods and technologies."

Dr Lisa Emerson of the School of English and Media Studies has been awarded the Darrylin O'Dea Award for Innovation in eLearning. Dr Emerson, who joined the University in 1989, has

been involved in designing and teaching courses in writing across the university.

Her research interests include science writing, plagiarism, online learning, and writing in the disciplines. As well as publishing widely on academic writing and related issues, she is author of the Writing Guidelines series and runs The Writery, an online community for creative writers.

As a teacher, Dr Emerson designs and uses innovative eLearning tools to deepen students' understanding of writing and to develop writing communities. Of particular note is her custom-designed "Integrative Grammar!" which won a Writing Programme Administrators teaching award in 2004: she was the first teacher outside of North America to win this award.

Dr Heather Kavan of the Department of Communication, Journalism and Marketing receives the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Sustained Teaching Excellence. Dr Kavan's specialist area is speech writing: she created Massey's new speech writing course. "Speech writing is one of the most effective ways of making our ideas irresistible," she says. "Great speeches change the world."

She has also lectured in religious studies and has published widely on religious cults.

*continues page 2*

# Teachers honoured for excellence



Bill MacIntyre.

from page 1  
Bill MacIntyre of the School of Curriculum and Pedagogy also receives a Vice-Chancellor's Award for Sustained Teaching Excellence. Mr MacIntyre specialises in science education, teaching both undergraduate

and postgraduate papers.

His research interests are in biology education in secondary schools, assessment, problem-based learning, investigating as a major goal in science education, appropriate pedagogy for astronomy education and the use of information technology to enhance learning.

He was a member of the National Science Exemplar project for the Ministry of Education and is an executive member of Biology Educators Association of New Zealand.

"In teaching compulsory science courses to pre-service teachers, I attempt to ensure that students leave my courses with a willingness to engage with and become an active participant in learning science. In order to achieve this I make sure that I adhere to the 'M & M' rule (meaningful and manageable) when planning and teaching."

Dr Hamish Anderson of the Department of Economics and Finance receives a Vice-Chancellor's Award for Sustained Teaching Excellence. Dr Anderson is a qualified chartered accountant and worked for a large chartered accounting practice for two years before joining Massey University. His research interests focus on topics that have relevance to industry and enrich his teaching,

by demonstrating real world application.

His area of expertise is in seasoned equity offerings including stock dividends, public and private equity issues as well as mergers and acquisitions.

A key theme is the impact of regulation or market structures on shareholder wealth and its impact on investor and management behaviour.

Dr Anderson says he strives to deliver a relevant and accessible learning experience.

"Relevance is demonstrated by connecting theories and concepts to practice using real world examples.

The learning is made accessible by first breaking down student learning barriers and reducing complex ideas into easily digestible bites of learning."



Dr Rosie Bradshaw.

Dr Rosie Bradshaw of the Institute of Molecular Biosciences receives the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching First Year Students.

Her research is in molecular plant pathology and she says many of her teaching methods have been learnt 'on the job' and developed in response to feedback from students.

She organises and teaches a first year paper in Biology of Cells, one of the four selection papers for the Bachelor of Veterinary Sciences. The paper has an enrolment of 400 students each year.

Dr Bradshaw says in her teaching she aims to engage students with the material by "using models and analogies they can relate to, along

with active learning methods such as quizzes and interactive questions.

"I also aim to help students realise the importance of understanding concepts and how the concepts fit together, as opposed to rote-learning and 'compartmentalising' facts."



Professor Janet Hoek

Professor Janet Hoek, a Professor of Marketing in the Department of Communication, Journalism and Marketing, receives a Vice-Chancellor's Award for Sustained Excellence in Teaching.

Professor Hoek has taught many papers at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels and is actively involved in several research programmes that examine marketing and public policy.

Her teaching materials draw heavily on her own research findings and on the expert advice she has provided in court and to government agencies.

She believes students require generic skills in critical and analytical thinking, and she encourages them to reflect on the social implications of their decisions.

"Drawing on my own experiences and working with my students to critique the evidence I reviewed, as well as the material I supplied, has generated wonderful debates in which I learned far more than I taught."

Dr Anderson, Dr Kavan and Dr Emerson are the University's nominations for the National Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards. The winners of the national awards will be announced in early July.

## Art additions at Wellington campus

The Art Collection at the Wellington campus is expanding steadily with a couple of recent acquisitions. Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Andrea McIlroy has taken an active role in building the collection of works and she was one of the first to make a purchase at the recent opening of an exhibition of new work by fine arts lecturer, Associate Professor Ross Hemera: *Manu Atua – Birdman of Waitaha*.

Earlier in the year Professor McIlroy oversaw the purchase of two works by one of New Zealand's acclaimed photographers, Peter

Peryer. The two Peryer photos are *Mussel Farm, Golden Bay, 2003* and *Peace Park, Hiroshima, 2002*. They are both in the lobby adjacent to 4B06 lecture theatre.

Other recent acquisitions for the art collection are: *House of Tiatia, 2007*, Edith Amituanai, a photograph to be located in 7C34; *Seahorse and Comma, 2007*, Richard Killeen, pigment inkjet print, located in Museum building; *Untitled, 2007*, Julian Dashper, silkscreen print, Block 2 foyer, Fine Arts.

## Massey News

31 Poutū-te-rangi 2008 - issue 3

For the latest news from Massey, or to subscribe to an expanding range of electronic newsletters, visit <http://news.massey.ac.nz>

**Publisher:** Massey University  
Communications and Marketing  
Old Registry Building  
Massey University Turitea Site  
Private Bag 11 222  
Palmerston North

**Director of Communications (Acting):**  
James Gardiner  
email: [j.c.gardiner@massey.ac.nz](mailto:j.c.gardiner@massey.ac.nz)  
Tel 06-350-5255 or 021-275-3394

**Communications Manager (Acting):**  
Lindsey Birnie  
email: [l.birnie@massey.ac.nz](mailto:l.birnie@massey.ac.nz)  
Tel 06-350-5185 or 027-534-5622

**Editor:**  
Kereama Beal  
email: [editor@massey.ac.nz](mailto:editor@massey.ac.nz)  
Tel 06-350-5019

For full list of contacts refer to page 15

**Copyright:** Articles and photos are copyright. We welcome reprinting if permission is sought. Contact Communications and Marketing.

**Web:** For the latest in campus news, or to subscribe to our e-newsletters visit: <http://news.massey.ac.nz>

© Massey University 2008



# Conservation researchers smell a rat to catch a rat

A novel experiment using laboratory rats to attract wild rats could pave the way for "rat perfumed" bait capable of reducing the millions of rats threatening New Zealand's native species, say Massey conservation researchers.

Using caged lab rats as decoys, or "Judas" rats, Anna Gsell and Mark Seabrook-Davison, both Auckland-based PhD researchers at the Institute of Natural Resources, placed a series of cages near private bush on a farm at Coatesville for their experiment.

The scientists recorded trails of paw prints - evidence that hordes of rats had scurried out of the bush to check out their caged cousins.

They also used cages without actual rats but containing rat-scented bedding. These also attracted wild rats.

"The idea is based on the mate searching behaviour of rodents in the wild," they say.

"We wanted to see whether we could use the odour of lab rats to attract wild rats," says Ms Gsell, who hopes the positive results of the study will open the way for the commercial creation of a synthetic "rat perfume" from rat urine for use in baits and traps.

Word of their study, carried out over the past four months, has also reached the Department of Conservation which recruited the researchers and their rats for an emergency rat-catching mission on a pest-free island in the Hauraki Gulf where a rogue rat was seen.

The university's "Judas" rats were walked on leashes around areas of the island, leaving their scent in the hope of attracting the wild rat, which was caught the following day 50m



Anna Gsell and Mark Seabrook-Davison.

from where the rats were placed in cages.

Ms Gsell and Mr Seabrook-Davison say the results look very promising and could spell

doom for the estimated millions of introduced Norway and Ship rats – major predators of many of New Zealand's indigenous animals.

## Five-year study will support troubled youth

The most comprehensive study on troubled young New Zealanders is to be led by Massey University, with a focus on support and interventions for struggling youth.

The Foundation for Research, Science and Technology recently announced the latest funding in the Building an Inclusive Society portfolio, with the Massey Pathways to Resilience project receiving \$3.75 million of the total \$8.1 million.

Principal investigator Dr Jackie Sanders says the Resilience project will run for five years, following 480 troubled young people – those known to Government agencies including Child, Youth and Family – to find what works to overcome adversity and turn their lives around.

"It's really trying to understand from young people what makes the most difference to them – what distinguishes young people who can overcome adversity from those who don't. This will provide us with information on the kinds of things we can do ... the sorts of things that are most likely to make a difference for young people."

