



Massey News

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University farewells outgoing Vice-Chancellor

The tributes flowed for the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Judith Kinnear, at a series of farewells on the three campuses over the past fortnight.

Professor Kinnear, Massey's fifth head, fourth Vice-Chancellor and the only woman to head a New Zealand university, retires this week after five years in the role.

Farewell functions were hosted by Wellington campus staff on 14 February, followed last week by the College of Education in Palmerston North, the Library at Palmerston North, the official University farewell at the Palmerston North Convention Centre last Thursday, the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori) on Friday, and at the Auckland campus tonight.

The function in Palmerston North brought together a diverse group of people to farewell Professor Kinnear, representing the many relationships she has established during her time in New Zealand. As well as University colleagues, guests also included representatives from the education sector, the Palmerston North community and friends from the racing fraternity who share the Vice-Chancellor's enjoyment of horse racing. In a series of speeches Professor Kinnear was recognised for both her professional and personal achievements and attributes.

While she was unable to attend, Tertiary Education Commission chief executive Janice Shiner's comments were relayed through former Massey staffer now TEC university relationship manager Dr Ruth Anderson.

Dr Shiner said Professor Kinnear had embraced the tertiary education reform agenda and worked hard to align the University's strategic direction with the Government's priorities. Professor Kinnear's commitment to high quality teaching and

research was particularly valued, she said.

Minister of Research, Science and Technology and alumnus Pete Hodgson honoured Professor Kinnear's commitment to growing the science capability at the University and in New Zealand, which had enabled "my university" to take a lead in scientific endeavour in this country.

Former Chancellor Morva Croxson, who headed Council at the time of Professor Kinnear's appointment, talked of her engagement with the Palmerston North community, her ongoing commitment to her academic discipline, biology, and her well-known devotion to her cats including the two New Zealand-born additions to her "family", which will accompany her back to Australia.

Professor Kinnear was presented with a sculpture, titled *The Deveil Meets Darwin*, from Palmerston North artist Paul Dibble, who received an honorary doctorate from the University last year. The sculpture recognised Professor Kinnear's admiration for Charles Darwin, the original evolutionist.

Professor Ian Warrington, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Palmerston North), will be Acting Vice-Chancellor from Monday, 3 March, until Vice-Chancellor Designate Steve Maharey, currently MP for Palmerston North, takes up the role later in the year.

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[Tributes, farewell photographs P4 and P5](#)
[More photos online: http://news.massey.ac.nz](http://news.massey.ac.nz)

Time for change in real estate industry

The real estate industry cannot afford to insist the traditional model of selling property is beyond reproach, says a senior lecturer in property studies in the University's College of Business, Dr Susan Flint-Hartle.

Dr Flint-Hartle is a successful former real estate agent in Auckland who returned to study a decade ago and has just completed a doctoral thesis on real estate franchises. She says the industry cannot afford to dismiss innovation in the way property is sold – regardless of the reasons for the recent collapse of the Jones's Real Estate agency.

Dr Flint-Hartle says the cost of selling real estate by the prevailing method, may be one of the least understood and least acknowledged influences behind housing affordability in New Zealand.

"Vendors expect to get high prices because they factor in marketing costs and high commissions.

Not only are commission rates amongst the highest around, but vendors are forced to pay

massive marketing fees – say \$5000 for the anticipated sale of a \$700,000 property; where is the partnership and risk sharing in this?

"Although the current model of selling real estate places increasing financial burden on sellers by adding considerable marketing costs onto already high commission rates, the majority of vendors still don't want to step outside the system endorsed by the Real Estate Institute."

"Participants in the market are largely caught within the system and the reality is that the cost of sale is too much for many. In many cases people cannot see value for money."

Dr Flint-Hartle says recent support for new real estate agencies like Go Gecko and Green Door, which offer different selling methods, indicate real demand for price-driven alternatives.

It is a narrow view to suggest only the best salespeople work for commission-based agencies because some actually prefer a team-based and salaried approach.



"Many people are not satisfied with the way things are in the real estate industry at the moment.

"The industry attracts public attack and is very defensive in the face of public query of its methods.

"It is time for the real estate world to encompass alternative ways of doing things and encourage diversity to provide real choice for the public."

Website upgrade brings new features for readers

The Massey News website has undergone a major upgrade and is now part of the University's content management system, enabling readers to enjoy many of the features found on many of the world's best news sites, which include:

- Syndicated news, allowing other Massey University sites to include customised live news on their pages.
- RSS news feeds that can be subscribed to by subject, category or location and can be included as live feeds on personal websites. This also allows subscribers to be notified by email when a new article of interest to them is posted.
- Related items links, providing readers with links from articles to similar topics or articles concerning the same research.
- The ability to automatically send articles to personal online communities such as MySpace.
- The ability to view all articles from the Massey News home page by categories in order of publication date.
- A comprehensive search feature allowing returns to be viewed in date order as well as

still being able to search using Google.

- Downloads of print publications like the MASSEY magazine for alumni, Massey Research and Massey News in full colour as PDF files.
- Updated and improved University Council pages.

Launched in 1999, Massey News on-line has an archive of more than 6000 articles, making it the largest and most comprehensive news website of any tertiary education provider in New Zealand.

The upgrade will also allow us to add additional features and services in the future. Departments and staff that currently link to Massey News articles from their websites can contact David Wiltshire to arrange replacement links to the migrated content. d.wiltshire@massey.ac.nz ext 5370.

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

Director of Communications and Marketing:
Rachel Donald
email: r.j.donald@massey.ac.nz
Tel 06-350-5562 or 027-494-9077

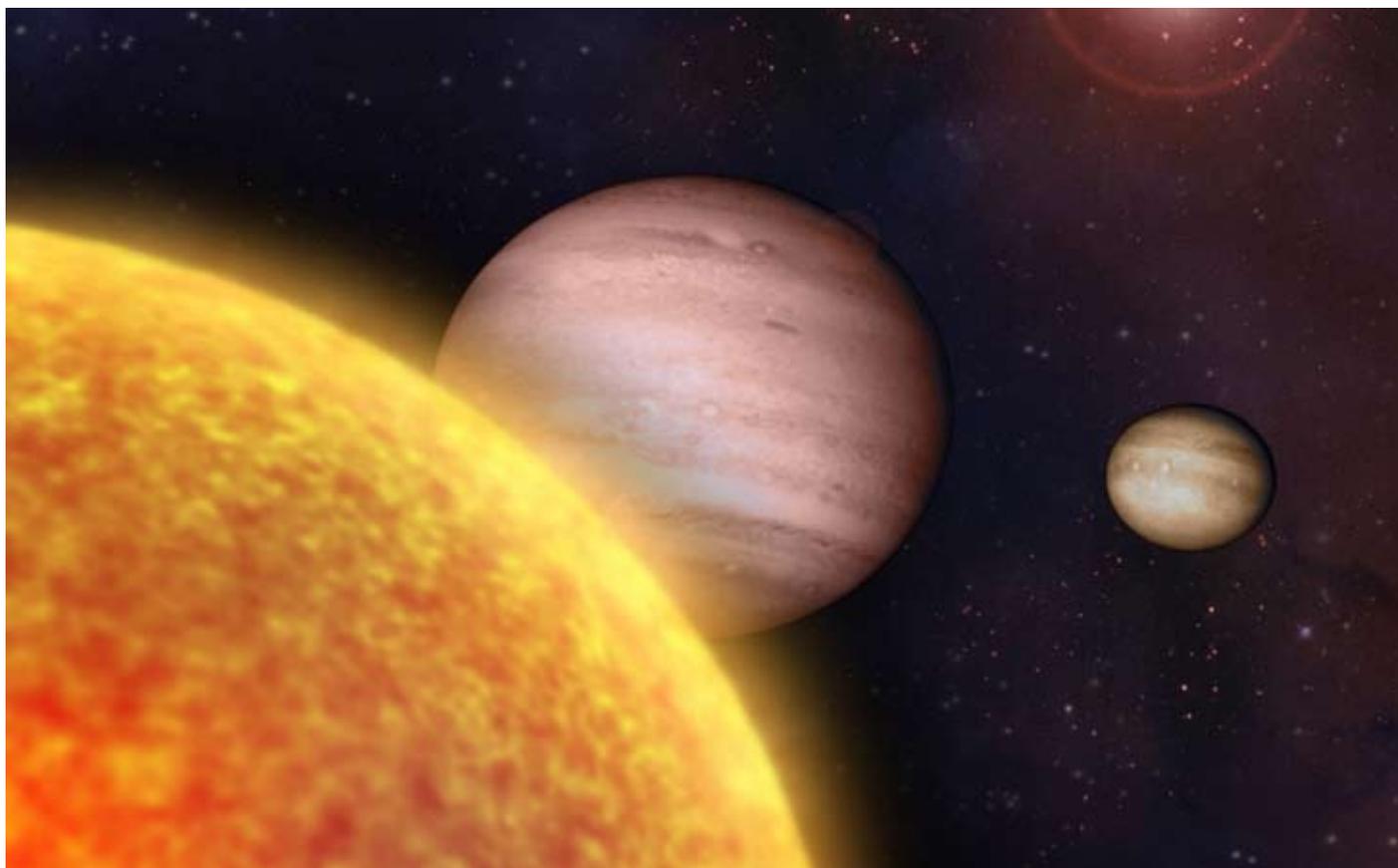
Communications Manager:
James Gardiner
email: j.c.gardiner@massey.ac.nz
Tel 06-350-5255 or 021-275-3394

Editor:
Kereama Beal
email: editor@massey.ac.nz
Tel 06-350-5019

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New Zealand scientists in solar system discovery

A new solar system similar to our own has been discovered by an international team of astronomers including New Zealanders.

The team used an observation method known as gravitational microlensing, a technique partly developed by Massey's Dr Ian Bond and Associate Professor Phil Yock from Auckland. A third member of the Auckland-based group was Dr Nicholas Rattenbury, now working at Manchester University.

The discovery features in the latest issue of the prestigious journal, *Science*. The astronomers report that the nearer star is a red dwarf, a smaller and cooler version of our Sun, with two giant planets, somewhat smaller than our Jupiter and Saturn, orbiting it. They say the complete system could be likened to a half-size version of the Sun, Jupiter and

Saturn, with the temperatures of the Jupiter and Saturn look-alikes being quite similar to those of our Jupiter and Saturn.

