



Massey News

Auckland • Palmerston North • Wellington • Extramural

Te Pūrongo – 29 Mahuru, September 2008 Issue 15



Te Kunenga
ki Pūrehuroa



Massey University
Research Medals 2008

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The "Outstanding Research Team" winners from SHORE Centre and Te Rōpu Whariki (see page 4).

Bumper year of research successes

This week the University celebrates excellence in research and teaching with the annual Research Medals and the Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Teaching.

It is the fifth year the University has held a function to mark the achievements of its academics in the two areas that are integral to what it is and what it does best.

And for the fifth year, *Massey News*, devotes an issue to recognising those staff, with the cover photo of the nationally and internationally-acclaimed SHORE Centre and Te Rōpu Whariki, winner of the "outstanding team" research medal, and photos and stories inside of all the winners.

This year's individual research medal winner is Professor Harjinder Singh, an internationally-renowned specialist in dairy food research and co-director of the Riddet Institute, one of two Massey-led Government-funded centres for research excellence.

The research medal for supervisor has gone to one of the College of Business's most respected and well-known staff members, Professor Tony Vitalis.

Four early career research medals have been awarded, to Dr Fei Wu from the College of Business, Dr Vyacheslav Filichev from the College of Sciences, and Dr William Fish and Dr Bryan Walpert from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

There are also technicians' awards to three staff, college

research awards, postdoctoral fellowships, women's awards to eight staff and a research fellowship.

Along with them we feature the seven staff who receive Marsden research grants, and the four winners of Fast Start grants, worth a total of \$5.4 million, announced last week by the Royal Society.

In the past year Massey research projects have been awarded more \$33 million from three key funders: Marsden, the Health Research Council and the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology.

The Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Teaching, announced in March, went to six staff: Dr Hamish Anderson, Dr Rosie Bradshaw, Dr Lisa Emerson, Professor Janet Hoek, Dr Heather Kavan and Bill MacIntyre.

At a function in Parliament in July, Dr Emerson was named winner of the Prime Minister's Supreme Award for Tertiary Teaching, the first Massey staff member to receive this award, while Dr Anderson also received a national award for sustained excellence in teaching.

Incoming Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey, who takes over this week from Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Warrington, will be the speaker at the medals dinner on Thursday night. Mr Maharey says establishing the research medals was an important achievement of his predecessor, Professor Judith Kinnear, in her five years at Massey.

Remarkable breadth and quality

The research edition of *Massey News*, now in its fifth year, is a chance to pay tribute not only to the individuals and teams of researchers who make Massey's capability world-class, but also to the nationally-recognised teachers who impart the knowledge.

This year Massey researchers have continued to stamp their mark on the national and international stage with projects that have been recognised as having the potential to have a significant positive impact on our future.

Last week it was announced that seven Marsden grants and four Fast Start grants worth a total of \$5.4 million over three years have been awarded to projects that will be conducted by – or in the case of collaborations, led by – Massey staff. One of the remarkable highlights of this year's round is the breadth of the quality of our research, with awards in nearly all the disciplinary panels in which we have active research staff.

Worthy of special mention is a project led by Professor Kerry Chamberlain, a study of medications in modern society, that received a dual funding – a \$645,000 Marsden grant on top of Health Research Council funding of \$984,000 announced in June.

Professor Chamberlain leads a team of researchers from Massey and three other New Zealand universities.

Other research highlights in the past year include:

- The establishment of the New Zealand

Institute of Advanced Study enabling elite scientists to pursue fundamental scholarship.

Formal establishment of the Riddet Institute as a new government-funded centre of research excellence hosted by Massey.

- Foundation for Research, Science and Technology funding of \$3.75 million for the *Pathways to Resilience* project led by Professor Robyn Munford and Dr Jackie Sanders; and \$3 million for a further six years of a project led by Professor Chris Cunningham called *Best Outcomes for Māori: Te Hoe Nuku Roa*.
- HRC funding of \$2.5 million for a three-year study of occupational health led by Professor Neil Pearce and the Centre for Public Health Research and \$2 million for two projects on Maori health by the centre's Dr Lis Ellison-Loschmann.
- HRC funding of \$853,000 for the Centre for Social Health Outcomes Research and Evaluation study of harm caused by alcohol.

In terms of teaching excellence, Massey's Dr Lisa Emerson received the Prime Minister's Supreme award at the national Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards, the 11th staff member in seven years to be nationally recognised and the first to take out the supreme award.

