



Massey News

Auckland • Palmerston North • Wellington • Extramural

27 Here-turi-kōkā, August 2007 Issue 12



Te Kunenga
ki Pūrehuroa



Challenge of new tertiary direction
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Dibble Photographic exhibition on campus
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at highschool I knew a girl called Julie. She had a great sense of humour. She was really into eyes and Kurt Cobain of the band nirvana. She was down with grunge and dressed like a good follower of popular culture should. The week Kurt died she didn't come to school. She got really hassled for that.

by Karren



Fine art in Kurt Cobain
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Crossing the Line takes Del Mar Mile
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Jenny Weston, Tania Smith and Meredith Love with the newly arrived triplets, watched by mum, Number 26.

Organic cow delivers the rare trifecta

It's a one-in-two-million chance. Massey organicdairy herd cow number 26 delivered three live male calves last Wednesday. Veterinary lecturer Jenny Weston, who delivered the calves with fifth-year student Meredith Love, says triplets are about a one-in-500,000 occurrence in New Zealand dairy herds, and only one in four sets of triplets are delivered all alive.

Number 26 started calving about 5.30pm, with herd manager Tania Smith monitoring her until it was time to call in the veterinary team about 9.30pm, Ms Weston says.

"I could tell there were at least two heads and some front legs in the uterus, certainly one was coming first. I repelled the second calf and at that point Meredith took over and put chains on both front feet and a head rope and the first was delivered by traction – the strength of one woman!

"While we were pulling it was a little way out and the cow started to sag so we were a bit concerned but we pulled him out.

"We knew there was a second calf, with the cow happily mothering the first calf we then followed the same procedure to deliver the second calf and noted he was a boy.

"At that point I joked to Meredith you'd better check for a

third. I thought she was having me on when she said there was another head," Ms Weston says.

"I couldn't believe myself there was another head in there and then it bit me" says Ms Love. "So we pulled that one out as well with chains on its feet but no head rope." The third calf was the smallest of the three. All the calves are small, about 20kg, but each is doing fine.

Ms Smith believes that the organic care of the herd has been a key factor in the remarkable condition Number 26 has retained. "She was one of the best producers already, so she's done extremely well to have done that with triplets on the way. I just think the condition she is in is amazing – I don't know of any cow that could be better."

Throughout the delivery, Ms Smith treated Number 26 with homeopathic remedies.

"Because the cow was organic I was wanting to avoid using drugs, Ms Weston says, "although of course if the cow needed it from a welfare perspective we would provide it. But it was not necessary. We were a bit concerned about her energy levels so we gave her a feed of molasses and she was into it."

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Hands-on kiwi encounter for Conservation Minister



Technician Bridey White and Conservation Minister Chris Carter examine Big Girl in the Wildlife Ward.

Conservation Minister Chris Carter got a hands-on lesson in caring for kiwi recently, assisting while a kiwi had its wounds dressed at the University's Wildlife Ward in Palmerston North.

Mr Carter assisted veterinarian Kerri Morgan and technician Bridey White to change dressings on the injured female North Island brown kiwi. Ms White says the kiwi, known as Big Girl, has a very good chance of making it back to the wild.

"She looks really good compared to when she was brought in. The [infected] hole was quite round and quite deep and now it's almost completely closed."

The kiwi stepped into a possum trap in Northland, Ms Morgan says.

"She developed a severe infection and necrosis of the foot and has had two toes amputated. We are trying to ensure the infection does not spread further up her leg and save the remaining toe. If we can

do this she will be released back to the wild. If she loses the toe she will need to be put into a captive placement and join the breeding programme."

The ward treats up to 300 wild animals each year, including endangered species such as kakapo, takahe, yellow-eyed penguins, black stilts, the New Zealand falcon, short tailed bats, tuatara, blue duck, brown teal, shore plover and Grand and Otago skinks.

North Island brown kiwi are regularly cared for, and the team has also treated both Greater and Little Spotted Kiwi.

Mr Carter showed his interest in New Zealand's wildlife, discussing care of penguins and native birds with staff, and hearing first hand from Mt Bruce and Palmerston North Department of Conservation staff on the role the wildlife ward plays as a source of expert advice and treatment. He noted the importance of the wildlife ward given the number of threatened species in New Zealand, and the additional contribution made by the associated research and teaching facilities.

The ward was set up with Maritime NZ money, as a cleaning facility for animals caught in oil spills, but has treated native wildlife since 2003. Senior lecturer Dr Brett Gartrell says the ward is part of the national Wildlife Health Centre, which also manages the national wildlife pathology service for the Conservation Department, runs the oiled wildlife response for Maritime NZ, carries out marine mammal by-catch pathology for the Fisheries Ministry, and researches wildlife health.

"The ward treats only native animals – no ferals or exotics," Dr Gartrell says. "We are fortunate to have the support of Massey and some limited sponsorship from Shell because while these animals consume thousands of dollars worth of very specialised care, no one expects a native kiwi to pay its bill."

The ward is part of the University's Institute of Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Sciences. As well as being the only specialist wildlife facility in the country, the health centre plays a key role in training both undergraduate and postgraduate veterinary and veterinary nursing students.

Prime Minister to open advanced microscopy centre

Prime Minister Helen Clark will open the new Manawatu Microscopy and Imaging Centre on the Palmerston North campus on Tuesday. The state-of-the-art facility houses a range of imaging equipment - light, fluorescence and confocal microscopes, plus electron microscopes, both scanning and transmission - all tools for use across the physical and biological sciences.

Project director Dr Al Rowland says the new confocal microscope is a valuable and exciting tool for visualising and analysing cellular structures in three dimensions.

"The images created in the process are essential to the understanding of how cells function, how molecules interact, and opens the door to

exploring dynamic processes," Dr Rowland says. "A scanning electron microscope also enables the study of the sub-cellular component of cells at the highest resolution. Disciplines including veterinary pathology, food science and microbiology will use the scanning electron microscope."

As well as being critical to tertiary education, the centre is a key resource for one of the most important biological science hubs in New Zealand.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear says that the centre will be a magnet for high-calibre researchers from a range of science and commercial organisations. "This will strengthen a range of research training collaborations already underway between these organisations and the University."

Health checks a crucial start, but not enough

Literacy researchers have welcomed the Government's B4 School programme of health checks for four and five-year olds, but say it does not go far enough to address New Zealand's endemic low literacy problems.

Poor health is the number one issue identified in Massey's three-year study of adult literacy and employment, which will end later this year. The study investigated literacy and workforce issues, in the light of statistics indicating that more than 40 per cent of New Zealand workers have a level of functional literacy thought insufficient for modern workplace environments.

The Department of Communication and Journalism conducted the literacy study in partnership with community groups in Wanganui. Department head Associate Professor Frank Sligo says more than two thirds of the adult literacy learners interviewed said poor health, often during childhood but also as adults, had disrupted their learning of important literacy skills.

"Health was the single most frequently mentioned issue, and greatly outweighed the next issue, family environment. Health was also an issue about which people were often still feeling very angry and frustrated," he says.

"Things like not being able to see the blackboard, not being able to hear the teacher properly, having an undiagnosed behavioural condition, or coping with a break from school due to a health issue, topped the list of 30 common factors that people in adult literacy training told us had held them back.

"Many adults felt they had been put in the too hard basket when at school, and it was not until later in life they found out that a health issue was the likely cause of much of their difficulty coping in the classroom. Often, their self-esteem had been enormously damaged by thinking they



Associate Professor Frank Sligo.

were not smart, when it turned out that actually they just needed glasses."

Dr Sligo says the B4 School checks have the potential to raise New Zealand's overall literacy levels down the track by catching many hearing, vision and behavioural conditions early, but more checks and better follow-up systems are needed at a range of ages, not just before school.

Time off school after a major illness or accident was also raised repeatedly as a disruption to learning.

"For example, one person told us that they were an A student until they had three months off school with a broken leg. After that, they were never able to catch up to the same levels again, and became discouraged. This was a typical scenario told to us in different forms by different people over and over."

A link was also identified between bullying in schools and health problems, with many people indicating they took repeated 'sickies' as students, to avoid abuse from peers.

"Better support systems are needed to ensure that any time off school, even a short break, does not upset a student's learning patterns. Health screening is needed at regular intervals throughout schooling, as many of the health issues raised in our study, including mental illness which was another very common factor, might not be evident at age five.

"We also suggest that creating positive, inclusive schoolyard cultures needs to be a Government priority. There are privately funded anti-bullying programmes, but the high prevalence of bullying experienced by the people in our study suggests these are inadequate."

Health Minister Pete Hodgson has announced last week that B4 School health checks will begin in February next year. They will be piloted with up to 1000 four-year-olds in Wanganui and South Auckland.

Battle for better consumer awareness of organics

Organic food producers are battling to gain consumer awareness of labels and the official marks of certification that differentiate their products from others. The high price of organic food is also still a barrier to shoppers in New Zealand.

Despite the recent rapid increase in demand for organic food, Massey researchers have found confusion among consumers about organic goods and a lack of market intelligence about consumer knowledge and attitudes to organic food.

There are three well-established logos used in New Zealand to show organic food has been produced according to internationally recognised standards. Certification labels from BioGro, AgriQuality and Demeter can be found on New Zealand-produced food, along with labels from dozens of international certifiers on imported organic food. These labels represent certification standards that differ in what is required, permitted and prohibited in organic food production, preparation and sale.