"Although the system is far from identical to our own solar system, it is the most similar yet found, and raises hopes that an Earth-like planet will soon be found," says Dr Bond. The first observations were made by a Polish team with a telescope in Chile. During March 2006 Professor Andrzej Udalski of Warsaw University observed a pair of stars in the constellation coming into almost perfect alignment.

This alignment would allow the gravitational field of the nearer star to be used as a lens to magnify the more distant star with the technique of gravitational microlensing.

The Polish astronomers called for

astronomers around the world to join them in monitoring these stars. A total of 69 scientists around the globe took part and Massey's Paul Tristram was the first New Zealander to pick up on this event from the Mt John Observatory.

The entire team on this project has been led by Dr Scott Gaudi and Professor Andrew Gould of Ohio State University and Associate Professor David Bennett of Notre Dame University, who carried out the complex task of collating and analysing the data from all the telescopes that were involved. They are the lead authors of the paper in *Science*.

Dr Bond is the lead investigator for the Microlensing Observations in Astrophysics project, a Japan-New Zealand collaboration funded here by a Marsden Grant from the Royal Society.

Inaugural medal awarded to Massey French scholar

New graduate Katherine Ross is the first recipient of the French Embassy medal in recognition of outstanding achievement in French.

Ms Ross, a Massey Scholar who graduated in Palmerston North with a BA in French and Linguistics, received the medal from head of the School of Language Studies Professor Phillip Williams, Dr Colin Anderson, Dr Ute Walker and Dr France Grenaudier-Klijn.

Dr Grenaudier-Klijn says this is the first time a New Zealand student has received such an award, and the School was grateful to both the French Ambassador His Excellency Michel Legras and cultural services attaché Dominique Suquet.

"Dominique as the new linguistic attaché

came to see us at end of last year and at that time we were looking at prizes for best students.

"The embassy was happy to oblige and produced certificates, and mentioned the possibility of the more prestigious award of this medal."

Dr Grenaudier-Klijn and her colleagues were able to select a medal from those produced by the French Government.

Award of the medal will be by nomination in future, Dr Grenaudier-Klijn says.

Other students from the School of Language studies also recognised for their ability recently include Heather Smith and Natilene Bowker, who were recipients of the German prize for first and second-year students respectively.



Katherine Ross.

Massey among Professor Kinnear's greatest adventures

Just days after being appointed as Vice-Chancellor, Professor Judith Kinnear was being mentioned by the Prime Minister as another example of Massey University's innovative approach.

Helen Clark noted the new appointment while opening the Auckland-based Centre for Social and Health Outcomes Research and Evaluation in November 2002.

The University was celebrating its 75th anniversary and its history of innovation; the Prime Minister observed that the tradition was being upheld with the impending arrival of New Zealand's first woman vice-chancellor.

Professor Kinnear was appointed by the University Council in early November and took up the role on 3 March 2003, moving from a position as Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the University of Sydney.

A profile in *Massey News*, published in February listed a strong research and teaching record, a background in biological sciences, an international approach and a sense of adventure as amongst attributes that she would bring to the role.

Five years later, she can look back with satisfaction on the University's record of accomplishment and development in teaching, research and new international partnerships during that time. Her sense of adventure has also been satisfied.

"Some of the greatest adventures have taken place in the laboratories of our scientific researchers. Thanks to their enterprise and hard work, I have been able to take part in events and developments of real significance and national importance.

"They include, amongst many other examples, the opening of the Hopkirk Institute and the Microscopy and Imaging Centre last year, the Prime Minister's 2005 announcement of two Partnerships for Excellence between the University and the equine and agricultural industries, the launch of the new Bio-NMR spectrometer facility – New Zealand's first high-field NMR microscope – in 2004 and some of the extraordinary discoveries by scientists at the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution as well as Massey securing the only new Centre of Research Excellence in 2007, namely the Riddet Centre: Advancing Foods and Biologicals.

"It has also been pleasing to be part of the University's increasing success in the PBRF round, reflecting the quality and commitment of academic staff.

The introduction of the title of distinguished professor, under new protocols approved by the Academic Board in 2005, is also a milestone as is the introduction of internal promotion to professor."

In listing highlights of her term, Professor Kinnear is quick to point

out that as Vice-Chancellor her job has primarily been to support and facilitate the endeavours of staff members.

"I am pleased that we have been able to return the University to a stronger financial position, turning last year's small deficit into this year's \$3.6 million surplus," she says. "However, although I can go out and say that this is what I intend to achieve, it is my senior management team and the academic community who have to make it happen."

In 2003, Professor Kinnear listed becoming more familiar with the Treaty of Waitangi as amongst her priorities. During her term, Assistance Vice-Chancellor (Māori) Professor Mason Durie introduced the Māori@Massey strategy, followed last year by Kia Maia (Key Initiatives for a Māori Academic Investment Agenda).

She also takes pride in her attendance by invitation at two Rotorua hui on Māori educational issues, "a great privilege for a vice-chancellor," she says.

She takes particular – and personal – pride in the University's advances in internationalisation. New overseas partnerships include an academic agreement between Massey and Peking University - rare for an Australasian university - signed in 2005, providing for teaching and research exchanges.

The agreement was preceded by fact-finding visits to New Zealand by senior Beijing representatives and has since been extended by two tripartite agreements, involving ShiHeZi University and the University of Inner Mongolia, with Massey and Peking.

Other advances include the review and strengthening of existing international partnerships and the extension of the University's international alumni network.

Professor Kinnear, well known for her love of music, also rates highly the opening of the New Zealand School of Music, with Victoria University of Wellington, and the "sheer excitement and fun" of the benefit opening in October 2003 of a photography exhibition by Lord of the Rings actor Viggo Mortensen.

The opening, at the Museum Building on the Wellington campus, was attended by most of the cast and crew of the film trilogy, including Peter Jackson and Fran Walsh, greeted on the front steps of the building by the Vice-Chancellor.

Professor Kinnear leaves the University this month, after a series of staff farewells, leaving behind her best wishes for the future success of the University and its academic community.



Professor Judith Kinnear.



Professor Kinnear and guests at Thursday night's farewell function



Former Chancellor Morva Croxson with Professor Kinnear.



Professor Judith Kinnear with Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Wellington) Professor Andrea McIlroy.



At her farewell function in Wellington, Professor Judith Kinnear chats with Wellington student president Alex Sorensen, and Contact Centre manager Janet Stanion.



Professor Kinnear greets New Zealand School of Music chairman Alick Shaw, with Paul and Fran Dibble, and Distinguished Professor Paul Moughan (left).

Below are extracts from a speech given at the official farewell by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Research) Professor Nigel Long, followed by a tribute from Mr Maharey.

Professor Nigel Long, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Research)

Professor Kinnear led and inspired thousands of inquiring minds during her term as Massey University's fifth Vice-Chancellor. She clearly articulated her vision of what a University should be, and how it should function.

Professor Kinnear will be remembered for her unrelenting pursuit of focussed excellence, internally and externally, by both academic and administrative staff, and her drive to make Massey University a world class institution, and a great organisation in which to study and to work.

She identified and invested extensively in areas of strength, as well as areas of demonstrated opportunity. An example is her strategy to integrate research with teaching and learning practice – a pedagogy fundamental to many of our strategic investments.

When it was strategically advantageous, the University has invested in capital for research, teaching and learning; commercialisation advancement; infrastructure; the arts; and to make cultural advances.

The establishment of the Vice Chancellor's Awards for Teaching Excellence, and the University Research Medals by Professor Kinnear, reinforced our commitment to supporting one vital aspect of our core business, and that is excellence in the provision of the highest quality teaching and research experience, we can offer to our students.

Under her leadership the University has achieved unprecedented levels of teaching excellence and more national teaching awards than any other university.

Vice-Chancellor Designate Steve Maharey

As the incoming Vice-Chancellor I want to thank Professor Judith Kinnear for her contribution to Massey University. Over the past five years I have come to know Prof Kinnear well as a friend and colleague.

She has a keen sense of humour, a love of life and a commitment to the ideals of a university that made it inevitable that we would get on well.

While I was the Minister of Education I enjoyed referring to Professor Kinnear as "my favourite vice-chancellor" much to the concern her fellow vice-chancellors. Professor Kinnear has done me a great favour. She has been a good steward of Massey University and I will be the beneficiary of that. During a difficult time for the tertiary sector, she has not only managed to ensure the smooth running of the institution but also taken new opportunities where they have arisen.

Last year I attended such diverse events as the opening of the Hopkirk Research Institute, the launch of the New Zealand Institute for Advanced Study, the announcement of the partnership between the Speirs Group and the Riddett Centre and the opening of the Solexa Genome Analyser systems in the Allan Wilson Centre, to name but a few. I was delighted to see that, against fierce competition, Massey was granted the only new Centre of Research Excellence and gained the largest number of Tertiary Teaching Awards.

During her time at Massey, Professor Kinnear found time to make a contribution to the wider community. She was a member of the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology Board and helped advance international education.

Palmerston North, Wellington and the North Shore of Auckland have all benefited from the way she sought to build links between the community and the University. I hope we can build on the obvious strengths within Massey that Professor Kinnear has nurtured.

She has ensured a strong platform has been built for the next phase of our development. I wish her well for whatever comes next and welcome her continued interest in Massey.

University staff named in New Year's Honours

Professor of Research Ethics and Massey University Council member Sylvia Rumball was named a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the 2008 New Year's Honours, while three former staff members were also honoured.

Professor Rumball is Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor (Ethics and Equity) and chairs the University's human ethics committee. Professor Rumball is also chair of the Advisory Committee on Assisted Reproductive Technology, a member of the Ethics Advisory panel of the New Zealand Environmental Risk Management Authority and a member of the New Zealand National Commission for United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation.

Professor Rumball, who is based at the Palmerston North campus, was also a member of the Health Research Council Ethics Committee and has chaired the National Ethics Committee on Assisted Human reproduction.

Former director of teacher education at the University's College of Education Judith Carter was named a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for service to education and economics. Ms Carter is a former principal of Palmerston North Girls' High School and has served on the board of the New Zealand Qualifications Authority and on the executive of the Secondary Principals Association of New Zealand, as well as many other public appointments.