Finally, last month the Massey University Research Fund and the University Research Awards announced the results for 2009. The two major internal funds provide financial support to many staff at critical stages of their careers. This year the committees awarded



nearly \$750,000 to 145 staff. Topics of successful applications range from: *The making of an elite athlete*, *Indigenous Futures in the 21st Century: Dialogues and Reflections*, *Tattooing and Popular Culture*, *Small Populations = Poor Fitness*, *Explosive phreatomagmatic volcanic processes in Auckland*, *How do gannets find food?*, *The Origins of NCEA*, *Motivation and Achievement*, *Small Poppies: Young and Gifted*, *Heart Failure and the Internet*, *Embodied Cognition*, *Flesh and Blood: Resistance to Science in Contemporary American Poetry*.

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

From the Acting Vice-Chancellor

I would like to thank everyone for their contributions, cooperation and understanding during my seven months as acting vice-chancellor.

It has been a pleasure to have served Massey in this way. It has been particularly gratifying to see the growth in the relationship with the University Council over this time and to be involved with the process of mapping a future strategy for the University.

My thanks also to all staff for the many ways in which they contribute throughout the year. The most rewarding feature of the

role has been to admire the successes of both our staff and students across many and varied areas of study, research and teaching.

Massey can be very proud of the outstanding scholars, teachers and researchers who work in our university. This week I will return to my position of Deputy Vice Chancellor (Palmerston North).

I pay tribute to the role played by Dr Sandi Shillington who filled the position during my time as acting vice-chancellor.

Professor Ian Warrington

New Vice-Chancellor starts this week – see page 10

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Massey University Research Awards 2008

The University's Fonterra Chair in Dairy Science and Co-Director of Riddet Institute, Professor **Harjinder Singh**, receives the University Research Medal – Individual.

Professor Singh has established a world-class capability in dairy food research at the University and leads a large research programme directed at understanding structure-function relationships of milk proteins in food colloids. His research programme focuses on physical and chemical characteristics of food components, interactions during processing, and functionality in food systems, such as texture, flavour, appearance, shelf-life and nutrition.

Professor Singh has been a leading figure in the development of dairy science in New Zealand and has contributed to the growth of the New Zealand dairy industry by facilitating development of new processes and products. He is the principal inventor of four patents, including the Omega-3 technology used by the joint venture company Speirs Nutritionals. Professor Singh has published more than 225 research papers and book chapters. Most of these papers have been published in high-ranking food and dairy journals as well as fundamental physical sciences journals, and a large number of papers have attracted high citation ratings. He has supervised 60 postgraduate students including more than 20 PhDs..

The international standing of Professor Singh's contributions has been recognised by the receipt of two highly prestigious international awards: the William Haines Dairy Science Award (2008) from the California Dairy Research Foundation and the Marschall Rhodia International Dairy Science Award (2001) from the American Dairy Science Association. His outstanding contributions to the wider food science discipline are recognised by his election to the Fellowship of the Royal Society of New Zealand (2002) and Fellowship of the International Academy of Food Science and Technology (2006). He serves as a member of several editorial boards and has given numerous invited keynote addresses at international conferences.

Professor Singh was nominated by his co-director at the Riddet Institute, Distinguished Professor Paul Moughan, who says Professor Singh has demonstrated distinguished scholarship and intellectual leadership of the highest order in the field of food science and technology.

"His work has been characterised by innovation, novelty and creativity as well as the ability to translate laboratory-based findings to the food



Research Medal – Individual: Professor Harjinder Singh

industry. It is rare to encounter such excellence in both fundamental research and industrial application."

Professor Singh arrived at Massey University in 1989 as a lecturer, after working as a research officer at the New Zealand Dairy Research Institute. He completed a BSc (Hons) and an MSc (Hons) in Biochemistry at Punjab Agricultural University, and a PhD in Food Science and Technology at the National University of Ireland, University College Cork.



Research Medal – Supervisor: Professor Tony Vitalis

In 25 years at the College of Business Professor **Tony Vitalis** has supervised 24 successful PhD completions, 16 as main supervisor. Many of his students have gone on to become heads of department or hold leadership positions at Massey and other universities.

Professor Vitalis has also supervised more than 80 Master's projects and several Master's theses. Several papers co-authored with students have received accolades including two "best papers" at the New Zealand Ergonomics Conference.

In addition to his formal supervision, he has taken a leading role in promoting and developing a research culture within the college, representing it on the Doctoral Research Committee for several years.