Dr Sanders says the team, which includes collaborators from Victoria and Otago

universities and the Donald Beasley Institute, will interview more than 1600 people from statutory agencies including education, welfare and justice, and non-Government organisations to identify the protective factors that support a positive outcome.

"Practitioners know in their gut," Dr Sanders says, "but this study is designed to tap into the wisdom that's out there and verify it with case records of young people.

"To be able to say 'if we can do this and do it properly these are the outcomes we can expect' is a huge step forward. Outcomes can and do change for young people but it's difficult to know what made the change."

The study is part of the international resilience project, flowing from a lead study in Canada led by Dr Michael Ungar. The aim is to identify the combination of services and interventions to support better outcomes for troubled youth.

Dr Sanders says that intervening reduces both cost and the damage troubled young people inflict upon themselves. "Not intervening effectively means that a number of these young people will graduate into the adult criminal justice system.

"We also hear from professionals in services that it appears that children and young people are starting to show signs of distress at younger ages and that their behaviours are starting to become more serious sooner.

"While many of these youth commit only one offence or come to the notice of authorities on relatively few occasions, a small group come to attention repeatedly. For this group the average number of convictions is 51 and the costs of intervening are high; on average they cost \$3.1 million and the top 10 per cent cost \$6 million each."

Dr Sanders says that a comparison group of 480 young people who are doing okay will also be followed.

"One of the things we are interested in is what are the differences, where is the edge that young people fall over where there situation becomes high-risk? Where is that tipping point?"

Dr Ungar visited Dr Sanders and Professor Robyn Munford at the University's School of Social Work and Social Policy last year to identify opportunities for the resilience project. He is returning to New Zealand later this year, to assist establishment of the project.

## New TEC funding for collaboration

Massey University will lead one and collaborate on two projects to receive new funding from the Tertiary Education Commission's Encouraging and Supporting Innovation Fund.

The total new funding of \$18.8 million over three years is allocated to 29 projects, with Massey collaborating in the National Energy Research Institute project which receives \$724,000, and the New Zealand Centre for Sustainable Cities project which receives \$1.9 million.

Massey will lead the development of a knowledge hub to aid engagement between the manufacturing sector and universities, which receives \$595,000.

## New premises at Wellington for Business

Wellington based College of Business staff should be taking over their dramatically upgraded premises in Block 5 by early April.

The College is in the final stages of developing a "homespace" for staff and students on the campus in what was the hospitality area at the northern end of level D.

This new space will accommodate staff, provide a meeting space and study space for postgraduate students. There will be video conference facilities and a new communications lab.

The redevelopment will result in a "community of scholars" space for postgraduate students and staff to work and to mix, says the Pro Vice-Chancellor of the College of Business, Professor Lawrence Rose.

As well as the dedicated postgraduate study space an informal meeting space will allow staff and students to meet and collaborate more easily.

It is envisaged that the meeting space will also be suitable for hosting small functions and interacting with business groups.

As well as providing a much nicer working space for the academic administration staff the relocation will improve access to service and administration for students.

The new communications lab with interview suites, control rooms and edit rooms is a very significant new facility for students in the college's growing Bachelor of Communication programme.

To read the latest in news from Massey University, or to sign up for one of an expanding range of e-mail newsletters, visit us online: <http://news.massey.ac.nz>



Last year's speech and language therapy graduates at Auckland's North Shore.

## Graduation ceremonies 2008

The University's graduation ceremonies begin in mid April with more than 1000 graduands from the Auckland campus crossing the stage at the Bruce Mason Centre in Takapuna to receive their degrees. This year there will be a record of 20 PhD graduands from the Auckland campus.

There will be six ceremonies in Auckland starting from Tuesday 15 April with a mix of graduands in sciences, music and creative arts.

There will be morning and afternoon ceremonies on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Each morning will begin with the champagne breakfast that has become a tradition for the campus.

There will be processions along Takapuna's Hurstmere Road to each of the six ceremonies. The ceremony to honour Pacific Island graduands will be held on campus on the

Tuesday evening and the ceremony for Māori graduates will be held at the Bruce Mason Centre on the morning of Friday 18 April.

Of the PhD graduates in Auckland, six are in education, six in humanities and social science, three in psychology, three in science and two in business.

In Palmerston North graduation starts on Monday 12 May with the first ceremony at noon. From Monday to Thursday there will be eight graduation ceremonies with a further ceremony on Friday 16 May for Māori graduates.

All will cross the stage at the Regent on Broadway, with a procession leading to The Square following each ceremony.

In Wellington, graduation is held at the Michael Fowler Centre on 28 May, preceded on 27 May by a special ceremony for Māori graduates.

## Opportunities for food producers

The supermarkets rapidly springing up in developing countries represent a vast market opportunity for food producers, a world authority on the implications of the supermarket revolution in emerging markets told a seminar at the University's Centre for Applied Economics and Policy Studies.

Professor Thomas Reardon is from Michigan State University's Department of Agricultural Economics.



Professor Reardon is with the Director of the Centre for Applied Economics and Policy Studies, Professor Allan Rae, visiting the Palmerston North campus.

He is a specialist in the modernisation of retail food sectors in the developing world including China and the rest of Asia.

He told the seminar that rapidly growing supermarkets want low cost/high quality, large and reliable supplied volumes and established brands. He said the creation of new produce varieties – as developed by HortResearch was attractive to the global retail chains.



# Study of gender and sexuality development

Massey psychology doctoral researcher Jaimie Veale is seeking people of all sexual orientations to respond to an online questionnaire for a major study on how gender and sexuality variance develops.

The survey includes questions on personality, family history of sexuality and gender-variance, early childhood experiences and ways of coping with stress.

"It's interesting to know what makes you who you are," Ms Veale says. "This research is testing a model I have developed to explain the occurrence of gender-variance such as transexualism, transvestism and other forms of gender diversity."

The survey of 150 questions is open to anybody aged over 16 years. Ms Veale is hoping to get a mixture of respondents including people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transexual, other gender and sexual variants as well as heterosexuals, so responses can be compared.

Ms Veale aims to get up to 2000 respondents for the on-line multiple-choice survey, which is anonymous and confidential, and complete her study next year. She says it should provide a deeper, more detailed understanding of the various influences that shape a person's sexuality.

The survey will usually take between 25 and 50 minutes to complete and can be done in parts. It has been approved by the University Human Ethics Committee. For those who wish to participate, the online questionnaire can be found at: <http://www.queerdevelopment.com>



Jaimie Veale.

## Seeing the benefits of workplace humour

In some workplaces, people laugh a lot more than in others and it is all to do with organisational culture. Dr Barbara Plester has just completed her PhD on how organisational culture influences humour in the workplace with a thesis titled *Laugh out Loud*.

As a student in the Department of International Business at the University's College of Business on the Auckland campus, she first began to explore humour at work for her master's thesis, prompted by memories of working in a singularly joyless office. Today, says Dr Plester, there is a lot more awareness about humour, laughter and the impact it has on both individuals and their environment.

"The benefits of laughter are now well recognised. Laughter provides release and relieves boredom and can make being at work more fun. Employers are now seeing value in their workplaces being more fun," says Dr Plester.

To explore the influence of organisational culture on how humour occurs at work, she did interviews and observations at four companies in different industries – a legal firm, an information technology firm, a financial institution and an energy provider.

She found that boundaries to humour-related activity were influenced by the organisational culture and by levels of formality or informality. Humour was more enabled and encouraged in the less formal cultures and more constrained in the more formal work settings, she says.

"When people go to work in new cultures they pretty quickly pick up on what the boundaries are from one workplace to another – what sort of jokes would or wouldn't be acceptable.

"But people within organisations perceive that humour and organisational culture have both positive and negative impacts upon workplace outcomes such as retention, satisfaction, performance and recruitment.

"Humour at work is widespread and a significant component of modern working life. Humour manifests itself within workplace culture and understanding the influence of organisational culture on humour enactment is an important facet of organisational studies".

Dr Plester graduates in April. She is now a lecturer at the University of Auckland Business School in the Department of Management and International Business.

## Innovation in agriculture and food welcomed

Announcement of the new \$700 million funding boost for research, development and innovation projects has been welcomed by University management and academics.

Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Warrington says the funding, unveiled by Prime Minister Helen Clark recently, is welcome recognition of the huge importance of agriculture and food industries to New Zealand economy.

"The University is well-positioned with existing academic and research programmes to support these industries.

"We have been very conscious for some time of the need for high value pastoral and food industries, and have already targeted these areas both through strategic partnerships with industry and university-led research.

"We have been aware that many of those who lead the professional aspects of agriculture in New Zealand are getting close to retirement and our growth in postgraduate

numbers demonstrates our commitment to producing the next generation of professionals that will steer the New Zealand economy through the agriculture and food industries.

"We look forward to working with the Government to use some of this funding to ensure that such training opportunities are enhanced."

The funding has been named NZ Fast Forward, and is part of a move to shift New Zealand's exports from raw products to added value goods.