Former Auckland campus staff member Professor Marilyn Waring, who held a personal chair in public policy, was also named a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit, for services to women and economics.

Emeritus Professor Richard Earle is named as an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit, for services to engineering. Professor Earle is recognised as a pioneer in applying process engineering principles to biologically-based industries, and was appointed the world's first Professor of Biotechnology in 1965.

New state agency to promote science

A new organisation, Science New Zealand, will promote the increasing important place science has in New Zealanders lives, Research, Science and Technology Minister Pete Hodgson announced last week.

"Science and its daily contribution to society, is often 'under the radar', but there is growing acknowledgement of its place in society," Mr Hodgson, a Massey veterinary science graduate, says. Science NZ is the initiative of the nine Crown Research Institutes.

Experts say scientists need to tackle climate change - now

We know what we have to do to tackle climate change, but will each and every person do it? Dr Kevin Tate, keynote speaker at the Fertilizer and Lime Research Centre's annual workshop, challenged the 230 participants of the irrefutable evidence of climate change, urging each person to take action.

"Storm clouds are evident for New Zealand's economy and environment, the result of our burgeoning greenhouse gas emissions and deteriorating water and soil resources," Dr Tate said. "However the encouraging facts for the globe and New Zealand are that we already have the foundation of understanding to start the process of reversing the worrying trends."

Dr Tate highlighted that both urbanisation and agriculture were contributors.

Activity to minimise the effects of nutrients in agriculture included strategic reforestation to recover stored carbon on eroding hill land, some biofuel crops, nitrogen management strategies to curb nitrogen loss to waterways and the atmosphere and merging new technologies including biochar to store carbon in the soil and capturing of enteric methane emissions.

Emerging issues in New Zealand included perception of food miles in international markets including the UK, and whether biofuels were viable here.

Director of Massey Agriculture Professor Jacqueline Rowarth opened the 21st annual workshop, which had the theme Carbon and Nutrient Management in Agriculture.

Effectiveness of post-disaster aid

The effectiveness of post-disaster aid is a focus of PhD study by psychology student Heather Taylor.

Ms Taylor's research into the role of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in disaster management, primarily in the post-event stage, will take her to Indonesia in April. "My research will examine the idea that aid programmes would be more effective if they worked more closely with the community and better understood local culture," she says.

The postgraduate student at the Joint Centre for Disaster Research on the Wellington campus says NGOs and donor countries are heavily involved in disaster management, particularly reconstruction and rehabilitation, through the funding and management of projects.

"My aim is to create a model of what an effective intervention programme would look like. I want to offer an answer the question of what an NGO should do when disaster strikes."

Ms Taylor will examine projects in Indonesia to determine suitable sites and programmes. She will visit the island of Nias, which is still recovering from an earthquake in 2005,

Professor Rowarth noted that New Zealand farmers had done a tremendous job in transforming what had been viewed in the 1980s and 90s as a sunset industry but further challenges lay in increasing per hectare production without impacting negatively on the environment.

Heuermann Professor of Agronomy, at the University of Nebraska, Kenneth Cassman gave a keynote address asserting that agriculture was undergoing a biofuel revolution.

Professor Cassman addressed the fuel versus food debate, including exploring whether in fact relative yield of food crops was increasing enough and whether land available for food crops was actually increasing.

"In fact current rates of gain in crop yields and land area available for crop production are not adequate to meet expected demand for food, feed, fiber and fuel," he said.

"This is what I call a clarion call for ecological intensification.

"The only way forward is a massive increase in productivity on existing land while at the same time a massive reduction in the environmental footprint of agriculture. This is perhaps the largest scientific challenge facing humankind in all of human history."

Professor Cassman questioned whether existing boundaries used to estimate energy costs were adequate, noting that present measures of obtaining oil were based on in-shore and near surface supply, while most new oil was found in remote and deep undersea locations.



Yogyakarta (2006 earthquake) and communities around Mt Merapi affected by this frequently active volcano. She will compare projects run by NGOs, those that are locally-operated or run by foreign managers, and projects that were requested by communities versus ones suggested by NGOs.

Measures of the effectiveness of reconstruction projects include their ability to minimise future risk, their long-term sustainability, and improvement in the quality of life for recipients.

She is supervised by Associate Professor David Johnston from the centre, Professor Stuart Carr from the School of Psychology and Associate Professor Robin Peace from the School of People, Environment and Planning.

Academic promotions

The 2007 Academic Promotion Round saw 18 promotions take effect from 1 January 2008:

Six staff were promoted to professor:

Associate Professor Michael Belgrave, School of Social and Cultural Studies, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Auckland; Associate Professor Charles Brennan, Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, College of Sciences, Palmerston North; Associate Professor Richard Haverkamp, Institute of Technology and Engineering, College of Sciences, Palmerston North; Associate Professor Charles Little, Institute of Fundamental Sciences, College of Sciences, Palmerston North; Associate Professor Bill Pomroy, Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences, College of Sciences, Palmerston North; and Dr Andy Shilton, Institute of Technology and Engineering, College of Sciences, Palmerston North.

Twelve staff were promoted to associate professors: Dr John Clark, School of Educational Studies, College of Education, Palmerston North; Dr Jane Coad, Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, College of Sciences, Palmerston North; Dr Shane Cronin, Institute of Natural Resources, College of Sciences, Palmerston North; Mr Ross Hemera, Institute of Visual and Material Culture, College of Creative Arts, Wellington; Dr Nanette Monin, Department of Management and International Business, College of Business, Auckland; Dr Mandy Morgan, School of Psychology, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Palmerston North; Dr Martin Perry, Department of Management and Enterprise Development, College of Business, Wellington; Julieanna Preston, Institute of Design for Industry and Environment, College of Creative Arts, Wellington*; Dr Kathryn Rountree, School of Social and Cultural Studies, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Auckland; Nicola Shadbolt, Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, College of Sciences, Palmerston North; Mark Stevenson, Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences, College of Sciences, Palmerston North; Dr Ian Yule, Institute of Technology and Engineering, College of Sciences, Palmerston North.
* Associate Professor Julieanna Preston subsequently resigned.

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Professor Peter Lockhart.

DNA: Moa's Ark still afloat

Advanced DNA dating techniques used to analyse New Zealand kauri trees have led scientists to believe that New Zealand was never completely submerged.

The finding supports the traditional view that some New Zealand plants and animals were transported on a Moa's Ark, when New Zealand separated from the southern supercontinent Gondwana and that descendants of these species still exist today.

Professor Peter Lockhart of the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution says that the New Zealand and Australian species separated before the so-called Oligocene drowning period when the New Zealand landmasses were greatly reduced in size, some 26-38 million years ago.

"The divergence time of Australian and New Zealand kauri is ancient, the simplest explanation for the molecular clock findings is that New Zealand has existed ever since

it rafted away from Gondwana, more than 80 million years ago. If this is so, New Zealand kauri may well have a whakapapa that traces back to 95-million-year-old South Island fossils." Professor Lockhart says.

While some scientists have claimed that New Zealand was submerged during the Oligocene drowning period, the team from the Allan Wilson Centre say that the molecular clock findings from kauri are very difficult to reconcile under this hypothesis.

"The results highlight the need for further studies on the origins of New Zealand's flora and fauna," Professor Lockhart says.

The research was part of a PhD dissertation by Michael Knapp in the Institute of Molecular BioSciences at Massey University, and was published recently in the journal *Systematic Biology*.

The research examined kauri samples from Northland and the Coromandel.

Retail tobacco displays make it tougher to quit

Tobacco advertising displays may be undermining smokers' attempts to give up and tempting former smokers to resume smoking, research by Professor of Marketing Janet Hoek has found.

Professor Hoek and Dr Heather Gifford from Massey and Gill Pirikahu from Whakauae Research interviewed 20 people who had attempted to stop smoking in the previous six to eight months – half of whom had taken up smoking again – to find out what effect retail displays had on them.

The research was part of a project led by Associate Professor Richard Edwards and Dr George Thomson from Otago University's Wellington School of Medicine and

commissioned by the Cancer Society and the anti-smoking group Action on Smoking and Health.

The two organisations want the Government to ban displays of cigarettes and other tobacco products in shops.

Professor Hoek says some study participants felt displays made them purchase tobacco or made them feel they were missing out on something if they saw a brand they formerly smoked.

"It was quite clear from what many people said that not having displays would create an environment that made quitting easier," she says.

Food awards serve up more fresh ideas

Enterprising food manufacturers who think they have what it takes to compete in this year's Massey University Food Awards can enter now.

The bi-annual awards showcase innovation and ingenuity in the food production and manufacturing industry.

All entries are scrutinised by a panel of food experts, led by this year's new master judge, food commentator and television chef Allyson Gofton. Entrants will be marked on a range of categories including innovation in packaging design, nutrition, enterprise and food safety. Past winners have not only received recognition from within the industry but sales, marketing and resulting revenue benefits have accompanied their success.

Sealord marketing manager David Welsh says winning the 2006 premier award for Simply Natural tender calamari with Thai-style mild chilli dipping sauce brought the business huge benefits.

"It gave us a really great profile with our customers and internally it gave us something to be proud of. It was fantastic to acknowledge a lot of people's very hard work in the development area."

University Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear says products entered are outstanding examples of the quality and vitality of the New Zealand food industry.

"Massey University is proud to be associated with an event that rewards the efforts of food technologists in progressing one of this country's most important industries," Professor Kinnear says.

Massey University is the leading provider of research and human capacity to New Zealand's land-based economy. It offers New Zealand's only specialist food technology degree and is committed to the development of new food products. It is one of only a few organisations able to conceptualise, create, produce and test products all in one place, making it a superb sponsor of the Food Awards."

The awards are for products developed for the New Zealand market or for export. All products must be manufactured in New Zealand with a manufacturing base and/or New Zealand address. Complete judging criteria may be obtained from the awards website, along with details on the 20 entry categories.

Award winners will be announced at a gala dinner on October 20.

Entry forms are available online: <http://foodawards.massey.ac.nz>

New evidence of occupational cancers: fruit and veg growers, hairdressers among those at risk

New research by staff at the University's Centre for Public Health Research show increased risk of cancer for occupational groups including hairdressers, sewing machinists, field crop and fruit and vegetable growers. Occupational cancers account for 330 deaths in New Zealand each year, about 5 per cent.