As well as examining Massey DBA, PhD and Master's students, Professor Vitalis is an appointed examiner to Canterbury, Victoria and Waikato universities, as well as Australia's Curtin University and the University of East Asia in Macau.

Among those who supported the application of Professor Vitalis are College of Business Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Lawrence Rose, former acting Pro Vice-Chancellor of the

college Professor Barrie Macdonald, Dean of the Graduate Research School Professor Margaret Tennant and college Department of Management head Professor Claire Massey.

Professor Massey says Professor Vitalis has made an "incalculable" contribution as a supervisor. "I know of no other supervisor who so generously opens his home to students – they are not only mentored and advised but fed and entertained," she says. "This is an extraordinary commitment and one that is well beyond most of us but which for Tony is as natural a part of supervision as teaching a student how to manage statistics. He is a role model for us all – and one I often think of when I am working with my own students."

Professor Vitalis joined the University in 1980, after completing an MSc and a PhD in ergonomics at the University of London. He was an academic staff representative on the University Council from 2002-06. His external service includes time as president of the New Zealand Ergonomics Society, various roles for the New Zealand Institute of Management and as a referee for research applications to the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology.

Massey University Research Awards 2008



From left: Taisia Huckle, Briony Hooper, Dr Tim McCreanor, Dr Jennie Connor, Dr Richard Griffiths, Dr Lanuola Asiasiga, Belinda Borell, Jeffery Adams, Associate Professor Karen Witten, Dr Suzanne Mavoa, Michael Blewden, Professor Sally Casswell, Lisa Morice, Dr Sarah Greenaway, Paul Sweetsur, Jan Sheeran, Ryan You, Dr Chris Wilkins, Gerda Langst.

Oustanding research team:

The Centre for Social and Health Outcomes Research and Evaluation, and Te Rōpu Whariki

The Centre for Social and Health Outcomes Research and Evaluation (SHORE) and Te Rōpu Whariki undertake policy and community research and evaluation of health and social topics.

A single research entity, established in 2002 as part of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, SHORE and Te Rōpu Whariki are described as relatively independent research groups working in partnership.

The centre, based in Symonds St, Auckland, collaborates with the World Health Organisation in the field of alcohol and other drugs and sees its principal function as conducting social and public health research of scientific and policy importance, with the aim of contributing to the improvement and

protection of public health and well-being nationally and internationally.

Te Rōpu Whariki is involved in a wide range of research projects with a Māori development focus. It is at the forefront of research that supports Māori community development providing a mix of strategic and applied research from a kaupapa Māori base.

Both focus on policy-relevant research in public health areas including alcohol and other drug epidemiology and policy, gambling, neighbourhood and health, environmental issues, Māori health and well-being, the evaluation of health promotion programmes and community action research.

Centre director Professor Sally Casswell says SHORE and Te Rōpu Whariki gain

success through the collaborative approach they take to research.

"The relationship is really important as a lot of the work we do in public health research involves Māori, so the fact we can do joint projects is crucial.

"Everything we do is a team effort, so researchers get to learn from one another."

She says the centre develops respectful relationships with participants that are pivotal to good research.

"We've also struck a good balance in terms of taking on projects from both funding agencies such as the Health Research Council and the Marsden Fund, as well as taking on work commissioned by government agencies."

College Research Award - Early Career: Dr Fei Wu, College of Business

Dr Fei Wu is a senior lecturer in the Department of Economics and Finance at the Palmerston North campus.

He completed a BA in Industrial Economics at the South China University of Technology, an MSc in Finance and Investment at Aberdeen University in Scotland, and a PhD in Finance from University College, Dublin, before joining Massey in 2004.

Dr Wu supervises both master's and PhD students, and has, with a colleague, restructured the course research methods in finance.

Department head Professor Martin Young nominated Dr Wu for the award, praising his enthusiastic dedication to research.

"To have achieved the quality and quantity of publications that Fei has done in the little over three years since completing his PhD is an exceptional achievement," Professor Young says.

"In terms of conference attendance his record is equally impressive. In particular, Fei has had papers accepted at the Western Finance Association meeting two years running.

"This conference ranks as one of the top three conferences in finance internationally, with many of the top finance academics competing for the limited number of paper acceptance spots.

To get one acceptance here is an excellent achievement. An acceptance two years running is exceptional."