"It is expected industry will match the Government's funding, and that the fund may grow to around \$2 billion over the next decade or so.

Professor of Pastoral Agriculture Jacqueline Rowarth was positive about the benefits the fund could bring, particularly the opportunity to address student's negative impressions of agriculture.

Distinguished Professor Paul Moughan, co-

director of the Riddet Institute also welcomed the announcement, as a "momentous development for agrifood research in New Zealand".

"The Government has responded positively and decisively to the recommendations of the Food and Beverage Taskforce – New Zealand's future economic wellbeing relies heavily on knowledge-led innovation in agriculture and foods".

Professor Moughan said one recent example of knowledge-led innovation was the Speirs Nutritionals Ltd microencapsulated omega 3 oils that allow fish oil to be put in foods with no taste or odour.

The research was developed at the Riddet Institute, and is now being commercialised in a joint venture with Speirs Foods.

"Developments such as this are vitally important in assisting to diversify the economy, and to help raise our overall standard of living," Professor Moughan says.

## Small business owners leaving

Thirty four per cent of the country's small business owners indicate they intend to exit their businesses within the next five years and 64 per cent want to exit within the next decade, says a University report on the succession plans of New Zealand's small and medium sized business owners.

In New Zealand 350,000 small and medium sized enterprises – many owned by people approaching retirement age – make up more than 99 per cent of all business and account for about 50 per cent of employment, says the University's New Zealand Centre for Small and Medium Enterprise Research.

The centre has recently completed a report on the succession perspectives from small enterprises for the Ministry of Economic Development. This was based on a survey which had more than 1300 respondents.

"In recent years the issue of aging population and its impact on economic growth and policy development has gained increasing importance.

"Clearly there is a need to examine the aging SME owners and their preparedness for succession," say the authors of the report, Director of the Centre for SME Research, Professor Claire Massey and researcher Dr Martina Battisti.

"Identifying the owners' objectives for their firms and themselves as well as their perception of benefits and barriers to succession and exit is an important step to understanding the issue and informing targetted actions."

Small and medium enterprises are defined as: micro enterprise – fewer than five staff, small enterprise – between six and 49 staff, medium enterprise – between 50 and 99 staff.

Of the 1330 respondents, The majority (67 per cent) were aged between 41 and 60. Twenty two per cent were over 60 years old. Average turnover in the businesses surveyed was slightly over three million dollars with the top earner at \$80 million.

Asked about plans for exiting their firms, 58 per cent of the owners indicated they were thinking of selling, 36 wanted to pass the business on and seven per cent said they were intending to sell or wind the business down. Forty seven per cent had an exit plan but mostly these plans were unwritten or informal.

## Acting PVC

Professor Mason Durie has been appointed Acting Pro-Vice Chancellor of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences following Professor Barrie Macdonald's retirement. Professor Durie will retain his role as Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Māori.

## Jazz thesis tells story of little man with huge musical talent

Legendary jazz pianist Michel Petrucciani was but three-feet tall. He played with his chin near the keyboard and his short legs attached to a special contraption enabling him to use foot pedals.

The poignant story of his short life and remarkable musical career, which began in France where he was born and ended in the United States with his death at the age of 36 in 1999, is captured in a Master of Philosophy jazz thesis by one of New Zealand's leading jazz pianists.

Auckland-based Jazz Studies tutor and jazzman Phil Broadhurst revisited Petrucciani's haunts in Paris and the south of France for his study of how this extraordinary Frenchman's musicianship earned him widespread acclaim in Europe and the United States, despite his physical limitations.

"Colouring any discussion of Michel Petrucciani's music is the fact that throughout his life, he suffered from osteogenesis imperfecta [glass bones disease]," writes Mr Broadhurst in his thesis titled *Against All Odds – the life and music of Michel Petrucciani*.

"He had to be carried on to the stage in his early career before gaining enough strength to walk with the aid of crutches. His refusal to allow his incapacity to limit his talent was an inspiration to all, but to what extent the novelty of his disability contributed to his fame is open to question."

Petrucciani, who was already playing at festivals with top French jazz musicians in his mid-teens and soon after performing at jazz clubs in Paris, made the big time when he moved to the United States where he first joined forces with renowned saxophonist Charles Lloyd and later recorded with iconic jazz label Blue Note. He impressed those around him by living life to the full rather than dwelling on his physical suffering. He never complained

about his aching joints and muscles but sometimes sought relief from severe pain by soaking in a scalding bath as a distraction. He had numerous romantic relationships and a penchant for partying, as well as a generous, gregarious nature which infused his music.

"His enormous appetite for life spilled out on to the keys. He could be, in turn, playful, spontaneous, joyful, serious, humorous, tender, direct, romantic, dominating, crafty, bawdy and self-indulgent.

"All these characteristics emerge at one time or another in his music," writes Mr Broadhurst.

Bringing together a rich tapestry of interviews translated from French publications as well as his own face-to-face interviews with Petrucciani's friends and fellow musicians, Mr Broadhurst – a fluent French speaker, self-confessed Francophile and former high school French language teacher – provides detailed analysis of Petrucciani's original compositions, musical style and influences.

"Any consideration of Michel Petrucciani's greatness as a player has to take into account the ailment that dogged his career..." Years after his death "it remains difficult to divorce his physical struggle from the musical evidence that Petrucciani left behind.

"Hearing the piano keys hit with such clarity and force cannot help but remind us of those large hands extending from his relatively bulky torso contrasting so dramatically with such thin, ineffective legs dangling in mid-air."

Michel Petrucciani outlived medical expectations, exuding boundless energy almost until his death and with a focus on pleasing the audience in concert.

"I always play for people," Petrucciani is quoted as saying. "I hope that after every concert they go away happy and want to come back. My music isn't intellectual; it's sensual and full of song."



Jazz Studies tutor Phil Broadhurst.

## Residential rents moving up

The national median rent level rose to \$300 from \$290 in the last quarter – an increase of 3.4 per cent, according to the latest report on the New Zealand residential rental market from the Real Estate Analysis Unit.

On an annual basis the national median had increased by 7.1 per cent compared with February last year. The greatest rise in rent levels over the year to February 2008 was in Invercargill where residential rents rose by

18.7 per cent, followed by Lower Hutt with an increase of 15.3 per cent and Napier at 12 per cent.

In Auckland the greatest increase in rents was 11.1 per cent on the North Shore. Other increases recorded in the greater Auckland region were 8.3 per cent in Waitakere City, 6 per cent in Manukau City and 4.4 per cent in Auckland City.

For further information on rent increases

# Fish net deaths highlight threat to Common Dolphin

The Common Dolphin may not be so common in New Zealand waters in the future if more deaths – such as the 22 killed in a single bycatch by commercial fishing boats – occur, says marine biologist Karen Stockin.

She prompted the Minister of Conservation Steve Chadwick into releasing photographs – through an official information request – of battered, bloody carcasses of 22 Common Dolphins caught last December in trawl nets off the West Coast of the North Island.

Ms Stockin, a researcher officer with the Coastal-Marine Research Group in Auckland, has been investigating New Zealand's Common Dolphins for the past seven years.

Her research prompted her to contact both ministries of conservation and fisheries soon after she heard about the event expressing her "serious concerns about the sustainability of these mortality events on this population."

She feared conservation and fisheries authorities had become complacent about the real plight of the dolphins because of insufficient data regarding their true conservation status.

Her own research shows that Common Dolphins' foraging and resting behaviour has been detrimentally affected by dolphin-watching tour boats in the Hauraki Gulf.

The same dolphin population is also vulnerable to pollutants, and has been captured in offshore trawl fisheries.

Ms Stockin's research shows common dolphins are most vulnerable to offshore trawl fishing at night, as diet analyses suggest they move further offshore to feed.

Previous estimates suggest up to 300 Common Dolphins are killed annually in jack mackerel fishing alone.



"That estimate, extrapolated from observer data, doesn't account for Common Dolphins that become entangled and die in recreational set nets," said Ms Stockin.

Tougher measures and penalties were needed to ensure fishing boats abided by codes of practice requiring them not to drop their nets in the presence of dolphins.

"Ideally, no trawling should occur between 2am and 4am, the time dolphins usually feed on the deep scattering layer and become entangled in trawl nets."

## Marine designers set sail for Italy

A team of Massey designers will take its place with the best when the International Symposium on Marine Design opens in Italy in April.

Presenting papers at the conference in La Spezia in April is a significant step for the Massey representatives who have driven the fledgling marine transport design course at the Auckland campus to success.

Contemporary marine design, be it for a modern yacht, a cruise ship or a passenger ferry, now recognises the contribution of both engineering skill and the style and form contributed by design expertise.

The international symposium is the initiative of the London-based Royal Institution of Naval Architects (RINA) and it brings together top names from across the contributing disciplines.