The all round muddy picture of the organics market is of concern for producers and the certifiers, says commerce lecturer Dr Andrew Murphy who surveyed 100 consumers on the subject.

"We know little of consumer awareness of organic food properties that may differentiate the organic from the conventional, such as the absence of pesticides, fertilizers and preservatives," says Dr Murphy.

"The current knowledge base of consumers is a significant limiter on the size of the domestic market. Awareness of different labels is vital if organic products are to continue to attract market premiums."

Dr Murphy interviewed food shoppers at supermarkets and Auckland's weekend markets where organic produce is typically available. His study is ongoing but he says the initial results confirm market research is lagging far behind the growth of the industry.

Dr Murphy found consumers had little knowledge of certification systems and labels and only 21 per cent named a certifying organisation. However, once prompted with a range of seven labels, the respondents showed high recognition of New Zealand's largest organic certifiers.

Consumers gave top priority to personal benefits in their reasons for eating organic food, including perceived direct health benefits, taste and quality, and avoiding genetically modified foods. Much lower on their list of motivations were the well being of workers, farmers and the environment.

Ninety-four per cent cited high prices as a barrier to purchase, for 30 per cent seasonal availability was a deterrent, while 23 per cent indicated perceptions of poor quality due to the appearance of some organic produce.

The Massey study shows a pressing need for much more research on the organic market and consumer perceptions.

Dr Murphy says interest in and demand for organic food in New Zealand has doubled in the past three years to an estimated \$260 million, with a further \$120 million in exports. Globally, sales of organic food were valued at \$60 billion in 2006, with many key markets growing by more than 20 per cent per year.

He says for more farmers to be encouraged to convert to organics and capture greater margins, consumers must perceive they can distinguish organic foods and value them more highly than non-organic foods.

Interest in the organics industry is booming in New Zealand, demonstrated by the inaugural Organics Aotearoa New Zealand conference held at Lincoln from 17-19 August.

The conference brought together producers, retailers, exporters, government officials and academics to discuss New Zealand's organic future



From the Vice-Chancellor

Dear Colleagues

As part of the current tertiary education reforms, the University is in the process of developing its first Investment Plan* for the Tertiary Education Commission.

The reforms are intended to enable the Government, through the TEC, to fund all tertiary institutions in accord with national goals and priorities. As part of these reforms, institutions are being encouraged to focus their resources around their strategic strengths and to collaborate where appropriate so as to complement each other regionally and nationally. The changes in the tertiary environment are the most significant the university sector has seen since the reforms following the Todd Report in the early 1990s.

Massey is already well placed to achieve the key shifts identified by the Government as part of the tertiary education reforms as these shifts, including stakeholder engagement and Māori goals, align with our current priorities and strategies. We pride ourselves on our close relationships and partnerships with industry and communities. Engaging with our stakeholders is strongly embedded throughout our University through many avenues as, for example, the Small and Medium Enterprises Research Centre, the EpiCentre, the Research School of Public Health, AFFECT: The Centre for Affective Product Design, and the newly established Centre for Research on Children's Literacy. We already have effective strategies to increase participation of Māori students in university-level study, as reflected by our Māori postgraduate enrolments that are nationally the highest in the university sector, and our graduates are making a significant contribution to tangata whenua development.

Our Pasifika strategy is more recent but provides a robust

framework for this growing sector of our community. Massey's previous decision to discontinue sub-degree programmes at the Wellington campus is in accord with the TEC's priority of enhancing differentiation and complementarity among universities and sub-sectors, as is our engagement with polytechnics, as for example, the Eastern Institute of Technology.

The relevant and applied nature of much of our research, including involvement with Centres of Research Excellence, both as host and as partner, and our involvement with Crown Research Institutes and industry organisations mean that we will continue to make a significant contribution to New Zealand's wealth and wellbeing.

Through our involvement in fundamental research and research training, we will continue to contribute to the platform that provides the basis for longer-term economic growth and social development in this country.

One significant change under the reforms is that funding of tertiary providers will move from one of unlimited student numbers funded annually on a per-EFTS basis to one of limited funding negotiated on a triennial basis. This change will effectively limit the number of Government-funded students at each university and funded growth in student numbers will occur only as negotiated with the TEC.

The current reforms present both challenges and opportunities for Massey.

The welcome move from a volume-driven approach means that Massey can focus much more on teaching and research training in our core discipline strengths, with appropriate differentiation from other tertiary institutions.

Massey's Draft Investment Plan makes it clear that our differentiation will be reflected in a number of ways – through

our multi-campus arrangement, through our postgraduate research training strengths and through our national leadership in distance learning. While this identifies where we are, we also need to identify new academic opportunities that will be of future relevance to a distinctive Massey profile.

Colleges are now developing and implementing strategies to realise the opportunities presented by the three-year funding process and to align their teaching and research more strongly around their core academic strengths. This strategy will require us to rationalise our academic offerings and may involve the introduction of new programmes and the discontinuation of some existing programmes and re-thinking which programmes are offered on particular campuses.

While the three-campus structure of Massey offers many advantages, it can also be a disadvantage when we unnecessarily duplicate or triplicate academic offerings and dilute our efforts. As part of this rationalisation, there will be alignment and allocation of staffing, infrastructure and other resources to achieve our strategic objectives and to create critical mass of staff and students supported by appropriate infrastructure and services.

This alignment is not a new process for Massey — it has been happening continuously over recent years, as for example, the consolidation of the School of Aviation to the Palmerston North campus and the concentration of the operations of College of Education to two rather than three campuses.

This alignment is also consistent with our intention to relocate the College of Education from Hokowhitu to Turitea. The College of Business has been reorganising its departments to emphasise its core academic strengths rather than administrative units. Likewise, as part of its enhancement on each campus, the College of Humanities and Social Sciences is creating a critical mass of Midwifery on the Wellington campus and Social Work at the Palmerston North and the Auckland campuses.

The College of Sciences is currently discussing a proposal that could see the Institutes of Information Sciences and Technology and Engineering and Technology combined into a School of Engineering and Technology to strengthen Massey's core strength in these disciplines. This opportunity, and the need to look at the Engineering and Technology offerings across all campuses, will be discussed with staff in the coming weeks.

The University faces a significant challenge in achieving its financial goals and a loss of \$1.3 million has been forecast for this year. This situation has arisen as a consequence of many factors including the significant downturn in international students, a low fee regime over many years compounded by a zero fee increase in 2004, and the disestablishment of sub-degree courses in line with signals foreshadowed in the current tertiary education reform, but it is an unsustainable situation that all units of the University must address.

We will move over the next three years to a situation in which costs are in harmony with income and the 3 per cent return on income required by the TEC is progressively achieved.

Measures both to achieve savings in our operating costs and to increase income will be identified. On the academic side, savings in operating costs will be achieved through alignment and rationalisation of our academic portfolios across our three campuses.

On the administrative side, we will ensure that our administrative support services are optimised and are best able to support our core business of teaching and research training in a research-active environment.

The Services, Delivery Optimisation project will, over the next 12 months, consider the contributions and roles of HR, finance, marketing, IT, infrastructure, student administration and student services across the University to ensure that service delivery is of a high standard and cost-effective.

I have asked that all my direct reports achieve agreed budget targets so that we reach a financially sustainable position that is an essential underpinning of our continued academic development. Externally, in conjunction with other universities,

we will continue to seek from Government more appropriate inflation adjustments and improved levels of EFTS funding for high cost teaching areas.

Every unit at Massey — academic, administrative, college, campus and central — is interdependent; we are not a collection of quarantined and financially independent units.

That interdependence is seen, for example, in the fact that some Colleges make relatively greater financial contributions to the University from EFTS income than others, with this contribution being translated to the benefit of all through essential university services such as the library, IT, and capital developments; it is also translated through cross-subsidies that flow from low-cost to higher cost areas of teaching and to the purchase of specialist infrastructure.

Focusing and consolidating around our core strengths and establishing a sustainable financial footing will enable us to achieve our strategic goals, including that of external recognition as a world-class learning institution with the aim of being in the top 20 universities in the Asia-Pacific region and the leading institution in key disciplines. Achieving this goal requires the commitment of staff.

It is only through the efforts of Massey's staff that we have achieved in the past and it is the present staff, both academic and general, whose commitments will secure Massey's future. Changing demographics, the dynamic economic environment, the contemporary tertiary education environment, both offshore and onshore, mean that Massey must constantly evolve to create and exploit emerging opportunities. As part of this ever-changing scenario, let us create our own future.

Judith Kinnear
Vice-Chancellor

- Draft 1 (parts 1 & 2) of the Investment Plan (confidential to staff) can be accessed through the staffroom on the Massey website. The final version will be submitted to the TEC in mid-October following consideration by Academic Board and Council.

- Staff can access information about the Optimisation of Services Delivery project at <http://ourfuture.massey.ac.nz>





Professor Lawrence Rose

New Zealanders need better finance literacy

There is an urgent need to lift financial literacy in New Zealand – for the good of both individual citizens and the whole economy, says College of Business head, Professor Lawrence Rose.