Dr Andrea 't Mannetje is lead author of a study on Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma in New Zealand, now published online in the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, and second author of a study of high risk occupations for bladder cancer in New Zealand, published in the *International Journal of Cancer*.

The Non-Hodgkin's findings include that workers in plant nurseries are four times more likely to develop the disease, with apple and pear growing associated with a five-fold risk. Vegetable producers and those in general horticulture production have more than a two-fold risk of developing Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma is understood to account for about 9 per cent of cancer cases,

Dr 't Mannetje says that overseas studies have indicated that dairy and beef farmers had an increased risk of developing Non-Hodgkin's, which is a group of cancers arising from lymphocytes, a type of white blood cell. In New Zealand this was not the case.

"Farming in other countries can be very different from what is done here," she says. "Animal farming, for example, in the Netherlands where I come from is very intensive because they don't have a lot of space. In New Zealand sheep and dairy farming is spread out and there are not many farmers using barns."

The hypothesis behind farming exposure was that the risk emerged from exposure to agents from animals, including viruses. In horticulture however, the risk is from pesticides.

"Vegetable and fruit products here are applied by farmers and often they have close contact with sprayed fruit and veg."

Other occupations with increased Non-Hodgkin's risk include meat workers, possibly through exposure to animal viruses, cleaners (cleaning chemicals), heavy truck drivers (petroleum chemicals or agents being carted) and metal product manufacturers (trace metals and lubricants).

Occupations identified as higher risk for bladder cancer, which comprises about 12 per cent of cancers, were hairdressers and sewing machinists.

Dr 't Mannetje says that chemicals structurally similar to benzidine are still used in dyes. Sewing machinists are exposed to the dyes through fabrics, she says, while hairdressers are exposed using hair dye.



Associate Professor Simon Hall with Professor Nigel Long.

Investors back battery break-through

Manawatu investors have backed Anzode Inc, a fledgling company commercialising a revolutionary zinc battery technology developed by Dr Michael Liu and Associate Professor Simon Hall at the Institute of Fundamental Sciences. Applications for the battery include hybrid vehicles.

The technology was developed during Dr Liu's PhD research under Dr Hall's supervision, creating a rechargeable battery that uses zinc for the electrodes. Zinc is a good material for

electrodes, as it is both plentiful and cheap, but this is the first time it has been used in rechargeable batteries. The University signed a deal with Anzode that gives it exclusive rights to commercialise the technology.

Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Research) Professor Nigel Long says it is wonderful to see Manawatu investors participating in Anzode, in what he hopes will be the first of many offerings as the University develops its intellectual property.



Professor Tom Barry amid classic drought conditions at the University's Riverside Farm, outside Masterton.

Forage key to drought planning

With much of New Zealand suffering drought conditions and more dry predicted, farmers who have not yet made plans for the drying climate would be wise to do so, ruminant animal nutrition expert Professor Tom Barry says.

Professor Barry heads a team working on drought-resistant plants and alternate food sources.

"A lot of farmers think drought is something that will happen to somebody else," Professor Barry says, "and of course drought does mean different things to different individuals. Using the scientific definition from Niwa (National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research) in the last 31 years there were nine droughts. The East Coast is a lot drier and the projection is that the frequency and severity of drought is going to increase between now and 2080 and they are going to affect a larger area of New Zealand and areas that have not previously been affected."

Professor Barry, of the University's Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences, has been working on drought issues and animal nutrition for several years. Much of his research is trialled at the University's Riverside Farm, in the Wairarapa drought area near Masterton.

"Simply, if you have a drought the farmer has got to have some plans for that," he says, "otherwise the farmer will lose a huge amount of income. Our research is around what are the best solutions available for farmers to be able to feed their stock throughout drought."

Niwa says severe soil moisture deficits have persisted in Marlborough, Canterbury, North and Central Otago, with significant soil moisture deficits in Auckland, Bay of Plenty, Taranaki, Manawatu, Wairarapa, and Nelson.

Professor Barry says that traditionally farmers have addressed drought by altering their stocking policy. "Beef and sheep farms producing a lot of stock will lamb or calve as early as possible and get lambs and calves off the farm early, de-stocking. Others consider bringing in bull calves from dairy farms, fattening them for meat production and selling only if drought occurs.

"However there are other strategies, including using plants that can resist drought – those with extra-deep root structures that can reach

deeper into the soil.

"Chicory is a herb that has traditionally been used internationally as a coffee substitute but in the mid-80s the then DSIR produced forage chicory. It can be grazed by sheep or cows but it does need specialised management – you need to sow it either alone or with a legume such as clover; it needs specialised management which is different to that for normal perennial ryegrass or white clover pasture.

"Benefits are that it does provide superior animal growth through high nutritive value, and better control of parasites because it contains anti-parasitic compounds."

A well-managed stand of chicory could last for four or five years, Professor Barry says. "But you can't get to the drought and say 'well now we need chicory' – it needs to be sown in spring."

Another alternative is the use of trees as feed, which has an additional benefit of stabilising land. Riverside Farm has been trialling use of willow and poplar supplement to ewes grazing drought pasture, with studies showing that the sheep fed trees just prior to or while the ram is out had an increase in reproductivity by 20 to 25 per cent, producing more but not heavier lambs.

Dr Eileen McWilliam completed her PhD on the willow supplementation of ewes grazing drought pasture during mating. She now lectures on nutritional problems in dryland farming, teaching nutritional science and vet students.

Other projects underway at Riverside include use of fescue grass, which will be planted in strips along the roadside paddock, enabling passers-by to see its growth.

"Fescue contains a fungus, referred to as the endophyte.

"This grows in symbiosis with the plant, the fungus in this case containing a plant defence system of alkaloids which deter animals or insects – in the case of fescue deterring only insects and non-toxic to livestock. AgResearch has selected a fescue endophyte which is used a lot in the US and is believed to be drought resistant."

Fescue will be sown in the next few weeks, Professor Barry says, in the two stoniest, driest paddocks available to see how well it copes. The experiment will be done in conjunction with the plan improvement group of AgResearch.

From business incubator to multi-million dollar deal

One of the first companies mentored in the Auckland campus business incubator unit has been sold for \$US5 million.

Espion and its network protection software has been bought by Israeli internet company, Allott Communications. The software developed by Espion can detect threats and aggressive attacks on computer networks within seconds, and can eliminate internal network threats. The company quickly became a leading provider in the region of anomaly detection systems to protect critical networks.

It was one of the foundation enterprises based at the e-centre when the business incubator opened its doors at the Auckland campus in 2001. At Massey the fledgling company was working with mathematicians to develop world leading technology and received a \$400,000 grant from the Ministry of Research, Science and Technology.

Best sport research

Steve Stannard and colleagues from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health received the Annual Sport and Exercise Science New Zealand award for the best sport and exercise science research article in a peer-reviewed journal.

The article, *Insulin sensitivity and intramuscular triglyceride concentrations in young Māori men*, was published in *Diabetic Medicine*. The work, funded by the Health Research Council, was co-authored by Te Pumanawa Hauora's Professor Chris Cunningham and Dr Maureen Holdaway. Massey researchers have now won this award four times in eight years.

Mathematical society award

Dr Catherine McCartin was awarded the inaugural New Zealand Mathematical Society early career award in December, a joint award with Dr Noam Greenburg of Victoria University. Dr McCartin, who is based at the Palmerston North campus, received the award for her fundamental contribution to the development of efficient algorithms for computational problems in a variety of areas, and for her development of theoretical frameworks for parameterised counting problems and for parameterised approximation problems.

At the same joint meeting of the New Zealand Mathematical Society and the American Mathematical Society, Ratneesh Suri from the Auckland campus received the Aitken Prize for the best talk contributed by a student at the New Zealand mathematics colloquium.

Massey has now taken nine of 20 Aitken prizes awarded.

Too much security reduces trust in online banking

The more security measures banks impose on internet banking the more customers lose faith in the system's ability to protect their money, a study has found.

Tightening security measures for online banking may make the process technically safer but paradoxically the more identity-checking steps are imposed before a customer can get down to business, the less trusting they feel.

Amid growing global concern over security surrounding online banking – and many high-profile thefts by hackers – Diploma of Information Sciences researcher Kansi Zhang investigated how increased security affected a customer's sense of trust and security.

Mr Zhang organised an experiment involving four mock registration pages similar to those used for online banking transactions. The first required participants to complete two identity-checking steps; the others required four, six and eight separate steps.

Although most New Zealand banks currently require only two security steps, banks in China, Japan and Korea commonly require up to eight.

One participant, who anecdotally reported

using a Chinese online banking system in New Zealand, said having to fulfill six identity-checking steps compared with two for a New Zealand bank made him suspicious that the bank was more susceptible to security risks.

Study co-author Dr Hokyoung Ryu, from the Centre for Mobile Computing in Auckland, says usability and user-friendliness are at stake in the battle to ensure online customers feel their funds are safe.

Not only do people struggle to recall an array of pin numbers, passwords and personalised questions, they resent the time these steps take, Dr Ryu says.

Online banking system designers need to be mindful of the people using the systems they create.

"There is too much concern about technology. What's needed is more human-oriented technology, not engineering-based technology."

Speedier alternatives in future may include computerised fingerprint or face recognition systems. The study was presented at the 7th International Conference on Applications and Principles of Information Science held at the Auckland campus last month.

Academics named in New Zealander of the Year Awards

Two University academics are named in the *North & South New Zealander of the Year Awards*.

Professor Neil Pearce, Director of the Centre for Public Health Research, is given an honourable mention in the overall award.

Professor Pearce is a "hero in public health, ground-breaking researcher and sleuth", the magazine says.

"Believing socio-economic factors such as housing, nutrition and work stress, largely determine the state of New Zealanders' health spurred Pearce on to become an epidemiologist ... He now picks up the mantle of president of the International Epidemiological Association (the first to be elected from the Southern Hemisphere)."

Professor of Applied Mathematics Robert McLachlan is cited in the IT and communications category for his "stellar



Professor Neil Pearce and professor Robert McLachlan.

mathematical brilliance" and "revolutionary new means of making computer simulations of systems in motion".