One of the Massey group presenting a paper will be one of the youngest to present to a RINA event. He is 21-year-old Dima Ivanov, who is in his final year of a Bachelor of Design

(Transport) at the Auckland campus.

His paper gives a student's perspective on education and training for marine designers and was the only paper selected out of 16 student papers put forward from around the world.

Massey design lecturers Duncan Joiner and Bruce Woods are also presenting papers to the conference. The international event in Italy is an important opportunity for the University group, says Mr Woods who is the course leader.

Mr Woods was a key figure in establishing the course within the design school and has attracted industry support and recognition for the course and its students. Two years ago the marine transport design course was the first in the world to get formal accreditation from RINA.

The course has just produced the first four graduates who have majored in marine transport design and some of their projects are now going into commercial production.

## Intensive courses in partnership

The University has been delivering intensive courses to aspiring directors of Crown-owned companies since entering a partnership with the Crown Company Monitoring Advisory Unit last year to provide sophisticated and innovative director training.

The unit is the agency that monitors the Government's investment in companies it owns, assists with the appointment of directors to company boards, provides performance and governance advice to shareholding ministers.

Massey's executive education unit within the College of Business (formerly the Graduate School of Business) was chosen to help develop leadership and governance on the basis of experience with corporate education, expertise in training and international research.

Nearly 50 per cent of all New Zealanders with MBA's have graduated from the University.

Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor of Executive Education, Dr James Lockhart, says the University is producing a unique and targeted suite of training products for Crown company director training. The courses are focused around core governance training on the fundamentals of commercial governance.

"The primary objective of governance training is enhancing the performance of organisations through good governance," says Dr Lockhart.

"We are helping directors to become critically reflective practitioners. This involves coaching them to consciously operate using the best available working theory, being willing to critique it and to be aware of other perspectives."

Dr Lockhart says research shows that governance has often become a process to be followed rather than an outcome to be achieved.

"Fundamental to our new approach is a coherent conceptual framework of governance, as opposed to an assortment of ideas and perspectives drawn from a mix of practitioners and professionals.

"We are presenting theory that is research-based and led, and delivered with a practical component. The approach is fresh and relevant in responding to the challenges this group of directors face."

For those attending training, the Massey courses have also offered a welcome forum for informed discussion and debate.

Choose the RSS feed you want to keep you up to date with news from Massey:  
<http://news.massey.ac.nz>



# 'Rainbow Warrior' scholarship funds emergency study

Addressing the need for military and humanitarian organisations to work more effectively in complex emergencies has garnered PhD candidate Laura Jacobs-Garrod a prestigious Peace and Disarmament Education Trust scholarship.

The trust was funded from the \$1.5million received from France in recognition of the events surrounding the destruction of the Rainbow Warrior, with the trust's aims to advance education and thereby promote international peace, arms control and disarmament.

Ms Jacobs-Garrod, a Centre for Defence Studies graduate student, is completing her thesis on *The Humanitarian and the Soldier: Partners for Peace*. Case studies on Somalia, Bosnia, East Timor and Afghanistan have been developed to compare United States and New Zealand military and non-government organisations.

"In the past military forces and NGO professionals have been at odds as to how to carry out their respective mandates – often they have very different goals. It's a relationship of necessity so the question is how do we enable them to work together more effectively."



Laura Jacobs-Garrod.

Ms Jacobs-Garrod completed her BA in political science at the University of Oregon, and an MA in international relations at Victoria on a Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholarship. Originally from the US, Ms Jacobs-Garrod's father is in the military and her mother in the Red Cross.

"My real interest in this subject stems from a UN peacekeeping course I did in undergraduate study," she says, "looking at the problems post-Cold War and ways to improve things."

"Complex emergencies is an emerging area, that's the unfortunate trend so it's only going to become more of a pressing issue."



Bobbie Hunter and daughter Jodie.

## Mother and daughter maths duo to graduate together

Not many mothers and daughters chill out after work by discussing the intricacies of algebraic formulas and revolutions in mathematical pedagogy, but Bobbie and Jodie Hunter cannot help themselves.

To say the love of learning and teaching maths is a way of life for the pair would be an understatement.

They will both graduate together next month in Auckland – Dr Hunter with a PhD in Education and her daughter with a Masters in Education.

Both have researched different aspects of teaching maths – something they are passionate about improving in New Zealand. Their research interests intersected over how best to match teaching tools and methods with the social habits and perspectives of various ethnic groups.

And they both conducted research in "inquiry classroom" settings, whereby students work in groups to question, argue and reason their way through mathematical problem-solving.

Dr Hunter, a senior lecturer at the College of Education on the Auckland campus, says the notion that some people are just naturally good at maths while others are not is false.

"People who are good at maths are those who have been taught well. Most of those who aren't good, or don't enjoy it, have been taught badly," she says.

As the fourth child of 10 to a father of Scots-Irish descent and mother of Cook Island descent, Dr Hunter was interested in maths and numbers from an early age, and says a fascination with intricate patterns on the traditional tivaevae

quilts her mother made was a kind of tactile, visual entry into the world of numbers, shapes and symmetry.

In her doctoral thesis, she has explored how "teachers can develop communities of mathematical inquiry" among student groups. In particular, she looks at ways teachers can tap into ethnic social patterns – such as "assertive communication" within whānau - to facilitate group learning among Māori and Pasifika students who may uncomfortable about asking questions of those in authority and arguing a point because it is not culturally acceptable at home.

Ms Hunter, who describes her mother as a mentor and "invisible supervisor", focussed on learning models and methods for algebraic reasoning and unravelling algebraic number sentences for year-5 and 6 students.

She says difficulties in learning maths can stem from a basic lack of understanding of what the "equals" sign (=) means. Many students doing algebra fail to develop an understanding of the equals sign as a symbol of equivalence, confusing it with addition and subtraction where the = sign is equated with "the answer."

The President of the Primary Maths Association and a teacher at Oranga Primary School in Orehunga, she says she wasn't always a fan of maths at secondary school and although she studied statistics at university, it was only once she became a teacher that her interest flourished.





From front, left: Sian Reynolds, Kezia Lockhart, Anna McLeod, Bridget Telfer, Lois Edwards, Nicole Hammer, Emma-Jayne Hawkins, Lewis Sparrow, Marloes van Geel, Donna Berry, Hanan Kayed, Catherine Hayward, Sarah Bird, Natalie Olivecrona, Anushree Sen Gupta, Ingrid Wilson, Lanheang En, Emma Raine, Tessa Handcock, Stacey Cosnett, Rebecca Diedrichs, Michelle Power, Rosanna Cooper, Emily Phua, Marie Guigou, Timothy Johansen, Nicholas Dow.

## Arts and high achiever scholarships awarded

Two arts and 53 high achiever scholarships were awarded to first year students at the Palmerston North campus this year, with recipients acknowledged at a lunch at Wharerata hosted by Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Warrington.

"You are a special group among the 1000 new students on campus," he said, "and I am going to issue you a challenge. Do well academically but also get everything out of the experience – I mean really make sure you get the best out of your tertiary education.

"Make sure that in your academic programmes you do your utmost and have the best experience. But also get the most out the other opportunities university can provide. That might be on the sports field

or in a drama or arts environment or contributing to the university's interaction with the community. If you leave Massey and all you know about is the classroom you will be the poorer for that as there are so many opportunities for you."

Guest speaker Professor Margaret Tennant, Dean of the Graduate Research School, compared the students experiences with those of the first intake of 84 students, who would have been mostly male and later intakes including those of the 1970s when women were more commonly on campus and education was opening up to all. "Like them, you have chosen to come to Massey University and we are delighted that you did. We wish you every success in your own terms as well as ours."

## Eliminating child poverty key to progress

In the debates that are part of this year's election activity, eliminating child poverty has to be a top priority if New Zealand is to make significant social and economic progress, says social policy lecturer Associate Professor Mike O'Brien.

The author of three just-published books on welfare, social policy and poverty may be embedded in an academic setting. But he is just as concerned about the impact of poverty – especially on children – as he was when at the coalface of the welfare system.

His early life as a social worker helping families struggling with poverty and lack of food has had a lasting impact on Dr O'Brien.

"We were all too frequently faced with families who were struggling to make ends meet and to provide adequately for their children, struggles that all too frequently arose from lack of income, and poverty," he says in the introduction to *Poverty, Policy and the State* (published by The Policy Press UK, 2008), recalling his time as a social worker.

"Since those early professional experiences, most of my work – both academic and professional – has remained strongly focused on tackling the blight caused by poverty."

While social security has been radically

revamped over the past 20 years, poverty still prevails. An estimated 234,000 children live in households dependent on benefits, with many living below the poverty line because their parents do not qualify for In Work Payments under the revised system, he says.