He applauded the announcement that the New Zealand Shareholders Association is planning to provide basic education in finance across the country, with the backing of some of the country's wealthiest businessmen. Professor Rose says the University's College of Business plans to be part of this initiative to help New Zealanders learn about finance.

Recent research highlights the low level of financial literacy among New Zealanders and the need for wide understanding of the importance of financial literacy. The introduction of Kiwi Saver and dramatic news from the financial markets including the collapse of finance companies, has underscored the public need for financial information to be delivered in plain language.

"Having the ability to make decisions about finance not only has a significant impact on the lives of individuals and their quality of life, it ultimately has implications for the growth and stability of the whole economy."

"New Zealanders need to be much better equipped with the skills to make informed decisions about how they manage and invest their money. The most basic elements of understanding about finance include having the ability to calculate rates of return on investments and the interest rate on debt; an understanding of the risks or benefits of their financial decisions.

"People need to understand the main features of different types of investments and about the trade off between risk and return. They also need to know when to seek professional advice."

"It's time for many New Zealanders to come back to school and learn about finance and we will be there to help provide that education."

"Massey University's has the top ranked finance programme in the country, the largest College of Business and campuses in Auckland, Palmerston North and Wellington."

Report urges change for health and safety systems

The director of the Centre for Public Health Research Professor Neil Pearce says a new report on health and safety systems in New Zealand highlights a critical lack of resources and expertise.

The report also calls for a single lead agency, more and better occupational health and safety (OSH) specialists and improvements to existing programmes.

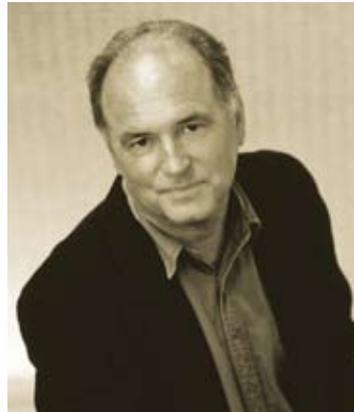
It was commissioned by the National Occupational Health and Safety Advisory Committee and prepared by a group of five researchers, including committee chair

Professor Pearce and Professor Philippa Gander, director of the Sleep/Wake Research Centre.

Professor Pearce says the report takes a close look at current systems as well as influencing factors, such as the substantial growth in the economy and, in particular, increases in the number of workplaces and workers, and changes in the workplace environment.

"It reveals that demand for service delivery has increased dramatically in the past two decades, yet overall funding for OSH services has declined. Many of the government agencies responsible are now seriously under-resourced to meet the challenges of growth and more diverse workplaces and workforces."

The report also covers concerns expressed



Professor Neil Pearce.

by key stakeholders – including OSH practitioners and representatives of government agencies, employer organisations, employee representative groups, safety organisations and other industry groups.

"Their comments are insightful and deeply worrying," says Professor Pearce. "They clearly demonstrate that the agencies currently responsible for OSH often appear to operate in 'silos', with a resulting inability to work effectively together in the crucial areas of research, data systems, policy development and prevention programmes. As a result, employers and workplaces are often unsure how and where to get advice to prevent diseases and injuries in the workplace."

The report's many recommendations include establishing a clear lead occupational health and safety agency, adequately resourced to provide leadership and co-ordination and be accountable for the overall state of OSH in New Zealand.

Professor Pearce says it is likely that New Zealand already has all the elements of an effective OSH system. "We just need work together to develop, evaluate and implement them effectively," he says.

Energy project powers community

The Centre for Energy Research is backing a combined hydro, solar and wind energy project that aims to supply the power needs of a small rural community in the Totara Valley, Tararua District.

It consists of a mini-hydro turbine, wind turbine, solar panels and biodiesel generator, providing power for five households and several woolsheds and workshops and enabling them to sell power into the national grid when they have too much or buy it when the wind, sun and water flows cannot meet demand.

Energy specialist Professor Ralph Sims, from the Institute of Technology and Engineering, says small, renewable power generation close to users is the way of the future as opposition grows to large fossil fuel-burning thermal power stations and the large pylons required to carry the output to customers.

"Today, big central power generators are what we depend on. In the future, they will be supplemented by thousands of small, distributed generation plants that will become more dominant."

He says communities are more likely to

accept the environmental impacts of tapping part of a local waterway or putting a wind turbine on a hill if they directly benefit from the output and reduce their dependence on distant power generators.

The project has found innovative ways to get around some of the costs and visual problems associate with transmission. For example, the wind turbine, 2km up a hill from the homes, could have meant spending \$26,000 to install copper lines to carry the electricity down. Instead, the wind energy is used to convert water to hydrogen, which is piped to a fuel cell in a woolshed and there converted into electricity.

The \$6000 alkathene gas pipe also provides the advantage of being able to store up to six hours worth of energy, an alternative to battery storage, which would have added to the capital cost.

The Crown research institute Industrial Research is also involved in the project, providing technical expertise, meters and other equipment, while lines companies Scanpower, of nearby Dannevirke, and MainPower, of Rangiora, are also sponsors.

Boys' friends key to school success

Boys say having friends at school and having a lot of physical activity are important in helping them to be successful and happy at school.

These two things were priorities to the majority of more than 350 secondary school boys interviewed by researcher Michael Irwin, who wants to know what boys believe enhances and inhibits their academic success.

Mr Irwin, from the College of Education at the Auckland campus, initiated New Zealand's first national conferences on the under achievement of boys three years ago.

He has been at the forefront of research exploring the reasons why boys lag behind at school and why they feature more prominently in many of the negative statistics relating to accidents, learning difficulties, and educational achievement.

He says asking boys what makes school a good place to be is an important part of providing successful education for them.

He found that having a group of good friends, both supporting them socially and assisting and motivating them educationally, was a huge factor.

"Almost without exception the boys I interviewed said being with their mates at school was very important to them. I have found that throughout their schooling these close groups of, say, three to five boys, are very important to each boy individually in significant ways.

"They develop their own identity through these groupings, they share ideas, they will often discuss learning issues in these groups and it is often these ties that have a very positive influence in keeping them at school."

Physical exercise was a high priority with the boys too and Mr Irwin says schools need to look seriously at how they can meet this need.

"Schools need to provide much more opportunity than they currently do, for boys to be physically active.

"We know from existing research that physical activity and sport brings many benefits, from bonding to stress release, mental stimulation and providing an outlet for competitive spirits."

He also found boys wanted learning to be challenging and for school to be fun.



Michael Irwin.

"They don't want learning to be too hard or too easy. They want to be challenged and they feel the best way of meeting those challenges is to work together in groups with a problem solving, hands-on approach. Most showed a high dislike of what they felt to be too much copying and writing things down at school.

"Almost all wanted to have fun, to have a laugh and for their environment to be one that they enjoy. This is the same thing that motivation researchers are also telling us.

"Schools need to take note of what matters most for boys at school – the importance of mates, the need for physical activity and for challenge in learning and the desire for school to be fun."

Mr Irwin's research highlighted some common attributes boys expected of their teachers. They wanted their teachers to focus on learning not content, to use humour, to collaborate and listen, to explain, to set clear expectations, to help them individually, to give specific feedback, to use activity-based learning and co-operative learning, to be fair in managing behaviour.

Mr Irwin will present his research *Boys' perceptions of what enhances and inhibits their academic success* in London next month to the British Education Research Association.

Performing and publishing Polly

The recent New Zealand School of Music production of the ballad opera *Polly* has left a legacy in the form of a newly published script.

The school staged four performances of the opera in Wellington earlier this month, in what was effectively a world premiere.

The work was edited for the performance by Associate Professor Robert Hoskins, who says it was last performed at the Little Theatre in the Haymarket in London in 1777. The edited work has been published by the Centre for Eighteenth-Century Music, now part of NZSM, in association with Artaria Editions.

Polly, by Samuel Arnold with a libretto by George Coleman, after John Gay, is a sequel to *The Beggars Opera* by Johann Christoph Pepusch.

The story is a comic romp that follows heroine Polly Peachum to the Caribbean in search of her renegade husband, the infamous MacHeath (also known as Mack the Knife). Polly outwits convicts, pimps, slave traders and cut-throat pirates to find that true love is not as she expected.

The title role was shared by third-year Bachelor of Music student Jessica Segal and postgraduate student in vocal performance Jessica Graham.

School Director Elizabeth Hudson says staging the modern premiere of *Polly* was not only great fun "but also showcased so many of the things we are involved in at the School".

"The teamwork involved in getting a project like this to a professional level is a vital part of musical training, and one of the most important understandings students will take with them when they leave," Dr Hudson says.



Elizabeth Hudson.

Learning languages prize launched for 2008

Starting next year, students who successfully complete one of two papers in second language teaching will be eligible for a "learning languages" prize of up to \$500.

By 2008, all schools will be required to offer second languages to students from years 7-10. Senior lecturer in Languages Teacher Education at the College of Education, Adele Scott, says that the curriculum changes bring challenges that both schools and their communities will need to work through.

"This prize is being offered to encourage participation and success from those who choose to prepare for the new learning area. For those participants already in a school there is also the opportunity to have advisory services funded by the Ministry of Education working alongside them in the classroom," Ms Scott says.

All applicants for the prize will be required to make a ten minute presentation on their language learning and teaching aspirations at a block course in March 2008.