Last year Professor McLachlan became the first person in the Southern Hemisphere to win the prestigious international Dahlquist Prize.

Sport research conference

A Postgraduate Sport Research Conference will be held at the Sport and Rugby Institute, Palmerston North campus, on 31 March and 1 April.

College of Business and College of Sciences sport and exercise staff, postgraduate, and third-year students will present on a range of sport management, sport and exercise science, and physical education topics.

Keynote presentations will be given by EIT chief executive Chris Collins. Mr Collins, a former Massey registrar has published five books on sport and sport management.

Associate Professor Hugh Morton's lunchtime address will "make sense of the stats that come out of sports matches".

Those interested in attending should contact Miria Busby on ext 5964.



Vice-Chancellor Designate and Palmerston North MP Steve Maharey Professor Margaret Tennant.

New book traces history of welfare in New Zealand

A book by historian and Dean of the University's Graduate Research School, Professor Margaret Tennant, was launched at the Palmerston North campus on 1 February. Guest speaker was Vice-Chancellor Designate Steve Maharey, current MP for Palmerston North and, from 1999-2002, the first Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector.

The Fabric of Welfare: Voluntary Organisations, Government and Welfare in New Zealand, 1840-2005, is published by Bridget Williams Books of Wellington. It is the first book to foreground the history of charity over 150 years of New Zealand's history, looking especially at its interaction with government, but also at the personal inspiration, individual interactions and what Professor Tennant describes as the "sheer fun and variety of voluntary effort".

It is a work of social history as much as a study of policy.

Professor Tennant, who has published widely on New Zealand's social history,

particularly in relation to women, health, disease and social policy, says the book grew out of a Marsden Fund award she held from 2001-03. "I met my anticipated 'outputs' from this grant, but realised that I had a good deal more material which could contribute towards a monograph."

Mr Maharey says writing about the voluntary sector in New Zealand is largely untapped territory. "Margaret's book represents one of the first attempts to tell the story of voluntary organisations. That's an important story, not only historically because they play a major role but because more than a million New Zealanders volunteer each year and they spend in excess of \$1.2 billion of taxpayer's money on our behalf in addition to the money they raise themselves."

A Massey University Research Fellowship in 2004 enabled her to continue the research and writing, which draws on the new (post-2001) material and a revisiting and re-evaluation of earlier research.

Chinese imports rank low but consumer perceptions improving

New Zealanders rank products imported from China below other imports but have noticed that Chinese imports are fast improving, say

marketing researchers in the College of Business. Staff surveyed Aucklanders on their attitudes towards imports from Australia, China, German, Japan and the United States. Japanese goods got the top rating for product performance.

The research team, led by senior marketing lecturer Dr Gurvinder Shergill, set out to investigate consumer attitudes towards products and marketing practices of different countries in order to shed more light on how

consumers perceive imported products – depending on their country of origin. The study found the three common factors on which consumers evaluate imported products were quality, design and whether they were improving.

Dr Shergill says there has been little research on New Zealanders' attitudes to imported products. The researchers also wanted to compare the attitudes of consumers towards the way products from the five countries were marketed.

Body clock study gains research funding



Dr Sarah-Jane Paine.

Sleep researcher Dr Sarah-Jane Paine has been awarded the Health Research Council Eru Pomare Research Fellowship in Māori Health, worth \$463,000 over three years.

Dr Paine, from the Sleep/Wake Research Centre in Wellington, will embark on an innovative programme of research that will advance the sleep health of all New Zealanders.

This includes continuing her research into the circadian body clock and how this clock regulates sleep timing.

She will also compare the prevalence of circadian rhythm sleep disorders in Māori and non-Māori, and examine relationships with age, sex, night work and socio-economic deprivation.

Dr Paine also plans to develop best-practice guidelines to improve health service delivery for Māori, using sleep disorders as a case study.

The fellowship honours the legacy of Professor Pomare and his contributions to gastroenterology. It provides funding for an emerging leaders in Māori health research with a PhD or equivalent, for clinical or medical research.

Dr Paine says she is honoured to receive the fellowship.

"This award is critical to furthering my training not only as a sleep scientist but as a Māori health researcher working in the empirical sciences.

"I look forward to continuing my research into the linkages between sleep, health and public health policy, and their role in meeting Professor Pomare's goal of improving Māori health outcomes and eliminating disparities."

IFS Honours Track

The Institute of Fundamental Sciences has launched a new Honours Track initiative to recognise students reaching high levels of academic achievement and encourage them to achieve a BSc (Hons) or masters degree.

Students reaching the required academic levels in chemistry, mathematics, mathematical physics, nanoscience, statistics or physics will be invited to join the Honours Track.

These students will be able to attend institute seminars and dinners, and meet in the Honours Track room.

Head of Institute Professor Peter Derrick says the initiative is an excellent example of the institute's strong commitment to academic quality.

Music therapy helps special needs students

Research that aims to improve the use of music among New Zealand special needs students is drawing international attention.

Music therapy is the use of music by trained professionals to achieve therapeutic goals, such as improving physical skills, social and cognitive development.

Daphne Rickson, a music therapy lecturer at the New Zealand School of Music in Wellington, is working with teams of parents, caregivers, teachers, teacher aides and therapists to help them use music more effectively with special needs students in mainstream settings.

Her three-year PhD project has attracted attention from a Thai school. Adrian Jones from Sarasas Ektra Bilingual School in Bangkok met Ms Rickson recently to discuss working together to find ways to use music to help students with learning disabilities and communication disorders, as well as gifted learners, at his school in Bangkok.

Ms Rickson says her work addresses the cultural context and is a model that is likely to be helpful for many other countries.

"While ethnicity is relevant, education and special education communities, special schools and mainstream schools, and families, all have their particular ways of doing things. It's a matter of sharing knowledge and expertise."

Ms Rickson has been working with schools throughout New Zealand that are managing children who have very high needs and says the feedback has been extremely positive.

"Working as a team, we consider how music is currently used in the school with individual children who have special needs, and how that might be developed or extended with the student's developmental or educational goals in mind."

Her project aims to help teams address practical issues, and develop specific skills for working with children using music.

"The outcomes will include protocols for music therapists undertaking consultation work, and advice and resources for educators on how to embed music more systematically in teaching programmes for both general learners and those with special needs."

Massey and Victoria University of Wellington jointly operate the School of Music, a centre of musical excellence.

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



Pictured outside Wharerata on the evening of the presentation are members of Mr Bull's family, from left: Catherine Bull, Dolly Toma, Derek Bull, Dave Bull, Sally Briggs, Ian Briggs, Susan Stone and Glenn Stone.

Awards for outstanding service

The second of the new Vice-Chancellor's awards for outstanding service was presented to former head gardener Dave Bull on 7 February at a function at Wharerata, Palmerston North campus.

Mr Bull worked for the University for 36 years prior to retirement in 2006.

The first award went to Shirley Crothers, a 20-year veteran who managed Wharerata until she retired, also in 2006. Her award was presented in December.

Mr Bull's award was recognition for exceptional service especially for planning, planting and maintenance of the grounds at Turitea, the planning and establishment of the

gardens and grounds at the Auckland campus in Albany.

Possibly his most lasting achievement was to oversee the establishment of the Arboretum at Turitea, which is recognised as one of the greatest in the Southern Hemisphere and expected within the next 25 years to become a natural heritage site of New Zealand.

Mrs Crothers' award recognised the development of the 'staff club', for establishing Wharerata as the preferred social centre on Turitea and for contributing to graduate celebrations in Palmerston North over and above those duties expected from a staff member.



Shirley Crothers, inaugural recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's award for outstanding service, is flanked by Professor Judith Kinnear and former Massey University Chancellor Morva Croxon. Immediately behind them, from left, are Mrs Crothers' husband, Brian, Janet Milne, daughter-in-law Anne Crothers and Jenny Chu. In the next row are Robyn Anderson, Professor Nigel Long, Emeritus Professor Ken Milne, Anne Walker and grandson Shane Crothers. At rear are Professor Robert Anderson, Gary Goodman, Jocy Goodman, Wayne Edwards, Judith Edwards and Associate Professor Alex Chu. The photographer was Mrs Crothers' son, Brent.



Conservation researcher Luis Ortiz-Catedral.

Rare parakeets to populate gulf islands

An ambitious plan to translocate 100 kakariki (red-crowned parakeets) from Little Barrier Island to two other Hauraki Gulf islands as well as a mainland site means more people will be able to see the rare birds.

Conservation researcher Luis Ortiz-Catedral, based at Massey University in Auckland, is from Mexico, a land of more raucous, garishly coloured parrots than New Zealand's subtle-hued species. But it is our small green, long-tailed kakariki that have captured his interest in recent years.

As well as studying a small population of translocated orange-fronted kakariki, which are extremely rare and critically endangered, on remote Maud Island in the Marlborough Sounds, he is planning a large-scale translocation further north of their relative, the red-crowned kakariki.

The two-pronged project is part of his doctoral thesis as a researcher at the Institute of Natural Resources, comparing how wild and captive birds cope with translocation.

The red-crowned kakariki thrive in abundance on Little Barrier Island, a protected conservation reserve. Mr Ortiz-Catedral is organising a project to capture then release the 100 birds at Rakino and Motuihe Islands as well as Tawharanui conservation reserve north of Auckland.

This will expand the geographical range of the species and enable scientists and conservationists to better understand how newly located translocated kakariki cope with the change.

A team of volunteers will help him record data of the birds' health before they are taken by helicopter to neighbouring locations for release. They will then track, observe and record the birds' feeding, social and breeding behaviour using electronic transmitters once they are in their new habitats.

Since 2004, he has studied the nesting biology and nesting growth of the red-crowned kakariki on Tiritiri Matangi Island, a world famous bird sanctuary also in the Hauraki Gulf.

The outlook for the next series of translocations is promising, he says. The birds, once populous throughout New Zealand but now found only on predator-free offshore islands, are good breeders.

A female can produce up to nine chicks in a season. But it was their habit of foraging and nesting on the ground that evolved during New Zealand's isolated, predator-free epoch that made them fatally vulnerable to predators such as rats, cats and stoats that were later introduced.

The project, he says, is not purely scientific. "There's also the spiritual appeal that we are returning the parakeets to places they once belonged. It has a powerful symbolic side to it."