Dr O'Brien explores the extent to which changes in social security provision in New Zealand "have both led to, and been associated with, a weakening of social citizenship and, concurrently, with weakened protection against poverty."

He argues that globalisation and strengthening of the market economies has fuelled the transition over the past two decades to more emphasis on government support for low-paid workers at the expense of helping the genuinely poor.

Under public service restructuring, the creation of the Department of Work and Income New Zealand to replace the Social Welfare Department as responsible for benefits further reflected this trend. And a move to



Mike O'Brien.

providing income support for lower paid workers through the government's Working for Families tax assistance scheme has segregated beneficiaries who are unable to work and relegated them to the status of second-class citizens, he asserts.

Dr O'Brien says his book argues the importance of "making certain that changes to welfare states and to social security provisions ensure that the fundamental goal of prevention of poverty is central".

His other books are *New Welfare New Zealand* (published 2007 by Victoria University Press) – a more detailed look at recent changes in welfare policy.

*Social Welfare, social exclusion – a life course frame* (published 2007 by Varpinge Ord & Text, Sweden) is a collection of essays he has contributed to and co-edited with Swedish academic Lars Harrysson, and includes writings by 11 international authors on how people can become excluded from basic opportunities, rights and services in society.

## European award for masters student

Masters student Katherine Lyons has been awarded a European Union Centres Network fees scholarship, covering her MA course fees to the value of \$4000.

The award is made on factors including grade point average, the expertise of the MA supervisor and the quality of the proposed MA thesis topic.

Ms Lyons' thesis is titled *Dilemma in Palestine: An Analysis of the European Union's Policy on the Palestinian Authority since the Hamas Election Victory in January 2006*.

## Defining roadshow

Vice-Chancellor Designate Steve Maharey's conversation kicked off on 17 March with a presentation to staff at Palmerston North.

It was the first of seven that Mr Maharey will give across the campuses, outlining his vision for Massey and encouraging staff to put forward their ideas. Mr Maharey said many staff had already given feedback on the email address specially set up for the purpose, which had been included in his email invitation to all staff to attend the roadshows.

More details and staff reaction may be found on the staffroom website: <http://staffroom.massey.ac.nz>

### Palmerston North - Turitea site

Where: Japanese Lecture Theatre.

When: 10am on 7, 14 April 2008,

### Palmerston North - Hokowhitu site

Where: KA North Lecture Block.

When: 1pm on 14 April 2008.

### Auckland campus

Where: Sir Neil Waters Lecture Theatre.

When: 1.30pm on 31 March, 4 April 2008,

### Wellington campus

Where: Museum Building, Level 3, Room 10A02.

When: 11am on 11 April 2008.



## More backing for student athletes

The University's Academy of Sport on the Palmerston North campus held a presentation on 17 March to formally welcome this year's intake of athletes into the programme. The venue was the Sport and Rugby Institute.

This is the third year for the athlete development programme and it is going from strength to strength. This year sees a variety of individual and team sports from athletes who are competing at national and international level – with a few athletes even on the long list for Beijing Olympics.

Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Warrington welcomed guests and was the MC for the evening, commenting on the programmes ability to provide much needed support to each of the athletes to enable them to continually perform both at an academic and sporting level.

The presentation evening had a special guest speaker, world champion adventure racer and SPARC ambassador, Nathan Faavae,

who spoke about what it takes to achieve your goals and in particular, on overcoming obstacles.

To find more information about the Massey Academy programme visit <http://academyofsport.massey.ac.nz> or contact [k.rofe@massey.ac.nz](mailto:k.rofe@massey.ac.nz)

Back row (from left): Ryan Welch (flat water kayak, Bachelor of Sport and Exercise), Ben Bateman (equestrian, BApplSc), Ryan Groen (barefoot water skiing, BBS), Finlay Milne (football, BBS), Eric Gurden (canoe slalom, BE), Ben Quayle (hockey, BBS), Struan Webb (triathlon, BBS), Anthony Pedersen (motorsport, BBS), Robert Eastham (shooting, BSc); Middle: Mitchell Campbell (rugby, DipAgr), Louis Booth (rugby, BE), Khord Kopu (inline hockey, BE), Hayden Nelson (inline hockey, BBS), Natalie Moore (basketball, BVSc), Chloe Akers (equestrian, BSpEx), Anna Hurley (athletics, BBS), Hannah Appleton (equestrian, BApplSc), Gemma Mathieson (golf, BBS); Front: Amy Bartlett (inline speed skating, BSc), Kylee McFetridge (rowing, BSpEx), Rhonda Bridges (football, BE), Charlotte Matthews (flat water kayak, BVSc), Katie Hubbard (canoe polo, BE), Jessica Jolly (cycling, BA), Emma Petersen (cycling, BSc), Jolene Mark (athletics, BHlthSc), Sarah Chapman (highland dancing, BSc).

## Te Rau Puawai launches postgraduate publication

Te Rau Puawai board members, students, Māori mental health partners, staff and Ministry of Health and board gathered for their Head Start national conference at the School of Māori studies last month.

As well as welcoming students and providing learning supports, it was an opportunity to launch the first Te Rau Puawai postgraduate publication profile, a summary of masterate and doctorate students who have gained their qualification while on Te Rau Puawai.

Attendees also honoured the contribution of founding member Professor Barrie Macdonald before his retirement in April.

Professor Macdonald, Pro Vice-Chancellor of the College of Humanities and Social

Sciences, initial chairman of the Te Rau Puawai programme and was part of a team that negotiated funding with the former Health Funding Authority in 1998.

The programme is a joint venture between Massey and the Ministry of Health, to encourage and support Māori students to achieve a qualification in a health-related discipline, including nursing, psychology, rehabilitation, Māori health, social work and social policy, in order to contribute to the acceleration of the Māori health workforce.

The national conference allows students to build and strengthen relationships and share study skills.

Professor Macdonald speaks at the Te Rau Puawai national conference.





# Council Report - March 2008

At the first University Council meeting of the year on 7 March the Chancellor Nigel Gould welcomed the three new members of Council – Brad Heap, Ralph Springett and Royna Fifield.

He also welcomed Professor Ian Warrington to the Council table in his role as Acting Vice-Chancellor and noted the attendance of the Vice-Chancellor Designate Steve Maharey at the meeting.

Professor Warrington spoke to the report prepared by former Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear, drawing Council's attention to the increasing number of research postgraduate enrolments last year. The University enrolled a record number of 875 doctoral candidates and Professor Warrington said he was optimistic the total would be over 1000 this year.

He said that the figures underpinned the research culture the University was striving for and was further evidence of the changing nature of the student profile at Massey which was continually moving away from school leavers to a higher proportion of more mature students.

He also noted the awarding of the professorships in biochar and pyrolysis, the commercialisation of the a zinc battery technology developed at the University and the new Johne's disease research consortium as examples of the University's collaboration with a range of stakeholders including industry and other universities.

Also in her report, Professor Kinnear commented on the financial surplus that was anticipated for the year, which she said reflected the commitment of senior managers and their staff to achieve an agreed goal. She congratulated staff on their efforts in contributing to the favourable outcome which better positioned the University meet future challenges.

Under other operational items, contributions are sought for a new scholarship fund launched in memory of the late Professor Brain Murphy, College of Business. The Brian Murphy Memorial Scholarship will be managed by the University Foundation and seeks contributions to fund scholarship for senior students completing research in marketing, business ethics or future studies on the Auckland campus.

Composition of the various committees of Council was agreed with Susan Baragwanath and Professor Ray Winger joining Dr Russ Ballard and Mrs Alison Paterson, Chancellor Nigel Gould and Pro-Chancellor Stephen Kos on the Audit and Risk Committee. Mavis Mullins joins the Chancellor and Pro-Chancellor, Professor Ngatata Love, Professor Mason Durie, Professor Nigel Long and Professor Andrea McIlroy on the Honorary Awards Committee. Bruce Ullrich and Chris Kelly join the Chancellor and Pro-Chancellor, Dr Russ Ballard and Alison Paterson on the Performance Review Committee.

In response to a paper regarding payments to council members, following discussion on the symbolism of the payment or non-payment to staff and whether payment to staff would set precedent for others participating in other university committees, it was reconfirmed that staff representatives would not be paid to attend Council meetings.

As a follow up to item at the previous Council meeting, further discussion was had regarding the ceremony held to honour graduands of the Te Aho Tātai-Rangi programme. While cost is a consideration, comment was made that the graduation was a good promotional opportunity for the University and that it showed our support and commitment to the Māori community. A report is being prepared by University management on the feasibility of the graduation.



## In the news

### 2 March

*Herald on Sunday:* Dr **David Tripe**, director of the Centre for Banking Studies, says trying to separate local operations of Australian banks from their parents is not likely to make a lot of difference if things get difficult.

*www.nzherald.co.nz, www.thewest.com.au:* Student **Laura Buckley**, in conjunction with Sex Therapy New Zealand, has conducted a survey and found that lack of sexual desire and infrequent intercourse are among the most common sexual problems.