Massey University Research Awards 2008



Research Medal – Early Career: Dr Vyacheslav Filichev, College of Science

Dr Vyacheslav Filichev's research is based around nucleic acids, particularly deoxyribonucleic acids (DNA). The work is interdisciplinary, embracing chemistry and biology. A lecturer in chemistry, Dr Filichev graduated with an Honours Diploma of Higher Education (equivalent of an MSc) and a PhD in Organic Chemistry from St Petersburg State Technological Institute in Russia.

Professor Peter Derrick, head of the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, says Dr Filichev has made a significant impact on research and postgraduate teaching in chemistry.

Dr Filichev was a key player in setting up a DNA research laboratory, Professor Derrick says, and had, with developing initiatives in DNA synthesis, engineered a significant research development for Massey.

"He has published at least 11 papers during his time at Massey since 2006, which represents outstanding productivity starting from scratch in a new institution. His papers are of a uniformly high quality, and are being

noticed internationally."

Dr Filichev had also shown himself to be a very strong research supervisor, and is "a magnet" for research students. "Because of his enthusiasm, dedication and passion for his science and probably also because of his intellectual nimbleness."

Dr Filichev was delighted to have his work recognised and thanked his colleagues. "When I came here, staff at the Institute of Fundamental Sciences helped a lot," he says. "Without their support it would have been very difficult to establish a research lab in my area, DNA synthesis."

His work involves chemical modification of DNA with direct attachment of organic reporter molecules. Chemical modification of DNA allows study of fundamental processes such as regulation of gene expression, and the development of modern diagnostic methods.

* Dr Filichev and Dr Gareth Rowlands were also successful in their application for a postdoctoral fellowship, see page 6.

Since completing his PhD in 2001 **Dr William Fish** has completed the book *Perception, Hallucination and Illusion*, which Oxford University Press will publish next year.

Dr Fish has been a lecturer in the University's philosophy programme since 2004 and has had five articles either published or accepted in the past year. Two of those have been accepted by the journal *Analysis*, which consistently ranks among the top 10 philosophy journals worldwide.

His work has also been critically discussed by leading philosophers around the world, showing the impact his research is having in the field.

Dr Fish says his work centres on the nature of the visual experience one has when seeing the world, which, unprejudiced by theory, seems clear: experience embodies an openness to reality.

"Philosophically and scientifically, however, things are not this easy," he says. "Typically, philosophers and scientists have accepted that our pre-theoretical view is mistaken and have tried to construct theories of experience against this background.

"The central plank of my recent research has been that the pre-theoretical view is not mistaken after all. Instead, the apparent difficulties with the view spring from certain deep-seated assumptions that can, once uncovered, be undermined."



Research Medal – Early Career: Dr William Fish, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

literary journal *Mid-American Review*.

Critical academic writing also plays a significant role in Dr Walpert's work, and he has had a number of essays on American poetry and poetics published in scholarly journals, literary encyclopaedias and professional publications.

Dr Walpert has two critical book projects under-way. One, under consideration by a publisher, explores the use of science in American poetry. The second is a series of essays on poetics.

"This award is recognition of the value of creative writing," Dr Walpert says. "But for me, creative writing goes hand-in-hand with critical work."

"It's hard to read and write poems without thinking about the literary and philosophical questions that underlie the poetry."



Research Medal – Early Career: Dr Bryan Walpert, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

A senior lecturer in creative writing in the School of English and Media Studies, **Dr Bryan Walpert** has 57 poems published or forthcoming in journals and anthologies in New Zealand, the United States, Canada and Britain.

Cinnamon Press is publishing his first full collection of poetry, *Etymology*, in February.

Dr Walpert's poetry has won numerous prizes, including being awarded both first and third prizes in the 2007 New Zealand Poetry Society International Poetry Competition.

He also won last year's James Wright Poetry Prize sponsored by the prestigious US

Massey University Research Awards 2008

Technicians' Awards

These awards enable an annual salary to be paid for two years to provide technical support and assistance for a specific research project undertaken by the recipients. This year's recipients are:



Austen Ganley (left), Institute of Molecular Biosciences, with David Raubenheimer, Institute of Advanced Studies.

The cause of ageing is a fundamental problem in biology and is also of intense public interest.

Dr Ganley and Dr Raubenheimer work in different fields, molecular biology and nutritional ecology respectively, but share a research interest in the causes of ageing.

Both have discovered through independently generated data that protein may play a key role in ageing, which challenges conventional dogma.

They believe that by bringing their approaches together they can establish a unifying hypothesis for ageing.



Dr David Rowlands, Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health.

Dr Rowlands is pursuing research in the area of muscle biology and exercise nutrition.