Kakariki may even take flight and do their own relocating once closer to other islands and the mainland, he adds. "Who knows, one day we might see kakariki in Albert Park."

House affordability worsens by 9.6 per cent

The rate of house price increases slowed over the second half of last year and the latest Massey University Home Affordability report says there are indicators prices will continue to cool.

The report for the fourth quarter of the year says there are classic signs of a slowing in the rate of price increases – houses taking longer to sell, falling volume of transactions and an increase in the number of houses listed for sale that remain unsold. The median house price of \$350,000 in May had risen just 0.57 per cent to \$352,000 by November.

Nationally there was a 9.6 per cent deterioration in affordability for the year, compared with 2006.

Central Otago/Lakes is the least affordable place to buy a home, followed by Auckland and Nelson/Marlborough. Southland leads as the region where homes are most affordable followed by Otago and Manawatu/Wanganui.

On a regional basis affordability improved over the quarter in Central Otago/Lakes (by 9.6 per cent), Northland (1.7 per cent) and Otago (0.4 per cent). Waikato/Bay of Plenty was static over the quarter. All other regions showed declines in affordability. Leading the quarterly declines in affordability were Southland (22.2 per cent), Manawatu/Wanganui (9.9 per cent), Taranaki (9.1 per cent) and Wellington (5.3 per cent). Smaller declines were registered in Canterbury/Westland (3.0 per cent), Hawke's

Bay (2.4 per cent), Northland 1.7 per cent) and Auckland (1.0 per cent).

Based on annual data, Otago showed a slight improvement in affordability but all other regions showed declines in annual affordability. The biggest decline was in Southland (39.7 per cent), Manawatu/Wanganui (14.0 per cent), Canterbury/Westland (12.2 per cent), Wellington (11.2 per cent), Central Otago Lakes (10.9 per cent), Northland (9.3 per cent), Auckland (8.6 per cent), Waikato/Bay of Plenty (7.5 per cent), Hawke's Bay (5.9 per cent), Taranaki (4.8 per cent), Nelson/Marlborough (1.8 per cent).

For full details of the report, or previous reports: <http://property-group.massey.ac.nz>

Psychology centre offers low-cost therapy service

For depression and anxiety sufferers for whom the cost of therapy is in itself depressingly unaffordable, there is hope. The University's Centre for Psychology is offering a new low-cost group Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) service.

The centre's clinical psychologists are providing 90-minute group sessions over eight weeks at a cost of \$30 per session for up to eight at a time.

Senior lecturer and practitioner Dr Nik Kazantzis says CBT is a widely used mainstream therapy for clinically depressed people. It focuses on changing problem beliefs and behaviours, and is being offered as a group therapy for both depression and anxiety separately.

CBT was developed by American-born psychiatrist Dr Aaron Beck in the 1960s, and has been endorsed by more than 400 studies internationally as an effective, low-cost treatment for a range of disorders.

Dr Kazantzis, who trained under Dr Beck two years ago, says CBT helps people realise that it is invariably our perception of events that causes distress rather than the events themselves.

"CBT enables a person to learn practical strategies to improve moods and reduce anxiety, as well as identify unhelpful thoughts that perpetuate negative emotions," he says. "People find more flexible ways of looking at, responding to and dealing with situations."

"The therapy generally focuses on how you are thinking, behaving and communicating today rather than on your early childhood experiences," says Dr Kazantzis.

After researching the subject for more than a decade, he has published internationally his investigations into aspects of applying the therapy. As a practitioner, he has worked in a variety of hospital and community settings.

The CBT groups are aimed at people who would like to improve their moods and gain control over their anxiety. They are not suitable for people so severely distressed as to require acute or emergency support through hospital facilities.

Depression and anxiety sufferers often benefit from group sessions through talking to others who understand how they feel, as well as having the opportunity to help and learn from one another's experiences.

The groups are a low-cost alternative to individual therapy, and will take place at Massey's Centre for Psychology in Albany Village. The centre is part of the University, but is located in private premises on the third floor of the Albany Library building.

Temporary contemporary art series announced

Twenty public artworks will be created in five New Zealand cities, but they will each exist for no more than a 24-hour period.

One-Day Sculpture will begin in June and continue until June 2009 in Auckland, New Plymouth, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin.

Initiated by United Kingdom-based curator Claire Doherty and Massey's Litmus Research Initiative, *One-Day Sculpture* is a series of place-responsive public artworks by national and international artists. The works will reflect a diversity of artistic approaches including sculpture, installation and performance events.

Ms Doherty says *One-Day Sculpture* is the first international art project of its kind.

"Taking time, space and place as its inspiration, the project turns the concept of a scattered-site exhibition of new artworks on its head, offering the opportunity to engage with each newly commissioned artwork for one day only, one after another, as a cumulative series over one year.

Dr David Cross, Litmus Director says *One-Day Sculpture* provides an unprecedented opportunity for New Zealand audiences to engage with temporary public artworks by leading contemporary artists; and for New Zealand artists, curators and writers to examine – in dialogue with international peers – notions of public sculpture and place-sensitive art practice.

Confirmed artists include leading international artists Roman Ondak (Slovakia), Thomas Hirschhorn (Switzerland/France) and



Good Feelings in Good Times, by Roman Ondak

Javier Tellez (Venezuela/New York) alongside prominent New Zealand-based artists including Billy Apple and Maddie Leach.

To give audiences a taste of what is to come, the *One-Day Sculpture* launch on 7 March in Wellington will be accompanied by the public presentation of Roman Ondak's celebrated work *Good Feelings in Good Times*, loaned from the Tate Collection, London. Ondak is known internationally for his staging of familiar scenarios in which unexpected actions occur. Taking the form of installations, performances and interventions, his works provoke viewers to question their understanding and perception of everyday life.

Good Feelings in Good Times is a static queue of people – with seemingly no point of resolution or purpose – that can be read as a sculpture, performance or intervention. The work will take place across various Wellington locations on the day. *One-Day Sculpture* is supported by the University, the Wellington City Council Public Art Fund, the British Academy and Germany's Goethe Institut.

Contributions sought for new scholarship fund

The University is launching a scholarship fund in memory of the late Professor Brian Murphy, a widely respected educator in marketing.

Professor Murphy, who died suddenly in October 2006, was acting head of the Department of Commerce at the College of Business on the University's Auckland campus. The Brian Murphy Memorial Scholarship fund will provide scholarships for senior students completing research in marketing, business ethics or future studies on the Auckland campus.

Professor Murphy was known as a prominent practitioner of marketing research. He had spent more than 40 years exploring research methodology that would keep him at the front of his field both as a teacher and in practice. In the late 1960s he was a co-founder of the National Research Bureau. As a co-director of the organisation, he was a key figure in establishing the political opinion polls that made regular headlines in the New Zealand Herald and helped shape public opinion on the

performance of the political leaders.

Before joining Massey, Professor Murphy had been Dean of Commerce at the University of Auckland, Dean of Business at Unitec and President of the private tertiary education provider AIS St Helens.

The Brian Murphy Memorial Scholarship Fund has been established with initial contributions from the College of Business and from an anonymous donor. Contributions to the fund are now being sought and it is expected to grow to around \$300,000, says the Pro Vice-Chancellor of the College of Business, Professor Lawrence Rose.

The new scholarship fund will be held in a Massey University Foundation trust account. The Foundation is a registered charitable trust and exists to support university projects and scholarships.

To contribute to the fund or for further information contact Fraser Bell at the College of Business: ext 2144, f.bell@massey.ac.nz.



Hip hop musician Dartel is profiled using the green screen.

New award in biotechnology

A new award in animal biotechnology will see Merck support a University PhD student travel to the Northern Hemisphere to attend an international science conference.

The Merck-Massey University Young Achiever's Award is open to any post-graduate student in the final year of their PhD and early post-doctoral scientists, and will provide an award of up to \$4000 for conference attendance and the opportunity to visit a Merck research facility.

Applicants must be enrolled for a PhD at Massey or be working at a Massey department including the Hopkirk Research Institute or the Riddet Centre.

Included in the application must be a paper in the area of proteomics/protein expression, cancer, diabetes or inflammation, published in any reputed journal since 1 April last year. At least one product from Merck, Novagen or Calbiochem must be mentioned in the materials and methods section.

For more information contact Caroline Costall on 06-351-8685.

Emeritus Professors

Professor Jeff Hunter has been awarded the status of Professor Emeritus. His contribution to the Institute of Information and Mathematical Sciences has also been recognised with the naming of a cup to be awarded annually to the best students in mathematics and statistics.

Professor Wayne Edwards of the College of Education has also been awarded the title in recognition of his long-standing service to the University, and his significant commitment and involvement in international and inter-cultural activities.

'Green screen' studio a hit with design students and industry

A new industry-standard audio/visual studio at the University's Wellington campus is a hit with design students, and is also in demand by film production companies.

The studio's green screen gives students access to background replacement techniques used in music videos, television weather reports and films such as *The Lord of the Rings*. Digital media lecturer Struan Ashby from the Institute of Communication Design says the studio provides students with more tools to apply to their digital media productions and consolidates an important industry relationship.

"Since we built the studio last year, use has been very high by digital media students and staff," Mr Ashby says. "While we were still building, the students wanted to know when they could start using it."

Design student Steve Butler used green

screen background replacement for his project *Dartel: Point of Difference*, which featured a profile on hip hop musician Dartel as part of the College of Creative Arts' annual Exposure design, art, fashion and music exhibition last year.

Mr Ashby and colleague Roy Parkhurst used the studio for their experimental film *Hammond's Arcana, or the Paradise of Birds*, which screened at Wellington's City Gallery earlier this month.

Technical demonstrator Keir Husson from the Institute of Communication Design says staff built the studio themselves to keep costs down and film and television companies have already shown interest in using it. "After weeks of construction, painting, sanding and more painting the studio is a versatile facility that can be used by our students and also by industry."

Porsche the new challenge for teenage driver

Second-year business student Ant Pedersen has stepped up a level in his quest to become a professional driver on the Australian V8 motor racing circuit.

This summer Mr Pedersen, 19, has moved from driving Minis for the International Motorsport racing team to the much faster Porsche GT3 997 Cup Cars, which featured in the fourth round of the New Zealand Motor Racing Championship at Manfeild this month.