*Sunday Star Times,* Professor **Bob Hargreaves**, from the Department of Finance, Banking and Property, says there could be a "flight to quality" in the property market and more affluent suburbs may hold more value than others, as would houses with all-day sun and sea views.

### 3 March

*The New Zealand Herald, Bay of Plenty Times,* **Laura Buckley** and Sex Therapy New Zealand's survey on common sexual problems.

*The Dominion Post,* Professor **Al Rowland**, from the Institute of Molecular Bioscience, released a world-first genetic study confirming that New Zealand nuclear

veterans' DNA contained 300 per cent more genetic mutations than normal.

*Ashburton Guardian:* Professor **Jacqueline Rowarth**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, warns that consumers will feel the pinch if farmers are continually blamed for New Zealand's environmental woes, and the attack will have long term consequences.

*www.indexuniverse.com:* **Ben Marshall**, from the Department of Finance, Banking and Property, and Nuttawat Visaltanachoti, from the Department of Commerce, have had their study evaluating the January Barometer theory's accuracy posted on the SSRN website.

### 4 March

*Manawatu Standard, Rural News:* Professor **Grant Guilford**, from the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Science, notes that there is a nationwide shortage of vets, males in particular, and Massey could take more.

*Manawatu Standard:* **Laura Buckley** and Sex Therapy New Zealand's survey on common sexual problems. *Hawkes Bay Today, The New Zealand Herald, www.nzherald.co.nz:* Professor **David Lambert's** study of Tuatara DNA sequences.

*Westport News,* Dr **Susan Flint-Hartle**, from the Department of Finance, Banking and

Property, acknowledges that many people are not happy with how things are in the real estate industry and it attracts public criticism and attack.

*Manawatu Standard:* Dr **Phil Battley**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, gave a public lecture based on the bar-tailed godwit to members of the newly-reactivated Central Association of Science Educators group.

### 5 March

*The New Zealand Herald, Hawkes Bay Today, Bay of Plenty Times, Gisborne Herald, Otago Daily Times:* Dr **Susan Flint-Hartle**, from the Department of Finance, Banking and Property, says that constant comments on the property downturn could help drive a slump, and that good property in good locations will maintain its value.

*Radio New Zealand:* Dr **Mike Joy**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, has doubts on whether or not the clean Streams Accord has done anything to improve water quality.

*Rural Life:* Professor **Tom Barry**, from the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Science, warns farmers who haven't made plans for the drying climate that it would be very wise to do so.

## 6 March

*The New Zealand Herald, The Dominion Post, The Press, Manawatu Standard, Greymouth Star, The Daily Post Radio Live:* **Sarah Leberman**, from the Department of Sport Management, says that a lack of confidence in ability has led to females being under-represented as coaches of youth sports.

*www.core77.com:* **Oliver Neuland**, from the School of Design, reflects on some differences between car and bike design. *Gisborne Herald, Wairarapa Times-Age:* Dr **Andrea Mannetje** and Dr **Neil Pearce**, both from the Centre for Public Health Research, have discovered that women in sales occupations have a higher risk of developing bladder cancer compared to those in other jobs.

## 7 March

*Manawatu Standard, NZ Education Review:* Education Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor **James Chapman** says that putting teacher quality in the spotlight doesn't help unless studies are well constructed, well executed and factual.

*Marlborough Express, NZ Education Review:* Dr **Sarah Leberman's** insight into females' lack of confidence in ability as coaches. *New Zealand Herald:* Professor **Bob Hargreaves**, from the Department of Finance, Banking and Property, believes that shortly every second home in Auckland will be a rented dwelling, unless there is structural change in the market.

## 8 March

*The New Zealand Herald, Newstalk ZB (9 March):* Professor **Tom Nicholson**, from the School of Education, says that it is quite normal for young children to have an imaginary friend as part of their development and almost half of New Zealanders had imaginary friends during their childhood.

## 9 March

*Herald on Sunday:* **Roy Speed**, from the School of Engineering and Advanced

Technology, says potential converts from regular bulbs to compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) are often put off by the expectation that CFLs will produce the same effect of lighting as ordinary incandescent bulbs.

## 10 March

*AgBrief:* Professor Grant Guilford notes that there is a nationwide shortage of vets and Massey could take more.

*Gisborne Herald, Westport News, Newstalk ZB, Radio Live, www.tv3.co.nz:* Dr **Mike Joy**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, has prepared a statement released by The Green Party's co-leader, Dr Russel Norman, saying that lakes and rivers are in a much worse state than was described in the Government's State of the Environment report earlier this year.

*Manawatu Standard, www.stuff.co.nz:* Captain **Ashok Poduval**, from the School of Aviation, says that the global pilot shortage means employment opportunities are extensive for those with the necessary skills.

## 11 March

*Ashburton Guardian:* Professor **Al Rowland's** release of a genetic study confirming genetic mutations in veterans' DNA.

*Newstalk ZB:* Dr **Michael Irwin**, from the School of Education, comments on recent findings that short bursts of exercise helps boys concentrate in school.

*www.sciencealert.com.au:* Dr **Patrick Morel**, from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, says that altering the flavour of meat to suit different tastes could lead to an increase of exports.

*Taranaki Daily News:* Dr **Jeroen Douwes**, from the Centre for Public Health Research, is presently researching what prevents people from developing asthma and allergies.

*North Shore Times:* **Jasmine Thomson**, from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, is leading a study trialing a new dietary formula and the effects of adding protein to cyclists' carbohydrate recovery meals and sports drinks.

## 12 March

*Manawatu Standard, www.stuff.co.nz:* Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor **Ian Warrington** says that more funding and research will lead to more young, bright people working in the sciences that support New Zealand food production.

*Manawatu Standard, The Dominion Post, Southland Times:* Professor **Jacqueline Rowarth**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, says her task of promoting science as a career has been made much easier, due to the Government's announcement of a capital fund of \$700 million towards science in which she fully supports. *The Dominion Post:* **Stuart Houltham**, a third-year sport and exercise science student, has recently won the national mountain biking championships and awarded a Prime Minister's Scholarship.

*Manawatu Standard, www.stuff.co.nz:* Mr **Peter O'Sullivan**, from the School of Arts, Development and Health Education, has lead third-year teacher trainees on a five-day mountain to sea challenge, which was the main trip of their four-year degree.

*Independent Financial Review:* Dr **David Tripe**, director of the Centre for Banking Studies, states that ANZ's estimates for economic growth in New Zealand suggested interest rate cuts before the year's end are possible.

*Piako Post:* **Kim Paton**, senior tutor in Fine Arts and Design, is the curator of a new autumn exhibition titled *E-SCAPE 'Sculpture in the Landscape'*, opening this week.

## 13 March

*The Dominion Post, Nelson Mail:* Professor **Bob Hargreaves**, from the Department of Finance, Banking and Property, says that the housing market is sliding nationally.

*Radio New Zealand:* Professor **Mason Durie**, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori), has made contributions towards the new publication devoted to Māori public health issues.

*Radio New Zealand:* Professor **Sally Caswell**, from the Social and Health Outcome Research and Evaluation Research Centre, discusses her interest in the development

# Wharerata

venue • cuisine • events

Thursday Night tapas @ the Terrace Bar

4.30pm – 8.30pm every Thursday starting Feb 28th. Come and enjoy a summer's evening overlooking the gardens. Happy Hour 5.00 – 6.00 pm

Offal Club - Thursday 24 April - Offal lovers register now for a special dinner experience

Our dining room/ café open from 8.30am to 2pm for Morning tea and lunch Monday to Friday

For information and reservations contact Lobby on 350 5088 or email [info@wharerata.co.nz](mailto:info@wharerata.co.nz)



and strategies associated with the use of alcohol in society.

*Otago Daily Times:* **Bindi Thomas**, in collaboration with the Department of Conservation, has devised a project providing insight into the first year of young albatross's lives.

*North Shore Times:* **Kerry Gibson**, from the School of Psychology, says bullying has increased and become more complex, and can include things such as spreading rumours and exclusion.

#### 14 March

*www.scoop.co.nz:* Dr **Grant Duncan**, from the School of Social and Cultural Studies, has been appointed as the new Academic Vice-President of the Association of University Staff, and will ensure that the concerns of university staff about Performance Based Research Fund (PBRF) operations are considered by the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC).

*National Business Review:* Dr **James Lockhart**, from the Graduate School of Business, says that Massey is producing a targeted suite of training products for the director training of Crown-owned companies.

#### 15 March

*The New Zealand Herald:* Dr **David Tripe**, director of the Centre for Banking Studies, says that if unemployment rises rapidly at the same time as a housing bloodbath, local banks could face serious problems.