The \$500 prize will be paid in two instalments from the School of Curriculum and Pedagogy, the first after the recipient has been identified, and the second on the successful completion of the paper.

The prize will be awarded to one student who successfully completes one of the following papers for the 2008 academic year:

- 206.426 Principles of Second Language Teaching
- 207.377 Teaching and Learning Languages up to Year 10

Expressions of interest should be sent to learninglanguages@massey.ac.nz with the Subject line: 'Learning Languages Prize'

Sport lecture series

Two leading academics in the College of Business Sport Management and Coaching programme will deliver the final two presentations in the Winter Lecture Series in Sport in Palmerston North.

Dr Farah Palmer will speak on *A Reflection of the Black Ferns' World Cup Campaign from A Player's Perspective*, on Wednesday 12 September at 7pm at the Lockwood and McMillan Lounge, on the 4th floor of the FMG Stadium.

Dr Palmer captained the Black Ferns to three successive World Rugby Cup crowns. She was recently elected as an independent director of the New Zealand Māori Rugby Board. As well as her lecturing role, she works part-time as a national and regional mentor for Te Puni Kōkiri.

Dr Sarah Leberman will provide *A Reflection of the 2007 Australian Youth Olympic Festival from a Manager's Perspective*, in her lecture on Wednesday 12 September at 7pm at the same venue.

Dr Leberman is Manager of the 2007 Junior Black Sticks. She has been involved in the sport and recreation industry for the past 18 years as an academic, practitioner, consultant, administrator and participant.

Her research interests are in the area of women in sport leadership positions, particularly mothers and leadership in high performance sport.

Previous speakers in the series included Dave Rennie, on his experiences in his first year as coach of the Manawatu Turbos rugby team, and Dr Gary Hermansson, on the Black Caps, one-day World Cup campaign from a sport psychologist's perspective.

Massey man to lead university sport body

Massey alumnus David Pearce is the new executive director of the national university sport body.

Mr Pearce, of Wellington, graduated with a Bachelor of Business Studies in 1994, a Diploma in Sport in 1995 and a Master's of Business Studies majoring in sport management in 2000.

He worked for the Rugby Union for five years as rugby administration manager and was assistant chef-de-mission for the 2003 (Korea) and 2005 (Turkey) World University Games.

His most recent position was in the Accident Compensation Corporation's sports injury prevention unit.

University Sport New Zealand is the national governing body, an incorporated society to which all universities belong.

Turnover up for small businesses

The first snapshot of the health and potential wealth of New Zealand small firms shows more than half have recently increased their turnover and most want to grow their businesses.

The *BusinesSMEasure* is the first longitudinal study of small and medium enterprises (SMEs), conducted by the Centre for Small and Medium Enterprises, led by Centre Director Professor Claire Massey. The second stage of the project will make six-monthly surveys of a panel of 600 firms.

The first pilot survey of 150 firms shows:

About the firms:

The largest group (41 per cent) are micro-enterprises employing up to five full-time equivalent staff (FTEs). Twenty per cent are small enterprises employing six to nine FTEs and 30 per cent are medium enterprises employing 10 to 50 FTEs.

The firms varied in age from two years to 117 years with an average age of 21 years. Annual turnover ranged from \$40,000 per annum to \$700 million, with an average of \$10 million.

Forty-four per cent are described as family businesses, with 25 per cent involving more than one generation.

Seventy-nine per cent of the firms do not currently export. Of the remaining 21 per cent that export, the majority export up to 10 per cent of the firm's sales.

About the owners and managers:

Twenty-three per cent of the respondents

are female owners and managers. Almost half of the managers became self-employed in their early 20s, a third in their 30s and a fifth in their 40s.

Today, almost half of the owners are aged between 50 and 59 and they work, on average, 47 hours a week.

More than half (59 per cent) started the firm they currently own and about a third (31 per cent) bought it as a going concern.

About growth and its challenges:

Over the past three years fewer than half (42 per cent) of the owners and managers experienced moderate growth that is par for their industry.

A quarter experienced a high or very high rate of growth. Future expectations are definitely higher for moderate growth, but respondents are less confident about high growth rates in the future.

Half of the firms had a higher turnover and profit last year than in 2005, and a third increased staff numbers. Less than a fifth reported a lower performance.

Looking into the future, 90 per cent of the owners or managers believe there are opportunities to grow the firm and three quarters want to significantly increase the firm's turnover.

However, Professor Massey notes that there are issues that distract the owners and managers of SMEs. Of the four issues that are rated highest, three are to do with stress, pressure and work-life balance.

Research challenges theory on New Zealand prehistory

A combination of geological and biological findings is lending weight to the possibility that the Chatham Islands were under water until three million years ago, and that New Zealand's flora and fauna may have evolved in another large island near New Zealand.

Traditional thinking is that the islands of New Zealand split from the ancient super-continent Gondwanaland about 85 million years ago, and stayed above the oceans since then. This is challenged by the findings of the multi-disciplinary project that has been researching the Chathams, named the Chatham Islands Emergent Ark Survey.

The team of biologists and geologists includes Dr Steve Trewick, Senior Lecturer at the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution. Dr Trewick was part of a team that visited the islands in 2004.

Findings include identification of remnants of deepwater limestone from about three million years ago overlaid by beach deposits of sand, indicating that the Chathams may be much younger than previously thought.

A further significant discovery was the previously unmapped formation in the southwest corner of the Chathams, of volcanic rocks of a type that erupted and accumulated on the seashore. By using fossils from within the rocks and radiometric ageing, researchers found the formation was deposited between 2.5 million and 4.5 million years ago.

The rocks were originally on the seabed, but now form the highest point on the Chathams, indicating that the entire land area was under the sea until uplift about two million years ago raised it to above the water level.

Biological findings are compatible with the geological findings, indicating that Chatham Islands birds and plants have been separated from their New Zealand relatives for up to three million years.

The final report on the Marsden-funded project is due next year. Participants include staff from Massey, Otago and Lincoln universities and GNS Science.



The main excavations (the old city itself). Vesuvius in the background.

Living in the shadow of a slumbering giant...

Volcanologist Dr Jérôme Lecoindre recently participated, with four of his colleagues from the INR-based Volcanic Risk Solutions team, in the XXIV General Assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG), held in Perugia, central Italy.

After delivering an oral presentation on hazards of New Zealand volcanoes and attending a special session on 18 March Ruapehu lahar, Dr Lecoindre reached the Bay of Naples, the largest urbanised coastal area in Europe, where people live and work under the constant threat of telluric unrest from the surrounding volcanoes.

High on the programme was a visit to Pozzuoli (geothermal area of the Solfatara, Phlegrean Fields), where earthquakes and ground deformation (called bradyseisms) which led to the partial evacuation of the local population in the mid-1980s, are constantly monitored. Further south, the world-famous Roman cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum, tragically buried during the devastating AD 79 Plinian eruption of Mt Vesuvius, were the prime targets for a detailed exploration.

These unique archaeological sites, re-discovered during the 18th century, form the most extraordinary evidence of violent interactions between humans and volcanoes in ancient times. New excavations continue to unravel aspects of the daily life of Roman people, brutally interrupted as people were desperately trying to escape the hot and toxic clouds of ashes, lapilli and pumices from the eruption.

Tpday, tourists walk the abandoned streets and marvel at villas finely decorated with frescoes and mosaics. This fascinating urban landscape can be virtually reconstructed through the use of 3D modelling software.

For the geologist however, reading the ancient stones provides essential clues on the succession of volcanic events that led to the devastation of the region. The towering Mt Vesuvius has been quiet since its last eruption in 1944.

Dealing with a population of more than three million inhabitants, the local civil defence authorities are facing a major challenge with the implementation of a controversial emergency plan designed in the late 1990s (and regularly updated) for the Napolitano region.

Studies of past eruptions at Vesuvius have indicated that moderate to

very large scale explosive eruptions (VEI 3 to 5) dominated the evolution of the volcano for at least 10,000 years. What eruptive scenario should be selected then to draw a valid emergency plan for the region?

This is a topic still actively debated between scientists and public authorities who have, at the end, to take responsibility for the solutions envisaged in case of a severe volcanic crisis in the area.

In such a vulnerable socio-economic environment, what hazard mitigation policy and risk reduction measures are currently considered before and during a major eruption that could affect durably people in their livelihood, with the potential destruction of key lifelines and infrastructure?

What lessons can be learnt for New Zealand? These are some of the questions that Dr Lecoindre will reflect on at a departmental seminar in Palmerston North on Wednesday 29 August 2007 at 1pm, in AH3. All interested people are welcome to attend.



The AD79 pyroclastic (fall and surge) deposits (made of pumice, lapilli and ash) at Pompeii.



Dr Ajmol Ali (right) pictured with Dr Nick Gant.

Stockings benefit exercise

Wearing compression stockings to exercise could benefit everyone from top level runners to casual walkers, say Massey researchers.

Dr Ajmol Ali, a sport and exercise scientist at the University's Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, plans to study how compression stockings benefit the performance of runners.

Dr Ali says previous studies have found some benefits, notably some reduction in post exercise soreness, but there was more for science to discover about the effects and benefits of wearing the stockings during exercise.

The benefits of the stockings for vascular problems and for post operative recovery are well established, he says, but otherwise research on their impact on performance has to date been haphazard.