He is currently in fifth place after the first three rounds and, having originally aimed to be in the top five, revised his objective to be in the top three.

"It's very challenging, it's totally different car to the Mini last year," Mr Pedersen says. "The Mini season was mainly for me to learn the tracks but there's really no similarity. The car's a real beast to drive. You have to adjust your driving style. The Mini was a front-wheel drive, the Porsche is a rear wheel drive; the Mini has about 200 bhp, the Porsche has double that; a six-speed sequential gearbox,

everything's just totally different."

Twenty cars race in the GT3 Cup Challenge, all came straight from the Porsche factory last year with identical specifications and top speeds of about 260km/h, making it the fastest Porsche ever and the fastest saloon car racing in New Zealand.

"The season started quite well at Pukekohe in November. I was right in the middle of exams so it was pretty stressful but I got a good result and finished second overall." He also passed all of his exams.

Mr Pedersen, who is based in Palmerston North but is originally from Rotorua, is the son of successful V8 driver Paul Pedersen. In his first year at Massey he was one of the rising athletes and sport stars selected for the Academy of Sport, which helps students who compete at national and international level with support, mentoring and extra tuition to ensure they can maintain their competitive edge while studying for a degree.

Mr Pedersen says his academic goal – a



Ant Pedersen.

BBS – will be invaluable if he achieves his motor racing goal of driving professionally in Australia. This year Massey has provided him financial support and is recognised along with his other sponsors, led by Volvo Construction Equipment and electrical firm JA Russell, on the Porsche.



Students gather at the Museum Building in Wellington.

Students return as year kicks off

Commencement dinners were held for new students and their families on each campus last week, giving them the chance to mix with staff and guests in a relaxed environment as the academic year gets underway.

More than 1000 first-year students and their families packed Arena Manawatu on Monday night where they were greeted by academic staff and welcomed to the city by Palmerston North Mayor Jono Naylor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Warrington and Chancellor Nigel Gould.

Commencement offers new students an opportunity to witness the pomp and circumstance of a formal welcome ceremony followed by a sit-down dinner and entertaining guest speakers.

Wellington hummed with new students enjoying a full programme of orientation activity – from fun to formal – in glorious summer weather. The biggest influx of new students came to the College of Creative Arts

and they packed the front steps of the museum building for their powhiri and welcome.

All over the campus small groups stuck close to Uni Guides as they explored their new environment, locating vital services and facilities. This year the Uni Guides had their own challenge at the hands of some of the city's very slick chefs. Under the tuition of Wellington's catering company, Sarah Searancke, and in the name of team building and leadership, the Uni Guides did a crash course in cooking. They chopped, stirred, and whipped their way through a fast-moving exercise to see who could come up with the best results for an afternoon tea party.

In Auckland more than 600 people – including 250 new students with their families, as well as Massey staff – strutted over red carpet to the rousing rhythms of Korean traditional drummers to pack out two lecture theatres for the Orientation Week Welcome Reception.

Following a Mihi Whakatau (greetings

and welcome) led by Māori Manager Donald Ripia with waiata sung by staff, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Auckland and International) Professor John Raine gave a welcome speech.

Professor Raine outlined developments in the pipeline, including a new library and sciences buildings and 300-bed accommodation village and highlighted assets such as a top class recreation centre as well as last year's opening of the national New Zealand Institute for Advanced Research based on Massey's Auckland campus which is aimed at driving the country forward as a world-class research hub.

Guests then filled the Neil Waters Lecture Theatres Building lobby to mingle with academic staff and enjoy refreshments and entertainment by jazz ensemble featuring musicians from the Auckland-based New Zealand School of Music Jazz Studies centre, while fire dancers cavorted outside.



Students meet with Deputy Vice-Chancellor John Raine at Auckland.



Students arrive for the Commencement ceremony and dinner in Palmerston North

New policy clarifies expectations

Following a period of extensive consultation with staff and unions, a Policy on Staff Conduct is to be implemented.

For the first time existing standards that relate to staff conduct have been brought together into one clear, transparent policy.

The Vice-Chancellor's Executive Committee fully endorses the policy and considers it is robust and fair and reflects accepted practice across the organisation. The policy removes any ambiguity about what is acceptable conduct and clarifies the expectations staff can have of their employer and what the University can expect of staff. Clarifying the accepted University view is intended to ensure all staff are treated in a consistent and fair manner.

Director of HR June Dallinger says the policy is the result of a significant period of consultation with unions, senior academic staff and other staff members.

"Their input was extremely helpful and ensured the policy was fair and reasonable and reflects common practice." Mrs Dallinger says the University has an obligation under the Employment Relations Act to act in good faith by promoting clear and honest communication between those involved in employment relationships.

"Under the ERA we need to be able to communicate honestly and openly. There should be no surprises about what is expected."

She says senior academic staff, both union and non union members, had significant input into the development of the standard regarding academic freedom in particular and also about academic working hours. "The standards that we adopted were developed by these staff and the University accepted their views. They were also very helpful in identifying key issues with the policy and assisted a problem solving process to address these. Everyone involved in this process was very good to work with and committed to a good outcome on behalf of all staff."

The considerable feedback from staff that resulted from the consultation process was all factored into the final policy in some way,

she says.

HR advisers will be meeting with managers and heads of departments over the next few weeks to ensure they are fully conversant with the Policy. Managers will then meet with their own staff to discuss the policy. If staff have questions they should discuss these first with their managers and HR advisers will also be available to assist these discussions if required.

The policy is available in booklet form from your manager or can be found on the Guide to Policies, Procedures and Regulations, as well as on the staffroom website.

Research Funding News

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

Contact Information:

Research Development Team

Humanities & Social Sciences, Creative Arts, and Business

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

Sciences

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

Education, based at Auckland

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

Research Funding Coordinator

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

Funding Opportunities:

Ministry of Women's Affairs

Environmental scan of agencies and key informants that respond to adult victims/survivors of sexual violence in New Zealand
Closes: 25 February

Ministry of Women's Affairs

An analysis of attrition of recorded sexual violation offences against adults in New Zealand
Closes: 25 February

Ministry of Women's Affairs

A study of pathways from crisis to recovery for adult victim/survivors of sexual violence
Closes: 25 February

Ministry of Women's Affairs

Best practice and challenges for systems involved with adult victims/survivors of sexual violence: a critical literature review
Closes: 25 February

BRCSS Network

Postdoctoral Research Awards
Up to \$90,000
Closes: 28 February

Paykel Trust

Project & Equipment Grants
Travel Grants
Conference Support Grants
Closes: 1 March

Fulbright New Zealand, Fulbright Travel Awards

Up to \$5,000
Closes: 1 March

Strategy to Advance Research

STAR Research Grants to Build Capability in Nursing and Associated Health Disciplines
\$1,000,000
Closes: 3 March

Center for the Business of Government

Research Stipends
\$20,000 USD
Closes: 3 March

HRC

Conference Grants
Australasian Collaboration Award
Up to \$20,000
Closes: 3 March

Ministry for Culture and Heritage

Cultural Tourism research
Closes: 3 March

MIRINZ Food Technology & Research, Inc.

Request for Preliminary Proposals
Closes: 4 March

Wharerata

venue • cuisine • events

Thursday Night tapas @ the Terrace Bar

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

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

For information and reservations contact Lobby on 350 5088 or email info@wharerata.co.nz

Prix Ars Electronica International Competition for CyberArts

Various Opportunities
Close: 7 March

International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES)

The new IRSES scheme provides a framework for: the connection of at least 2 European research groups with at least 1 from NZ exchange of several staff between Europe and NZ over 2-4 years

secondments of 1-12 months per person open to both research and technical staff

The call is open from 30 November 2007 - 28 March 2008.

The European Commission will provide the funding for travel and subsistence for researchers coming from Europe in successful projects.

MoRST has identified a counterpart budget to facilitate travel and subsistence of researchers going from NZ to Europe in successful proposals.

Whilst the NZ budget is small in relation to the European resource, we have a 'once in a lifetime' opportunity in this call:

To respond to a call where, to date, NZ is the only country to have identified a counterpart budget, making us additionally attractive to Europe!

To shape the thoughts of evaluators on what a successful exchange project should look like (lessons from this first call will shape all future rounds).

To learn our own lessons to shape NZ proposals to subsequent (normally more heavily subscribed) calls, giving us a further advantage.

And, provide evidence to MoRST that a more substantial budget is required for future calls (2009 - 2013).

FRENZ (Facilitating Research Cooperation between Europe and New Zealand) is co-funded by MoRST and the European Commission (EC) to develop research links with Europe through the EC's Framework Programme for Research and Development (FP7), of which the IRSES scheme is but one collaboration mechanism.

Contact your Research Development Advisor to express your interest.

Agribusiness Innovation Grants AGMARDT

The Agribusiness Innovation Grants have been designed to provide seed funding for primarily farmer or grower groups to develop and evaluate innovative ideas to a stage where they can be applied

or attract other funding for further development or commercialisation. This programme is aimed at addressing AGMARDT's strategic objectives of fostering greater efficiency in production, processing and distribution;

improving the speed of innovation and application throughout the production and market system; and improving understanding of business-science linkages and associated commercialisation of technology.

Applications are due 28 February 2008 and 31 May 2008.

Awards Support Travel and Training of New Zealand Cancer Professionals

The Genesis Oncology Trust Professional Development Awards allow established New Zealand cancer researchers and cancer-care professionals (including nurses, radiotherapists, technologists, etc.) to travel and participate in scientific meetings or advanced training programme(s) that will enhance their professional competence or extend their range of skills. The maximum value of each grant in this round is \$3,000 and is primarily intended to cover conference travel. Applications are due March 16, 2008.

Community of Science Funding Opportunities Database

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

View the COS help pages to find Rules for Searching and Search Tips.

Training sessions are available on the following dates and locations:

Palmerston North – 19 February, Science Tower B, Computer Lab 1.09 – 11 am or 1:30 pm

21 February, Te Ara Bldg, Computer Lab 1.16 – 11:30 am or 2 pm

Wellington – 25 February, Computer Lab 5B08 – 11 am or 1:30 pm

*Please enrol online for COS Training (Course Code: RESCOS) through the TDU web site.