*Manawatu Standard:* Dr **Imran Muhammad**, from the School of People, Environment and Planning, says that housing is needed in the inner Central Business District.

*Southland Times:* Mr **John Peebles**, a Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) student has been ranked among the world's most 50 most influential headhunters in a survey by the American publication Business Week.

#### 16 March

*Radio New Zealand:* Professor **Mason Durie**, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori) comments on whether or not the Māori Party has made

any difference to the political process for potential Māori voters.

*Radio New Zealand:* Dr **Phil Battley**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, is associated with the second year of trials following the Godwits and their migratory patterns.

*Sunday Star Times:* Professor **Bob Hargreaves**, from the Department of Finance, Banking and Property says that house prices must fall 30 per cent to be affordable.

#### 18 March

*The Dominion Post, The Press, www.stuff.co.nz:* Dr **Yafeng Qin**, from the Department of Commerce, says that from a financial perspective, human emotions make for complicated maths and it is difficult to calculate the risks associated with behavioural biases because humans behave in unpredictable ways.

*Radio New Zealand:* Dr **Nick Cave**, from the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Science, warns people not to share Easter chocolates with their pets and discusses the poisonous nature of chocolate consumption for dogs.

### Research Funding News

<http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/research/fops/fo.cfm>

### Contact Information:

#### Research Development Team

##### Humanities & Social Sciences, Creative Arts, and Business

Dr. Victoria Bradley  
v.j.bradley@massey.ac.nz  
ext. 81327 or 027 538 5338

##### Sciences

Dr. Kate Arentsen  
k.arentsen@massey.ac.nz  
ext. 81326 or 027 544 7354

##### Education, based in Auckland

Jo Stone  
j.d.stone@massey.ac.nz  
ext. 9533 or 027 233 6333

#### Research Funding Co-ordinator

##### Funding Opportunities, PBRF

Diana Young, d.m.young@massey.ac.nz  
ext. 81341

### Funding Opportunities:

#### Ministry of Fisheries

Fisheries Research Services – Round One  
Closes: 4 April

#### Asia New Zealand Foundation

Track II Research Grant  
Closes: 18 April

#### Royal Society of New Zealand

Bilateral Research Activities Programme  
Closes: 18 April

#### American Society of Interior Designers

Joel Polsky Prize  
Amount: \$1,000 USD  
Closes: 30 April

#### Australian Museum

Eureka Prizes  
Amount: Up to \$10,000 AUD  
Closes: 2 May

#### Royal Society of New Zealand

-Rutherford Medal  
-Other RSNZ Awards & Medals  
Closes: 30 June

#### U.S. Department of Defense

Information Fusion and Artificial Intelligence  
Continuous

#### Candidate sought for PhD Opportunity: "Predictive Microbiology for New Generation and Made-in-Transit Foods"

This PhD project will be a fundamental study aimed at developing the application of predictive microbiology to new generation food product development, and to the development of made-in-Transit foods

The project's specific aims are:

-To develop predictive models for determining the shelf life of low acid, high moisture, ambient stored foods ("new generation" foods), for example spreads. Initially, the following factors would be considered: pH 4.0-7.0, liquids and gels, consumer and food service products, chilled and ambient





**Massey University**

**Veterinary Clinic**



- Full veterinary services
- Wide range of pet food and accessories
- Cater for lifestyle blocks and commercial farms
- All species catered for

- Puppy parties and behaviour advice
- Staff and student discounts
- Convenient drop off service

**Call in and see us on the other side of the duck pond**

**Conveniently located on the Palmerston North Campus**

Phone: 06 350 5329 <http://vethospital.massey.ac.nz> Email: [Vetclinic@massey.ac.nz](mailto:Vetclinic@massey.ac.nz)



**Massey University**

storage for 1-9 months.

Modelling will involve quantifying the effects of multiple hurdles to microbial growth in the foods concerned. Both kinetic and probability models are likely to be needed.

-To explore the use of predictive models in the development of "made-in-transit" foods.

The student stipend will be \$25,000 per annum tax free for three years. Closing date for applications is 30 April 2008. To apply, email your full CV and a statement explaining why you are interested in this project to Dr Owen McCarthy, Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, Massey University.

#### Community of Science Funding Opportunities Database

The funding opportunities listed in this Newsletter are only a small extract of available funding for New Zealand researchers. Use COS Funding Opportunities to search over 22, 000 records representing over 400,000 individual funding opportunities from numerous sponsors across all disciplines: [www.cos.com/nz](http://www.cos.com/nz).

## Events

<http://events.massey.ac.nz>

#### WN – Wednesday 2nd April

12.15pm

*Obesity and the Quest for Treatment: The importance of a wide angle approach to a complex multi-faceted problem* - Suzi Penny

Abstract: In our current obesogenic environment there are increasing concerns about obesity and its related health risks and there is a large body of established research relating to the contributing environmental factors. Overall, different public health interventions have been in the form of simple dietary guidelines and 'anti-obesity' messages and more recently encouragement of increased physical activity, but frustratingly, with limited success. What is the relevance of inherent physiological factors in determining obesity risk? The important challenge therefore is to explore some of the reasons for this limited success in our quest for improving strategies for dealing with the increasing obesity problem.

Venue: Block 5, Level C, Room 12 [5C12]

Contact: Jim Jones

Ph: 8015799 extn 6719

#### PN – Thursday 3 April to Thursday 20 March

5.30am – 12.00pm

*Alumni Chapter AGM* - Mr Jono Naylor

The Palmerston North Alumni Chapter Committee invites all interested alumni and staff to attend the Annual General Meeting on Thursday 3 April from 5.30pm in the Social Sciences Lecture Block. The evening will include guest speaker Mr Jono Naylor, Palmerston North Mayor and alumnus of Massey University. A light supper will be provided.

Please RSVP by Friday 28th March to Karen Greer, email [alumni@massey.ac.nz](mailto:alumni@massey.ac.nz) or phone 350 5865.

Venue: Social Sciences Lecture Block

Contact: Karen Greer

Ph: 350 5865

#### WN – Friday 4 April to Friday 22 February

1.00pm – 12.00am

*Nick Tipping & Friends - The Music of the Dave Holland Quintet*

Dave Holland is recognised as one of the leading bass players and jazz composers of the late 20th and early 21st Century. His groundbreaking quintet has recorded a number of albums of contemporary jazz, and gained an unparalleled reputation for melodic and rhythmic clarity, as well as its unusual instrumentation of drums, bass, saxophone, trombone and vibraphone. Nick Tipping and friends present a concert of music written and inspired by this extraordinary group.

<http://www.nzsm.ac.nz>

Venue: Concert Hall, Block 1, Wallace St

Contact: Debbie Rawnsley

Ph: 463-6050

#### PN - Wednesday 9 April

11.30am – 12.00am

*Student Exchange Expo*

Exchange is a great chance to study overseas with one of Massey's partner universities worldwide. You can go to Germany, India, China, Sweden, England, France, USA, Singapore, Chile and more ...

You still pay Massey fees, get your student loan or allowance but have a unique university experience by studying abroad.

Come along to the Expo to hear about the programme and the opportunities available to you!

<http://studentexchange.massey.ac.nz>

Venue: Concourse

Contact: Rachel Fenton

Ph: ext. 2159

#### AK – Friday 11 April

12.00 PM – 12.00am

*Order Book Slope and Price Volatility* - Dr Petko Kalev

This paper considers the information content of the limit order book in the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX). For stocks included in the S&P20 index, we document a negative and contemporaneous relation between volatility and variations in the liquidity provision in the order book, as captured by the order book slope. We also observe that a decrease in the order book slope has a significantly larger impact on volatility than an increase. Finally, we find that the order book slope is informative over future volatility and the removal of broker

IDs in the ASX has little impact on this predictive power.

<http://www.buseco.monash.edu.au/aaf/staff/kalev.html>

Venue: QA 5

Contact: Rochelle Hughes Ph: 441 8176

#### PN – Wednesday 16 April

12.00pm – 1.00pm

*Free Lunchtime Concert*

*New Zealand String Quartet*

The New Zealand String Quartet plays Schubert's last string quartet.

Venue: MB2.17 (Old Main Building Auditorium)

Contact: Robert Hoskins Ph: 7153

If you wish to register an event please use the online events submission form at <http://events.massey.ac.nz>. For other event enquiries please contact a campus events coordinator or email [events-admin@massey.ac.nz](mailto:events-admin@massey.ac.nz).