"We would like to know more about these stockings helping to prevent the soreness that runners feel after exercising.

"If the stockings do reduce the period of soreness, for example, it could be possible for athletes to return to training much more quickly and therefore to enhance their performance levels".

"If wearing the stockings does reduce muscular soreness we will want to know how this is achieved. We will also want to find out what level of compression, or tightness, gives the most benefit."

Wearing compression stockings may have implications not just for athletes but also for people who may be afraid of doing regular exercise because they fear from past experience that they will be in pain afterwards.

Further down the track researchers could investigate whether the stockings could also benefit other groups including older athletes and people who are not trained, high performers.

Dr Ali will soon be recruiting elite athletes to take part in the study.

Realities of Chinese prison life comes to light in new book

Overcrowding, administrative detention, forced confessions, beatings, and other harsh realities of life in prisons and labour camps in the People's Republic of China (PRC) have been brought to light in a comprehensive Chinese-language monograph co-written by a Massey professor.

A Thousand Miles of Prison Walls: an Interdisciplinary Analysis of the Contemporary Chinese Labour Camp, by Professors Philip Williams, Head of the School of Language Studies at the Palmerston North campus and Professor Yenna Wu from the University of California at Riverside, has been published in 2007 by Li Ming Cultural Publishing in Taiwan.

It traces the dual origins of Maoist and post-Mao Chinese prison camps: an ancient indigenous tradition of state-mandated forced labour and internal penal exile along with imported Western ideas from Lenin and others promoting social engineering.

'Re-education through labour' camps, for example, amount to administrative detention, as no legal proceedings whatsoever are required for multi-year sentences to such camps, he explains.

The book combines a wide range of empirical detail with a theoretical analysis of historical, cultural, and systemic roots of the labour camp system, Professor Williams says.

Although some copies have found their way into China through informal channels, the book is otherwise available in Taiwan and Hong Kong.

Many of the most poignant entries in the book are first-hand accounts written or dictated by present or former inmates.

Some of these accounts were smuggled out of China for publication in Hong Kong or overseas, rather like the recently published unofficial memoirs of the deposed Reformist Party leader Zhao Ziyang, who died in 2005 after a decade-and-a-half under house arrest.

Fictionalised portrayals of prison life also reveal insights into a system that critics say routinely violates basic human rights, Professor Williams says.

Although the PRC government finally passed a law officially outlawing the beating of prisoners in 1993, and has in recent years spent more money on improving prison conditions to some degree, he says Chinese authorities have still refused to allow International Red Cross delegates to inspect Chinese prisons and interview prisoners in private with Red Cross interpreters.

Professor Williams is the author of several benchmark publications on Chinese prisons, including the English-language *The Great Wall of Confinement: The Chinese Prison Camp through Contemporary Fiction and Reportage* (2004), which his latest book has expanded upon.

Remolding and Resistance among Writers of the Chinese Prison Camp, published in 2006 by Routledge in London, was co-edited by Professor Williams and Professor Wu, director of the University of California at Riverside's Asian Languages and Civilisations programme.



Professor Philip Williams.

Science symposium winners

Kingsway School in Rodney district fielded the winning entries in the annual science symposium competition for secondary schools, run at the Auckland campus.

Researchers in sport and exercise science invited secondary students to present research on topics relating to sport, wellness and health at the annual symposium.

They could approach their subject from the perspective of sport and exercise or sport business. The day-long event, now in its third year, attracts increasing interest and entries

from secondary students across the region.

Both the winner and runner up are senior students at Kingsway.

First prize winner Joshua Sanford won a \$3000 bursary to the University for his project Exploring Strength Versus Speed in sports performance.

His schoolmate Nathan Calif was runner up with his research comparing the respective attributes of graphite and steel golf club shafts. Nathan wins a \$2000 bursary to study at the University.



Dibble in photographic exhibition on campus

The Palmerston North campus is hosting an exhibition of photographs of local sculptor Paul Dibble, taken while Dr Dibble was preparing the New Zealand Memorial now installed in London's Hyde Park.

The exhibition comprises 50 black and white images by David Lupton of the artist at work, part of an exhibition shown at Palmerston North's Te Manawa art gallery last year.

Staff from the museum studies programme, in the School of People, Environment and Planning, championed the exhibition, due to the many connections the project has with

the University. Dr Dibble received an Honorary Doctorate in May, and has previously taught at the then Palmerston North Teachers' College.

His workshop foreman, Sonny Hawkins, is a graduate of the BA Māori Visual Arts programme, while local historian Therese Crocker, who assisted with literary research for the text, and local woodworker Martin Carryer, who assisted with pattern-making, are both Massey alumni.

The New Zealand Memorial was dedicated on Armistice Day last year.

The innovative design is made up of a series

of leaning bronze cross-stakes, known as standards, cut at an angle and lined up in the same plane.

The standards refer to large pouwhenua markers around Māori sites or perhaps Celtic remains.

Some of the standards are five metres high, each adorned with patterns and New Zealand icons, quotations and images.

The exhibition is on display on level two of the Social Sciences Lecture Block, until 17 October, and is open from 8.30am to 6pm each Monday to Friday.

The Kurt Cobain factor in Fine Arts exhibition

The suicide of Nirvana front man Kurt Cobain in 1994 was one inspiration behind the latest exhibition by students and associates of the School of Fine Arts.

The exhibition, titled *Territorial Pissings*, showed at The Engine Room gallery on the Wellington campus this month. It was curated by Fine Arts graduate and tutor, Caroline Johnston.

Ms Johnston sees Cobain's suicide as the last death of a rock star. "It was textbook: He was aged 27, sensitive, depressive, a heroin addict and deeply conflicted artistically.

"Apart from his precarious mental and physical health, [Cobain] was said to have been unhappy with popularity and fame, feeling he was a dissenting voice. And when dissent was no doubt the formative mode that made the adolescent Cobain feel powerful

and part of a community, it would have been confusing to have such an enormous fan base and effectively become a successful capitalist entity."

Ms Johnston describes *Territorial Pissings* as a "multi-media group show in which artists were invited to reflect upon their own countercultural loyalties and oppositional position to wider society, and how this facilitates and or compromises cultural production".

Among the 25 artists whose work was on show in the exhibition were Fine Arts staff, students and alumni Sarah Jane Parton, Bryce Galloway, Caroline Johnston, Richard Reddaway, Marnie Slater, Greg Sharp, Johanna Sanders, John Lake, Bronwyn Smith, and Mike Heynes.





Dr Madhumita Bhattacharya.

Research grant presented

College of Education lecturer Dr Madhumita Bhattacharya was officially presented with the 2007 HP (Hewlett Packard, Asia Pacific & Japan) Technology for Teaching Grant award for higher education, at a ceremony in Palmerston North last week.

Dr Bhattacharya received the \$US75,000 grant for supply of computer hardware and other accessories to fund the cost of implementing her project *Fostering integrative learning using mobile learning technologies*.

The paper aims to introduce mobile learning technologies for creating interactive learning environments for undergraduate courses in Science and Technology.

Study into plant pigments in juice and wine

The Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health is seeking volunteers aged from 50 to 65 years to take part in a study on anthocyanins, plant pigments that are more than colouring agents for fruit, fruit juices, and wine. Anthocyanins have also been found to promote an array of health benefits.

Researchers are undertaking the study to assess the uptake of anthocyanins when blackcurrant juice is taken in different forms – a capsule of concentrated anthocyanins, an RTD drink, blackcurrants or a control drink.

Participants need to be in good health, non-smokers, with low alcohol consumption, having had no recent surgery.

Anyone interested can contact Chris Booth on ext 5901.

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:

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

Arts festival blows into Wellington

Fresh perspectives on art and design will be displayed in Wellington during the University's inaugural Creative Arts Festival, Blow, from 2-18 November.

More than 30 exhibitions, symposia, public lectures, animation screenings, performances and a fashion show – will be free to the public, apart from the fashion show.

Professor Sally Morgan, the head of the College of Creative Arts, says end-of-year exhibitions and fashion shows showcasing students' work had been regular events, but Blow would be bigger.

"This year we are expanding our end of year celebrations to showcase the vast talents of our staff, students, and visiting national and international experts," Professor Morgan says.

"This coming together is symbolised in the Maori name of the Festival, Nga hau e wha, which means the four winds."

Blow Nga hau e wha will begin, on 2 November, with the induction of five alumni into a new College of Creative Arts Hall of Fame. The hall will recognise students and staff who have, through art and design, made an outstanding contribution to the national economy or identity.

The Hall of Fame will have a physical presence in the College's home, the Museum Building in Buckle Street.

The festival will also include the first public lecture by Professor Jeremy Diggle, the new Head of the School of Fine Art. Professor Diggle was most recently Associate Dean of Research (Faculty of Arts) and Professor of Fine Art at the University of Plymouth, England. An internationally exhibited artist who has developed a new insight into the studio compositions of the painter Vermeer, Professor Diggle will talk about a painter's inquiry into a possible interpretation of Vermeer's working method.

A highlight of the festival will be a rare opportunity to view animation, motion graphics and digital video productions by past and present students. There will be two screenings on 7 November at the Paramount Theatre; one for secondary schools and the other for the public.

Professor Morgan says the animations demonstrate the talents of current and past students.