FRST Technology Expertise Access Programme

RMS is inviting applications for the TechNet Expertise Access Programme.

TechNet is a fund to assist companies to access

technical expertise at Massey University for the investigation of particular technologies or technical issues related to the business's overall development goals, for example, feasibility studies on research and development initiatives. Massey is funded directly from FRST for a number of consultancies up to \$5,000 each and will call for applications on a monthly basis. Successful applications will demonstrate a clear pathway for ongoing collaboration between Massey University a

The deadline for the next round of applications is 5:00 pm, Monday 18th February. Applicants will be notified of the outcome by 5:00 pm, Monday 25th February.

Electronic application guidelines and forms may be obtained from Jo Stone on x. 9533 or 027 233 6333

Events

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

AK – Saturday 1st March

9.00am to 1.00pm

Academic Writing Skills Intensive Seminar for Extramural Students

Extramural students, new or returning, are invited to attend this day.

Short lectures will be provided throughout the morning on academic writing and study skills.

<http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/students/student-services/slc/auckland/extramural.cfm>

Venue: QB5, Gate 1

Contact: Lilia Sevillano

Ph: (09) 4140800 ext 9288

AK – Wed 5th March to Wed 19th March

12.00pm to 2.00pm

Postgraduate Thesis-writing seminars 1-3

For postgraduate students enrolled in thesis-writing, this series of seminars are designed to assist and provide general guidelines at every step of the writing process. They are offered free of charge at the Auckland campus and are held for 6 Wednesdays during each semester.

Registration is a must so please register with the Administrative Secretary at the Student Learning Centre.

<http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/students/student-services/slc/auckland/postgraduate.cfm>

Venue: QB3, Gate 1

Contact: Lilia Sevillano

Ph: (09) 4140800 ext 9288





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Massey University

PN – Fri 7th March to Wed 30th January

6.30pm to 12.00am

Manawatu Summer Shakespeare: Romeo and Juliet

Continuing the tradition of open-air late-Summer Shakespeare in the park, this year's offering is directed by Ralph Johnson, & has a cast of 20.

Venue: Children's Playground, Victoria Esplanade

Contact: Ralph Johnson

Ph: ext 7288

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>

Undergraduate

Rural Women New Zealand Diamond Jubilee Agricultural Tertiary Bursary – closing 1 March 2008

Rural Women New Zealand Tertiary Bursary – closing 1 March 2008

Rural Women New Zealand Textbook Grant – closing 1 March 2008

New Zealand Grassland Trust Levy Student Scholarship – closing 7 March 2008

Agricultural / Horticultural Scholarships – closing 10 March 2008 (large variety of scholarships)

Meat & Wool New Zealand Undergraduate Scholarships – closing 14 March 2008

Postgraduate

The Massey University Alumni Doctoral Completion Bursary – closing 28 February 2008

Sydney Campbell Postgraduate Scholarship – closing 28 February 2008

The Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust Doctoral Degree Award – closing 28 February 2008

Agricom (NZ) Ltd and CRT Skinner Seeds Scholarships – closing 28 February 2008

IVABS Masterate Scholarship in Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging – closing 28 February 2008

Te Wai Māori Freshwater Research Scholarships – closing 28 February 2008

Wairakei Charitable Trust – closing 28 February 2008

Fulbright Travel awards – closing 1 March 2008

Gordon Watson Scholarship – closing 1 March 2008

L B Wood Travelling Scholarship – closing 1 March 2008

Patricia Pratt Scholarship in Musical Performance – closing 1 March 2008

Royal Society of NZ Travel Grants – closing 1 March 2008

Rural Women New Zealand Diamond Jubilee Agricultural Tertiary Bursary – closing 1 March 2008

Rural Women New Zealand Textbook Grant –

closing 1 March 2008

Shircliffe Fellowships – closing 1 March 2008

Whakatane Historical Society Scholarship Trust – closing 1 March 2008

William Georgetti Scholarship – closing 1 March 2008

Waikato Medical Research Foundation Research Grants – closing 9 March 2008

Agricultural / Horticultural Scholarships – closing 10 March 2008 (large variety of scholarships)

IVABS Masterate Scholarship in Veterinary Pathology – closing 14 March 2008

MacDiarmid Young Scientists of the Year Awards – closing 14 March 2008

Meat & Wool NZ Postgraduate Scholarship – closing 14 March 2008

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

General notices

editor@massey.ac.nz

ACADEMIC STAFF PROMOTIONS 2008

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Contact:

Director of Communications and Marketing:

Rachel Donald
email: r.j.donald@massey.ac.nz
Tel 06-350-5562 or 027-494-9077

Communications Manager:

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

Communications Advisers:

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

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

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

Kereama Beal (College of Education)
email: k.beal@massey.ac.nz
Tel 06-350-5019 or 027-471-8571

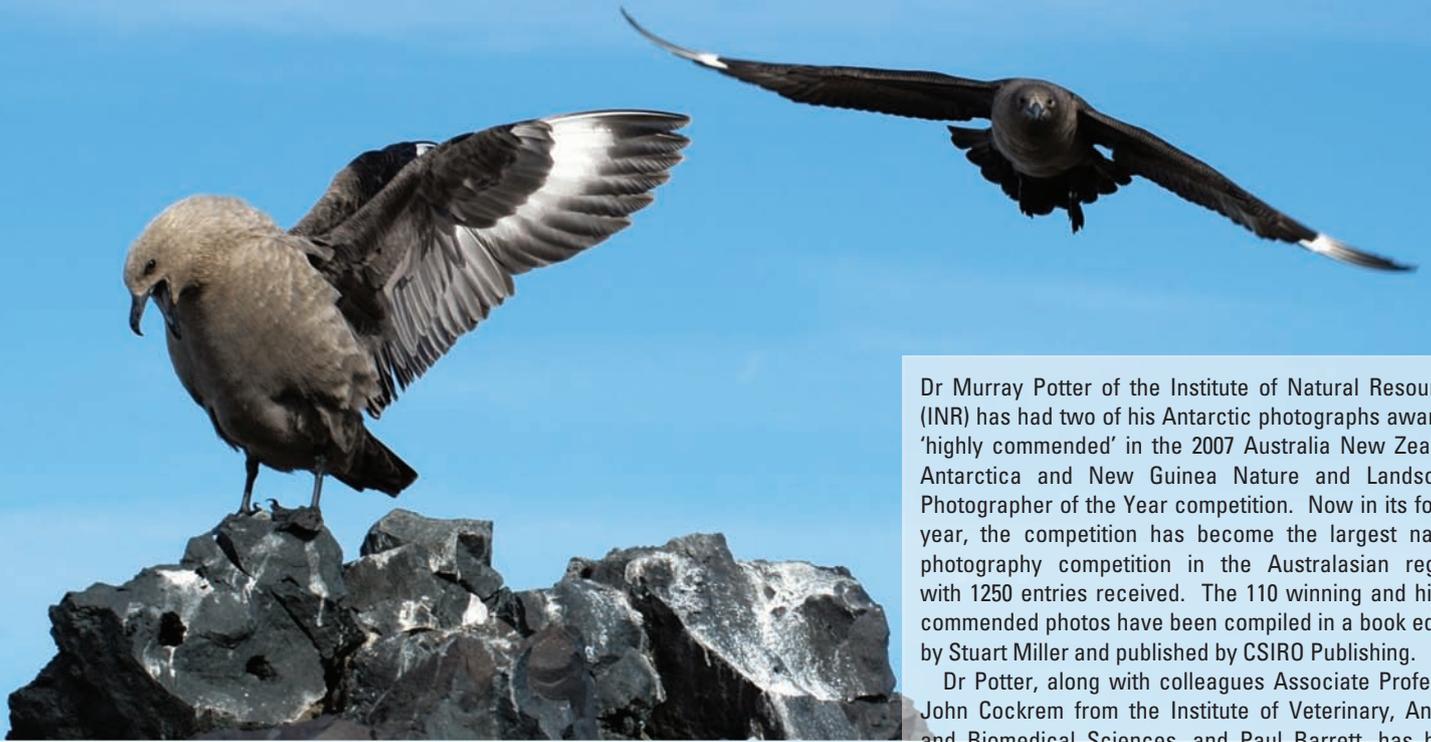
Electronic Publications Coordinator:

David Wiltshire
email: d.wiltshire@massey.ac.nz
Tel 06-350-5370

Massey News Online

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Sharing the beauty of the Antarctic



South Polar skua displaying to its mate. "We made a one-day trip by helicopter to visit a group of Italian scientists studying Adelie penguins at Edmundson Point," says Dr Potter.

Dr Murray Potter of the Institute of Natural Resources (INR) has had two of his Antarctic photographs awarded 'highly commended' in the 2007 Australia New Zealand Antarctica and New Guinea Nature and Landscape Photographer of the Year competition. Now in its fourth year, the competition has become the largest nature photography competition in the Australasian region, with 1250 entries received. The 110 winning and highly commended photos have been compiled in a book edited by Stuart Miller and published by CSIRO Publishing.

Dr Potter, along with colleagues Associate Professor John Cockrem from the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences, and Paul Barrett, has been studying the biology and behaviour of Adelie and emperor penguins. The team is particularly interested in measuring the responses of the penguins to various stressors such as being followed, held, confined for brief periods in cages, exposed to models of potential predators such as skuas and seals, and to natural variations in ice cover that affect travel distances to open ocean foraging sites.

Stress can be measured by the amount of corticosterone in the blood. Their results provide objective information for organisations such as Antarctica New Zealand, who shape guidelines for tourist operators and other visitors to Antarctica. The Massey University research team has worked at all the major penguin colonies around Ross Island and also in remote sites such as Cape Washington.

Dr Potter says it is a rare privilege to be able to visit Antarctica so on his trips there he enjoys capturing images as a means of sharing with others some of the beauty of this vast southern wilderness and its wildlife. Dr Potter was also a runner up in last year's *Massey News* Photography contest.



Emperor penguin preening. Like all birds, penguins need to preen to maintain the waterproofing and insulating properties of the feathers. Seen front on, the yellow-white hue of the emperor penguin's feathers can merge with the blue-white hue of the snow giving the impression of seeing the penguin in silhouette. This highlights the orange flash on the side of the head and deep black on top.