## Scholarships and Bursaries

<http://awards.massey.ac.nz>

### Undergraduate

**Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Scholarships** - Yr1 & Yr2 students – closing 4 April 2008

**Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Scholarships** - Yr3, postgraduate/honours/masters students – closing 4 April 2008

**Ministry of Health Hauora Māori Scholarships** – closing 11 April 2008

**Massey University (Palmerston North Campus) Undergraduate Students' Arts Bursary** – closing 15 April 2008

**Women's Suffrage Undergraduate Bursary** – closing 15 April 2008

**Hubbards Foods Ltd Food Technology Scholarships** – closing 30 April 2008

**Māori Education Trust - Undergraduate Scholarships** – closing 30 April 2008

**Margaret Richards Bursary** – closing 30 April 2008

**Sir Apirana Ngata Memorial Scholarship** – closing 30 April 2008

**Sir Robert Jones Undergraduate Scholarship in History** – closing 30 April 2008

**Sir Robert Jones Undergraduate Scholarship in Philosophy** – closing 30 April 2008

### Postgraduate

**Horizons Regional Council Sustainable Land Use Scholarships** - Yr3, postgraduate/honours/masters students – closing 4 April 2008

**Catherine Baxter Scholarship** – closing 10 April 2008

**Ministry of Health Hauora Māori Scholarships** – closing 11 April 2008

**Massey University Affinity Card Bursary** – closing 21 April 2008

**Māori Education Trust - Postgraduate Scholarships** – closing 30 April 2008



**Margaret Richards Bursary** – closing 30 April 2008

**Natural Resource & Environmental Economics Scholarship** – closing 30 April 2008

**Palmerston North Heritage Trust Scholarship** – closing 30 April 2008

**Senate Communications Research Grants in Management Communications** – closing 30 April 2008

**Sir Apirana Ngata Memorial Scholarship** – closing 30 April 2008

**Sir Robert Jones Postgraduate Scholarship in History** – closing 30 April 2008

**Terralink International Limited Scholarship** – closing 30 April 2008

**NOTICEBOARDS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:**  
SOCIAL SCIENCES LECTURE BLOCK FOYER,  
TURITEA SITE AND IN EACH ACADEMIC UNIT

## University wide notices

### ACADEMIC STAFF PROMOTIONS 2008

Eligible academic staff intending to apply for promotion this year should note that documentation regarding promotions has been distributed to Heads of Department/Institute/School.

Staff eligible to participate in this round of promotions are Tutors, Senior Tutors, English Language Teachers, Senior English Language Teachers, Lecturers, Senior Lecturers, Research Officers, Senior Research Officers, Practicing Veterinarians/Professional Clinicians and Senior Practicing Veterinarians/Professional Clinicians, who have an ongoing employment agreement.

Staff intending to apply for promotion should consult with their Head of Department/Institute/School. Closing date for applications is Monday, 14 April 2008. Please note that late applications cannot be accepted. Applications should be photocopied, using both sides of the paper, wherever possible.

The Academic Promotion Round Booklet 2008 is available on the Human Resources website <http://hrs.massey.ac.nz>.

Please note that the Academic Promotions Booklet covers Level 1 and 2 Promotions only.

The Promotion to Professor is a separate round commencing in May 2008.

## Massey News Online

If you want to read the latest in news from Massey University, complete with colour pictures and video clips, or if you want to sign up for one of an expanding range of e-mail newsletters, visit us online.

### @Massey National

A fortnightly newsletter with the latest in news and research from the University's three campuses in Auckland, Wellington and Palmerston North.

### @Massey Manawatu

A fortnightly newsletter providing news of interest to the Manawatu community, including cover of events and activities at the Palmerston North campus, as well as wider University news.

### @Massey Business

A quarterly newsletter providing a snapshot of business news of value to the business community, from across the University.

### @Massey Arts

A quarterly newsletter providing news of events and activities in design, fine arts and music, of particular interest to the Wellington arts community.

Please visit:  
<http://news.massey.ac.nz>

## Staffroom

News of interest to all staff across the University, from a range of sources and includes items of interest about the tertiary sector.

Please contact you nearest communications adviser to make a submission to this page.

Helpful headings and links for staff are also included on the staffroom page.

Please visit:  
<http://staffroom.massey.ac.nz>

31 March 2008 - issue 3

**Publisher:** Massey University Communications and Marketing

**Printed:** Massey University Printery

**Next issue:** 14 April 2008

**Notices:** All notices should be sent to [editor@massey.ac.nz](mailto:editor@massey.ac.nz) by Monday prior to publication. Event notices should be submitted to the web - <http://events.massey.ac.nz> and classifieds to <http://ads.massey.ac.nz> (please note that classified advertisements are a service for University staff. These are not published in the print edition of Massey News).

**Advertising:** All classified advertisements, including accommodation, are now available online at <http://ads.massey.ac.nz>. For paid advertisement enquiries, contact the editor.

**Circulation:** Please advise David Wiltshire of your circulation and delivery changes.  
email: [d.wiltshire@massey.ac.nz](mailto:d.wiltshire@massey.ac.nz)

**Copyright:** Articles and photos are copyright. We welcome reprinting if permission is sought. Contact Communications and Marketing.

### Contact:

#### Director of Communications (Acting):

James Gardiner  
email: [j.c.gardiner@massey.ac.nz](mailto:j.c.gardiner@massey.ac.nz)  
Tel 06-350-5255 or 021-275-3394

#### Communications Manager (Acting):

Lindsey Birnie  
email: [l.birnie@massey.ac.nz](mailto:l.birnie@massey.ac.nz)  
Tel 06-350-5185 or 027-534-5622

#### Communications Advisers:

Helen Vause (College of Business)  
email: [h.e.vause@massey.ac.nz](mailto:h.e.vause@massey.ac.nz)  
Tel 09-414-0821 or 027-540-0701

Jennifer Little (Auckland campus)  
email: [j.little@massey.ac.nz](mailto:j.little@massey.ac.nz)  
Tel 09-414-0821 ext 9331 or 027-453-4562

Lindsey Birnie (College of Sciences, College of Humanities and Social Sciences)  
email: [l.birnie@massey.ac.nz](mailto:l.birnie@massey.ac.nz)  
Tel 06-350-5185 or 027-534-5622

Kereama Beal (College of Education, Palmerston North campus, Massey News Editor)  
email: [k.beal@massey.ac.nz](mailto:k.beal@massey.ac.nz)  
Tel 06-350-5019 or 027-471-8571

#### Electronic Publications Coordinator:

David Wiltshire  
email: [d.wiltshire@massey.ac.nz](mailto:d.wiltshire@massey.ac.nz)  
Tel 06-350-5370

#### Director of Marketing (Acting):

Sarah Vining  
email: [s.vining@massey.ac.nz](mailto:s.vining@massey.ac.nz)  
Tel 06-350-5562 or 027-494-9077

**Correction:** In *Massey News* issue 2, 2008, Associate Professor Ross Hemera was incorrectly referred to as Dr Hemera. *Massey News* apologises for any confusion.



From left, Dilmah marketing director Dilhan Fernando, PhD student Shiromani Jayasekera, Distinguished Professor Paul Moughan and Dilmah founder Merrill Fernando enjoy a cup of tea after discussing the results of Ms Jayasekera's research on the health-giving properties of tea.

## Study unlocks the health benefits of a cuppa

Determining which Ceylon tea has the most health protecting properties – including reducing the risk of stroke, heart failure, cancer and diabetes – has led the Riddet Institute's Shiromani Jayasekera to a research partnership with Dilmah.

Preliminary research established the chemical composition of antioxidant properties found in Ceylon teas, a project of interest to Dilmah as pickers and packers of Ceylon tea.

Information on how altitude, soil type, weather, processing and freshness affected the antioxidants was assessed, adding to the collection of knowledge on existing studies that showed tea flavonoids to have antioxidant and anti-mutagenic activities.

Ms Jayasekera, a PhD student at the Riddet Institute, collected tea samples from Sri Lanka's main Ceylon tea growing regions over a 12-month period, with the specimens then shipped to the Institute's home laboratory on Massey University's Palmerston North campus for further analysis.

Dilmah marketing director Dilhan Fernando says the research proves that the quality, flavour and composition of tea is affected by many things in the same way wines are affected.

"Dilmah is keen to continue to learn more about the

complexity of its teas," Mr Fernando says, "so it can offer tea drinkers as much information as possible about its health-giving properties."

Mr Fernando, with Dilmah founder Merrill Fernando, visited Ms Jayasekera at the Riddet Institute in Palmerston North on 19 March. Co-director of the Institute Distinguished Professor Paul Moughan says he was pleased to host the Dilmah visitors and share first-hand the findings.

"The Riddet Institute has had a long and productive association with Dilmah. The results of the tea research are so encouraging that it is planned to follow up with in vivo tests in humans next year," Professor Moughan says.

The Riddet Institute, formerly the Riddet centre, was named as a Government-funded Centre of Research Excellence in 2007, the only institution

to receive new CoRE status. The centre was formed in 2003, bringing together talent from Massey, Auckland and Otago universities. The extended partnership now includes Crop & Food and AgResearch.

Re-named the Riddet Institute earlier this year, the centre retains its emphasis on the fundamental science that underpins and advances the food industry.