"Many of them have moved on to illustrious careers in the movie, television and games industries. We are incredibly proud of them and their work."

The festival programme will be available, from early October at: <http://blow.massey.ac.nz>



Study into why gay men avoid condoms despite rising HIV rates

Researchers want to find out why gay and bisexual men tend not to use condoms for sex despite the trebling of new HIV cases in New Zealand in the past seven years.

They want 58 men from the Auckland region who have sex with men to take part anonymously in on-line discussions and individual interviews.

The study is a collaboration between researchers from Massey's Centre for Social and Health Outcomes Research and Evaluation (SHORE), the Maori health research group Te Rōpu Whāriki and the School of Health Sciences at the University's Auckland campus.

In addition to men who openly identify as gay, lead researcher Jeff Adams says the team is looking for other men who have sex with men to take part.

"The key thing here is we are particularly interested in speaking with men who don't like, or don't use, condoms for anal sex with other men. We'd like to discuss why condoms aren't working for them, and what alternative

strategies or methods they may use for protecting themselves against HIV."

The data compiled by the Massey University research team will be used by the Aids Foundation to develop a further understanding of the context around the burgeoning HIV epidemic among gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men, which has been steadily growing since 2001.

Figures released by the Aids Epidemiology Group in March showed that of 89 of people diagnosed with HIV in New Zealand last year, 70 were gay or bisexual men.

HIV diagnoses have increased markedly in recent years. In 2000 there were 31 cases, 38 in 2001, 53 in 2002, 74 in 2003, 75 in 2004 and 90 in 2005. The increase is concentrated among gay pakeha men in Auckland, aged between 30 and 39.

Any man who has sex with other men who would like to take part or who wants further information should contact the research team on 0800 MSM Talk. msm@massey.ac.nz or go to www.shore.ac.nz/msm.html

Kiwi Saver brings new options for staff

University staff have a range of retirement savings options as a result of the Government's new Kiwi Saver scheme.

Human resources staff have been dealing with hundreds of inquiries about superannuation following a series of seminars conducted by trustees of the NZ Universities' Superannuation Scheme (NZUSS) on the three campuses.

Most staff want to know what their options are and, although the take-up of Kiwi Saver has been relatively low, growing numbers of staff are signing up for the Universities' Superannuation Scheme, says Human Resources deputy-director Alan Wheeler.

The NZUSS, which has about 900 Massey members, has been modified to make it compliant with Kiwi Saver and allow those who join, or who are already members, to choose to receive some of the benefits available under Kiwi Saver, such as a tax credit of up to \$20 a week to match the member's contributions and up to 4 per cent of an employer contribution being exempt from tax.

To qualify, members must agree to lock-in a minimum of 4 per cent of salary until age 65.

"The question of affordability is the most obvious factor affecting savings decisions," says Mr Wheeler, "but even if staff are unable to currently commit to a savings plan they should at least be aware of what workplace schemes are in place and look to take advantage of them when they can."

He says this is because the current NZ Superannuation benefit, currently payable to all NZ citizens and permanent residents at age 65, will not on its own meet the financial needs for the majority of staff intending to retire.

The NZUSS is the workplace scheme that has been specifically designed to meet the needs of most university staff. The recent changes to make it KiwiSaver compliant have effectively presented Massey staff with three workplace schemes to select from to assist them with their retirement savings. Those schemes are the NZUSS, which has both a "locked-in" and "unlocked" section, and KiwiSaver.

The NZUSS is open to all University staff but only those with permanent employment or a fixed-term employment agreement which has two years to run before its expiry date (and provided any associated project budget can meet the cost) can receive an employer subsidy.

Subsidised members pay a minimum of 4 per cent of their salary and the University subsidises that by 1.35 times up to a maximum of 6.75 per cent of base salary. A 5 per cent contribution attracts the maximum employer subsidy. The staff member's contribution is calculated on gross base salary and the employer subsidy is taxed at 33 per cent before funds are paid into the scheme.

A recent change to NZUSS is that the employer contributions are vested with the staff member at the rate of 20 per cent per year of scheme membership, which means that after five years' membership a staff member leaving employment before retirement would receive 100 per cent of both the accumulated balances of their own contributions plus the employer contributions.

The NZUSS also has a Complying Fund Accumulation (CFA) section, which has been established along similar lines to Kiwi Saver and is open to subsidised members of NZUSS. A minimum employee contribution of

4 per cent is required for the CFA and the University pays a fixed 4 per cent employer subsidy. Funds are locked-in until the age of eligibility for NZ Superannuation (currently 65). Membership of the CFA results in the staff member's personal contributions attracting a tax credit from the Government of up to \$1042.86 per annum (around \$20 per week) and, in addition, the 4 per cent employer subsidy is exempt from the deduction of a 33 per cent withholding tax. CFA members do not receive the \$1000 kick-start payment nor the scheme fees subsidy of up to \$40 a year that the Government is offering to Kiwi Saver members.

According to Mr Wheeler, most NZUSS members contributing at 5 per cent who decide to join the locked-in CFA plan are doing so with a minimum 4 per cent contribution, as that is all that is normally required to maximise the tax benefits, and then their remaining 1 per cent, plus the remaining 2.75 per cent of the employer subsidy, is paid into the standard NZUSS plan where funds and benefits are not subjected to the "lock-in" rules.

Under the Kiwi Saver Scheme the University is an "exempt employer", which means it is not required to automatically enrol new employees. It does not have a preferred Kiwi Saver provider so staff enrolling in Kiwi Saver must select and sign up directly with one of the approved providers.

The University does not currently subsidise Kiwi Saver but Government has said it will introduce legislation this year to require a compulsory employer subsidy of 1 per cent from April next year, increasing annually to 4 per cent by April 2011. The compulsory employer subsidy will not be payable to staff already receiving a subsidy in any other workplace scheme, such as NZUSS.

About 300 Massey staff are contributing to the old Government Superannuation Fund (GSF), which closed to new members more than a

decade ago. That fund is unchanged, which means that none of the tax benefits available to Kiwi Saver and NZUSS-CFA members apply to GSF members. However, if a GSF member joins a Kiwi Saver scheme in addition to GSF then they will receive the tax credits on personal contributions as well as the \$1000 payment and the fee subsidy of up to \$40 per annum.

Staff who require specific advice on their personal situation are encouraged to seek independent financial advice as the HR Section is only able to provide factual information about schemes and options. The web site www.sorted.org.nz also has useful information and calculators to guide financial decision-making.

To request copies of relevant information and application forms for either NZUSS or KiwiSaver call the HR Section on ext 5299. Further information about the various schemes can be found at:

NZUSS: www.nzvcc.ac.nz/default.aspx?l=2&p=8

KiwiSaver: www.kiwisaver.govt.nz

GSF: www.gsfa.govt.nz





Crossing the Line takes the Del Mar Mile: Photo - Benoit & Associates

Crossing the Line takes Del Mar Mile

Just one year out from lifesaving colic surgery, Crossing the Line has romped home to a near-record Del Mar Mile.

The US\$ 400,000 win puts the five-year-old gelding in contention for the prestigious US\$2 million Breeders' Cup Mile in October, the biggest horse race in the United States.

Equine veterinary surgeon Frederik Pauwels says he is delighted to see Crossing the Line do so well, after he treated him for colic at the University's Veterinary Teaching Hospital last June.

"Crossing the Line was referred to us as an emergency. His signs indicated that exploratory surgery was needed. He was very painful during the colic examination and repeated doses of pain medication didn't settle him," Mr Pauwels says.

"During surgery we found that his large bowel was displaced and some small bowel was twisted around its base but fortunately because the horse was referred so quickly the bowel was not dead. It was possible to just untwist it and leave it in place. He then recovered really well and left a few days later."

Had Crossing the Line not been operated upon, most likely he would have suffered a painful death, Mr Pauwels says. He performs similar surgery regularly, and is delighted to see how well Crossing the Line has recovered.

"What's particularly nice is that while some people believe that horses cannot recover this well after colic surgery, it is clearly very possible that horses do recover well.

"Crossing the Line won two out of the three races he ran here in New Zealand after surgery and has won all three in the US, leaving him in the running for one of the biggest races in the world."

Crossing the Line was bred by Mary Wilson. United States media reports commented that he showed a finishing kick that would make even the best American-turfer envious, blowing by five rivals in the stretch to steal the victory in near record-breaking fashion.

Trained by John Sadler, Crossing the Line completed the mile in 1:32.59, just one-fifth of a second off the track record.



Holiday breaks sees more than 1000 computers updated

Information Technology Services replaced 1200 computers in 50 student computer laboratories and 86 lecture theatres on all three campuses during the recent break between semesters.

The lease on the previous computers came to an end in July and the University now has a new fleet of student and lecture theatre computers on a three-year lease. Project manager Leonard Smit from ITS says it was huge, logistically-challenging task in a timeframe designed to minimise any disruption.

Mr Smit drew on a project team from regional IT teams and Advantage Computers.

Equipment came from Hewlett Packard, Desktop Technology Services Ltd and Advantage. The new personal computers have 20-inch widescreen monitors, which have already proved popular with students.

Computers in student labs used for computer

aided design in Auckland and Wellington have been provided with professional quality graphics cards and monitors to support the high-end software in use.

Allied to the equipment changeover, ITS had to provide a revised software image to suit the new hardware.

Teaching services manager Sue Tait and the software image development team worked against the clock to incorporate new software requests from lecturers into the revised image and ensure that all the new computers could run the necessary software.

ITS installs more than 200 software applications on the student PCs and more than 75 on the students' Macs, so a change of hardware brings plenty of challenges.

A further 300 computers, situated in the newer labs and the Information Commons, will reach the end of their leases and be replaced over the next year.

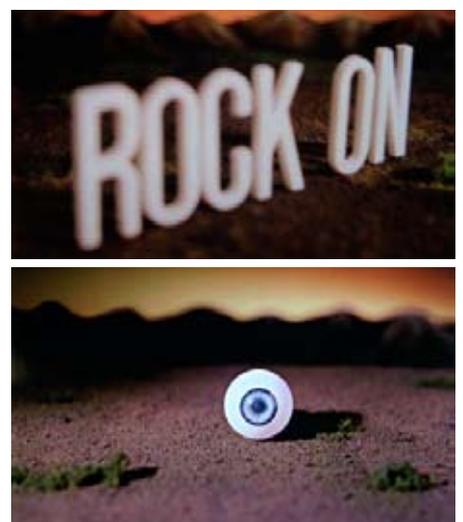
New art works at Wellington

New additions to the Wellington campus art collection are now on display. The works were purchased in December.

In the eastern foyer of the Museum Building, near the Theatre, are three ornithological images from a series taken by Laurence Aberhart, as the National Art Gallery and Museum were relocating. They are titled *Mounted Albatross* (1996); *Albatross* (shown) and *Penguin* (1995).

Black and White TV by Reuben Paterson is in the corridor leading to Tussock cafe, and his other work, *Naturist*, is in the reception area in the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Wellington), in Block 5.

A Lonnie Hutchinson suite of prints, titled *Sista I*, *Sista II* and *Sista III*, is in the corridor leading to the College of Humanities and Social Sciences reception area in Block 7, Level C. *Eye Ball* and *Rock On* by former Massey Artist-



in-Residence Ronnie van Hout are to the left of the main entrance to the Library.

Hokowhitu Winterfest makes a splash



College of Education students got wet and wild at the annual Winter Festival held in Palmerston North last week.

This year's theme was jungle fever and students relished a day out of class to escape the winter blues.

The bravest formed teams to compete in "The Amazing Race" across the Hokowhitu site, vying for top prizes in costumes and various states of undress.

Professional face-painting, aerobics, and a home-grown talent quest were held throughout the day, and the Winter ball capped off events in the city.



In the news

8 August

Manawatu Standard: Dr **Farah Palmer**, from the Department of Management, spoke at the 'Stepup' event as part of her mentoring role for Te Puni Kōkiri, in a bid to inspire and motivate New Zealand teenagers.

RNZ: Professor **Roger Morris**, from the Institute of Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Sciences, believes a pig disease could decimate New Zealand pig numbers, and Biosecurity is failing to stop the disease from getting into the country.

RLI: Professor **Ray Winger**, from the Institute of Food Nutrition and Human Health, says consumption of small amounts of coffee can prevent some diseases within the human body.

Manawatu Standard: Professor **Roger Morris**, says it seems likely that the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in Britain, came from a breach within a nearby animal vaccine plant.

Manawatu Standard: Associate Professor **Glyn Harper**, Director of the Centre for Defence Studies, has been invited to represent New Zealand and Australia at an international conference in Belgium, where he will speak about the Anzacs at Passchendaele.

RLI: Professor **Ray Winger**, believes small amounts of coffee can prevent some diseases.

9 August

The Dominion Post, Manawatu Standard, Waikato Times, Timaru Herald: Dr **Colin Anderson**, took second place in the British Comparative Literature Association's annual translation competition, for his conversion of poet Horace's Odes from Latin to English.

Manawatu Standard, The Dominion Post, Newstalk ZB, firstscience.com: Professor **Robert McLachlan**, from the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, was awarded the Dahlquist prize from the Society for Industrial and Applied Maths, for his contribution to geometric integration and composition methods.

11 August

NewstalkZB, tvnz.co.nz, RNZ, Capital Times, Southland Times: Director Pasifika, Professor **Sitaleki Finau**, believes the government need to begin funding circumcision procedures, in a bid to curb infections and cervical cancer amongst Pacific people.

12 August

Herald on Sunday: Professor **Janet Hoek**, from the Department of Marketing, says a New Zealand radio stations 'Stranger wedding' competition, is an extreme event trying to increase audience numbers, which may open up ethical debates within communities.

Herald on Sunday: **Janis Carroll-Lind**, from the School of Curriculum and Pedagogy, has conducted

research into the child abuse situation within New Zealand, which has revealed 63 per cent of children have been abused in some way.

13 August

The New Zealand Herald, The Dominion Post, RNZ, RLI: Dr **Brendan Moyle**, from the Department of Commerce, believes if the Chinese government were to lift the ban on sale of tiger parts, poaching would become unprofitable, and extinction of the animal could be prevented.

The Dominion Post, RNZ, Marlborough Express, Nelson Mail: Professor **Bob Hargreaves**, from the Department of Finance Banking and Property, says the housing market has changed, and falling sale volumes are the first sign of a slow down.

14 August

Manawatu Standard, Timaru Herald: Dr **Guy Scott**, from the Department of Applied and International Economics, presents a review paper into the national agricultural protection policies in developed countries, and the effect they have on the health and welfare of the people within those countries.

RNZ: Dr **Jenny Coleman**, from the School of People, Environment and Planning, discusses an online competition run by a men's magazine, where men can win their girlfriend a breast job, Dr Coleman believes the competition is offensive and pathetic.

15 August

The New Zealand Herald, The Press, The Dominion Post, RLI, RNZ, Newstalk ZB, Southland Times, Dannevirke Evening News, Bay of Plenty Times, The Daily Post, Otago Daily Times: **Michael Irwin**, from the School of Education, conducted a study as part of his PhD research, into what motivates boys within their education, finding that they do not prefer a male to a female teacher, instead teachers who; they could relate to, showed interest and gave individual help.

The Dominion Post: Dr **Chris Rogers**, from the Institute of Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Sciences, has gathered together experts in the field of equine nutrition, physiotherapy and eventing, at the new Equestrian Centre, who will assist those riders who want to achieve high competition levels whilst studying at the same time.

The Press, Otago Daily Times: Professor **Ralph Sims**, from the Institute of Technology and Engineering, says increasing New Zealand's supply of renewable energy, will help alleviate the problem of increasing emissions in the power sector.

RLI: Dr **Nigel Parsons**, from the School of People, Environment and Planning, discusses the political and military context behind the bombing of the Yazidi community in northern Iraq.

16 August

The Dominion Post, The Press, The New Zealand Herald, RLI, RNZ, Taranaki Daily News, Southland

Times, Nelson Mail, Timaru Herald: Dr **Steve Trewick**, from the Allan Wilson Centre, co-authors a report revealing controversial findings that New Zealand's native flora and fauna may have begun their evolution in a different country before drifting here.

RLI: Dr **Nigel Parsons**, discusses the US intentions to add the Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps to the State Department list of terrorist organisations.

17 August

RNZ: Dr **David Tripe**, from the Centre for Banking Studies, discusses the challenges on non-bank institutions in Australia and New Zealand, after a global credit crunch is set to hit financial institutions.

21 August

NZ Catholic: Associate Professor **Peter Lineham**, says New Zealand is facing a decrease in Catholic priests, and believes numbers will drop dramatically before parishes start to think about solutions.

Research Funding Opportunities

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

For more information about any of these research funding opportunities, please contact Diana Young, d.m.young@massey.ac.nz, or extn 81341

Encouraging and Supporting Innovation Fund – Tertiary Education Commission Background:

In 2006, Cabinet agreed to a new funding system to support an investment approach to the funding of tertiary education.

In March 2007, Cabinet confirmed that the Innovation Development Fund (IDF) and Growth Pilots would be disestablished as separate funds and that their purposes and funding would be incorporated into the Encouraging & Supporting Innovation (E&SI) element of the Tertiary Education Organisation Component (TEOC).

Purpose of the Fund:

The overall purpose for the Encouraging and Supporting Innovation Fund (the Fund) is to encourage and support innovation in the tertiary sector for the benefit of its stakeholders.

This is to be interpreted broadly: skills, delivery systems, infrastructure, technology and knowledge transfer and exchange and relationships e.g. business linkages, research connections and linkages.

More specifically this Fund supports the Tertiary Education Strategy/Statement of Tertiary Education Priorities (TES/STEP) 2008-10 through the strategy "Building Relevant Skills and Competencies for Productivity and Innovation", to encourage the tertiary sector to contribute to innovation and productivity.

A key focus of the Fund is collaborative initiatives e.g. between a Tertiary Education Organisation (TEO) and key stakeholders; and projects likely to yield the greatest gains for the sector, students and end-users e.g. industry.

This fund represents a continuation of the previous Innovation Development Fund. Its focus has however been broadened to include other previous capability funds, particularly the Growth and Innovation Pilot Initiative (GIPI).

The goals of the E&SI initiative therefore include working with industries to assist them in articulating their skill and talent needs and to match those needs with appropriate educational or training initiatives; and to promote knowledge sharing and entrepreneurship between TEOs and industry.

It is intended that the TEC will hold annual rounds but this will be reviewed annually and will depend on resources available in any one year.

Eligibility:

Proposals can be made by:

- an individual TEO; or
- a partnership between TEOs; or
- one or more TEO representative bodies; or
- a consortia of TEOs and relevant stakeholders.

Key Dates for 2007

Funding to be available in April 2008

1 September 2007 - Applicants intending to apply must register an Expression of Interest with the College Research Development Advisor. This must include information on how the project intends to meet the TEC criteria as follows:

- Strengthening outcomes for tertiary stakeholders.
- Consistency with sub-sector role and distinctive contribution.
- Collaborative projects.
- New.
- Organisational capability.
- Self-sustaining.
- Portfolio considerations.

In addition the Expression of Interest must demonstrate how it may align to the following TEC priorities.

- Increased completion rates for degree &

postgraduate qualifications.

- Initiatives to improve effectiveness & quality of provision.
- More, and increased course completion rates for Māori & Pacific students
- Collaboration with other universities
- Innovative stakeholder engagement processes
- Increased links with other sub-sectors

17 September 2007 - Applicants submit draft proposal to include a budget to the College Research Development Advisor (RDA) for review to ensure alignment with TEC STEP priorities and eligibility criteria.

28 September 2007 - All applications to be submitted to the College Research Development Advisor (RDA) in RMS to receive the University signature on the declaration page. RMS will submit all applications to the TEC

Events

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

AK – Wednesday 29 August

12.00pm to 1.00pm

Chancellor’s Lecture Series

Dr Cindy Kiro: *Children, Climate Change and Innovation: The big issues of the future.*

There are a number of large and complex issues that will define the 21st century. Children’s rights are still seen as contentious and a threat to parental authority. Dr Kiro’s lecture will explore how and why New Zealand must significantly increase its investment in children and young people and where these investments can be made.

Dr Kiro, Children’s Commissioner, has a PhD in Social Policy and has worked primarily in the area of public health and advocacy for children and young people but also as a social worker, researcher and manager.

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

Venue: Study Centre Staff Lounge Massey University, Gate 1 Albany
 Contact: Holly Fang
 Ph: (09) 4140800 extn 9228

WN – Thursday 30 August

6.00pm to 7.00pm

Massey University Lecture Series 2007

Professor Anne Noble. Director of Research, College of Creative Arts.

Of Landscape and Longing - Photographing Antarctica’

An Inaugural Professorial Lecture.

Professor Noble will reflect on the medium of photography and the questions that inform her long-standing investigation into the imagination and representation of Antarctica.

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

Venue: Theatre, Museum Building, Buckle St

Contact: Events Office

Ph: 04 801 5799 extn 6988

PN – Thursday 30 August

10.00am to 11.00am

School of History, Philosophy and Classics: Seminar Series

Assoc Prof Iain Spence, School of Humanities, University of New England

Cavalry and Democracy in 5th century Athens

Venue: MB 1.04

Contact: Gina Salapata

Ph: extn 7273

WN – Thursday 6 September

3.00pm to 4.00pm

Duncan O’Hara: The Department of Communication and Journalism Postgraduate Research Seminar Series 2007

Enticing academics: the challenges of promoting e-learning

Tea, coffee and biscuits provided.

Other Seminar sessions held on Aug 16th & 23rd, Sept 20th, Oct 4, 18th & 25th and Nov 1.

See those dates for details

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

Venue: Room 6C01 (Block 6, Level C) Massey University, Wallace St

Contact: Nicky McInnes

Ph: 04 801 5799 extn 62280





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Massey University



Te Kūmanga ki Pūrehuroa

WN – Friday 7 September

1.00pm to 2.00pm

Duo Nota Bene: Eva Steinschaden, violin & Alexander Vavtar, piano

Salzburg violin and piano ensemble Duo Nota Bene (Eva Steinschaden & Alexander Vavtar) formed in 1996 to perform music of the Viennese Classical School, along with modern and contemporary music. 'Nota bene' means 'take note' or 'note well'. It could also quite simply mean 'good note'. Steinschaden and Vavtar make music for fine ears from good notes, so: nota bene! there is new chamber music from Salzburg to listen to. Kindly sponsored by Peter & Caroline Diessl.

Venue: Conservatorium Concert Hall New Zealand School of Music Mt Cook Campus Block 1 Wallace Street

Contact: Debbie Rawnsley
Ph: 04 463 6050

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.

Scholarships and Bursaries

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

A Snap-Shot of Scholarships Closing July / August 2007: full information about these scholarships and all others scholarships can be found on <http://awards.massey.ac.nz/>

Undergraduate

Inspiring New Zealanders Scholarships - Film
– closing 30 August 2007
Alfred George East Scholarship
– closing 31 August 2007
DaoMing Chinese Studies Scholarship

– closing 31 August 2007
Macmillan Brown Prize for Writers
– closing 31 August 2007
Tom Cranswick Memorial Scholarship
– closing 31 August 2007
NZ Federation of Business & Professional Women Extramural Study Awards
– closing 1 September 2007
The BDO Spicers Bursary for All-Round excellence in Accountancy
– closing 14 September 2007
Lower Hutt Suffrage Centennial Scholarship
– closing 19 September 2007
Dorothy L Newman Scholarship
– closing 28 September 2007
Inspiring New Zealanders Scholarships - Olympic Sports
– closing 30 September 2007
Institute of Fundamental Sciences Summer Scholarship – Chemistry
– closing 30 September 2007
Institute of Fundamental Sciences Summer Scholarship – Mathematics
– closing 30 September 2007
Institute of Fundamental Sciences Summer Scholarship - Physics
– closing 30 September 2007
The Alex Lindsay Memorial Award
– closing 30 September 2007

Postgraduate

Inspiring New Zealanders Scholarships - Film
– closing 30 August 2007
Alfred George East Scholarship
– closing 31 August 2007
Macmillan Brown Prize for Writers
– closing 31 August 2007
Tom Cranswick Memorial Scholarship
– closing 31 August 2007
German DAAD Awards
– closing 1 September 2007
Royal Society of NZ Travel Grants
– closing 1 September 2007

Todd Foundation Postgraduate Scholarship in Energy Research
– closing 1 September 2007
Helen E Akers PhD Scholarship
– closing 10 September 2007
Helen E Akers Postgraduate Scholarship
– closing 10 September 2007
Miller Massey Buchanan Scholarship
– closing 10 September 2007
Dorothy L Newman Scholarship
– closing 28 September 2007
Inspiring New Zealanders Scholarships - Olympic Sports
– closing 30 September 2007
Institute of Fundamental Sciences Summer Scholarship – Chemistry
– closing 30 September 2007
Institute of Fundamental Sciences Summer Scholarship – Mathematics
– closing 30 September 2007
Institute of Fundamental Sciences Summer Scholarship - Physics
– closing 30 September 2007
Quest for Excellence Scholarship
– closing 30 September 2007
The Alex Lindsay Memorial Award
– closing 30 September 2007

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

Wharewata

venue • cuisine • events



Local entertainment, reservations advised. Contact Helen Poole 350 5088



Last year's winning photograph by Dr Ajay Awati.

Popular photo contest returns

The success of last year's Massey News photography competition has resulted in New Zealand Geographic again offering a prize of a 12-month subscription to its bi-monthly magazine.

This year's theme is Energy.

Photos must be supplied digitally and can be sent by visiting the Massey News website and following the link to submit your entry including your name and contact details along with the location and date of the image entered.

Entries close at noon on 30 September and

are open to all readers of Massey News and subscribers to the @Massey newsletters, including Massey staff and students.

Consolation prizes of 20 New Zealand Geographic posters plus 100 back issues are also on offer. The best images will be published in Massey News and @Massey on 8 October 2007.

For further information, including a terms and conditions of entry:

<http://masseynews.massey.ac.nz/newsletters/national/NZG-competition.html>

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.

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Printed: Massey University Printery
Next issue: 10 September 2007

Notices: All notices should be sent to 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

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



Open days pull thousands of visitors to campus

Successful open days have been held on all three campuses this month, with thousands of prospective students checking out the displays and lectures associated with Massey courses.

The most recent was at Wellington last week, which sported several new features, including limited-edition carry bags in heavy blue cotton, presented to every visitor.

For the first time at Wellington, prospective students were able to register their interest in attending the University, via four computer stations where they could record their details.

Events Manager Natalie Hind says student station Munt FM also came to the party by giving students an opportunity to go live on air, when they visited the station.

Mr Rousseau reported particularly strong interest in nursing and business and fashion programmes.

Auckland campus drew the largest numbers to its open day on Saturday 18 August, with an estimated 3000 checking out facilities, courses and chatting to staff.

Most of the visitors were from secondary schools in Greater Auckland but many also came from Northland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty and Taranaki.

Palmerston North campus held two open days, on Wednesday and Saturday 1 and 4 August, attracting about 1500 prospective students, some with families. Wednesday's event had a good response from secondary schools from throughout the southern North Island, from East Coast to Taranaki and Wellington.

Saturday's had visitors from even further afield, including Timaru, Whangarei and Melbourne.



Top: Students get hands on with science in Palmerston North, above, students talk to Māori liaison adviser Clay Hawke in Auckland.