His team is looking at the actions and effects of target nutrients on the muscle molecular, immune and inflammatory processes associated with recovery from exercise.

Working with Nestle, the team has developed a new product concept and will investigate the effects of this formulation on the physiological, molecular and immune processes associated with enhanced recovery and performance.



College Research Award – Supervisor

Dr Ross Flett, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Dr Ross Flett has supervised 80 graduate research projects since his arrival at Massey University in 1990. Among these are 25 PhD dissertations, 20 honours projects and 32 Master's theses.

Dr Flett's commitment to supervision also extends to a thesis preparation course for psychology students involved in honours projects, Master's theses and PhD dissertations.

The course helps students with many issues regarding research, from applying for funding to overcoming writer's block.

Dr Flett says he has worked with some of the best and brightest scholars New Zealand has to offer and the award reflects their successes.

Postdoctoral Fellowships

Appointment of a postdoctoral fellow who has worked in a multi-disciplinary research environment means that the project can be progressed quickly to make significant advances and publish, laying claim to a fertile research territory.



Dr Andrew Sutherland-Smith, Institute of Molecular Biosciences.

Dr Sutherland-Smith receives funding for a postdoctoral fellow to work on the project Regulating skeletal development.

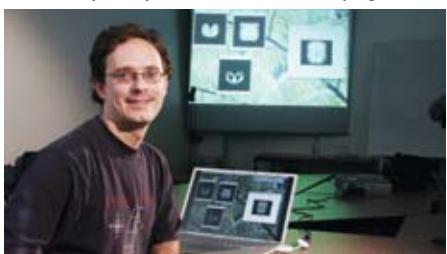
The project has arisen from successful collaboration with Professor Stephen Robertson of Otago University and is focused on a novel protein that has the potential to be the first protein marker for the membranous ossification pathway of bone formation, a finding that may open up further avenues of study on what is currently not a well understood developmental process.

Funding has been granted for a postdoctoral fellow to work on the project *DNA: a new code for catalysis*.

The project will answer fundamental questions about the ability of DNA to induce selectivity in organic reactions, opening up new vistas in asymmetric catalysis and will ultimately enable development of a new type of catalyst.

The project is at the interface between chemical biology and organic chemistry, and is interdisciplinary yet at the cutting edge of both areas.

* Dr Filichev has also received a Massey University Early Career Medal, see page 5.



Dr Stephen Marsland, School of Engineering and Advanced Technology.

Dr Marsland has been successful in receiving funding for a postdoctoral fellow on the project Geodesics in diffeomorphism groups. The postdoctoral fellow will work between computer science at SEAT and mathematics at the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, joining a small group of researchers in the area of partial differential equations, dynamics and related topics.

This ambitious research has implications in fields as diverse as computer vision, fluid dynamics and plasma physics.



Dr Vyacheslav Filichev (left) and Dr Gareth Rowlands (right), Institute of Fundamental Sciences.

Massey University Research Awards 2008

Women's Awards

Women's awards enable staff involved in teaching or administrative work to take time out to write up research results for publication, or to collect and analyse further data. Each award is worth up to \$10,000.



Dr Robyn Andrews

– In 2005 Dr Andrews completed a PhD in social anthropology. Her thesis was an ethnographic account of Calcutta's Anglo-Indian community

based on fieldwork in Calcutta.

Her project titled *Being Anglo-Indian in Calcutta* aims to convert it into a book, incorporating new research she has undertaken during two more visits to Calcutta since completion of the original thesis.



Dr Slavka Antonova

– With the internet becoming a ubiquitous communication and commerce platform, and with multi-stakeholder collaboration accepted

as the modus operandi for global governance, Dr Antonova's *Powerscape of Internet Governance* project aims to investigate who rules the critical resources of the global Net and who really benefits from the emerging institutional and regulatory regime.



Dr Jenny Coleman

– For the past five years, Dr Coleman has been researching the life of Amy Maud Bock, New Zealand's most notorious female criminal con artist, with

the intention of writing a full-length biography, using research conducted in Australia, and in various archives and research institutions throughout New Zealand.



Dr Cathryn Conlon

– An explorative study designed to assess women's knowledge and attitudes towards preconception nutrition, dietary intakes and lifestyle practices has found that efforts are needed to increase the awareness of the importance of nutrition in women of child-bearing age and to encourage planned pregnancy.

Dr Ganesharanee Ravindran – In preliminary studies, Dr Ravindran has successfully created low glycaemic extruded cereal products that deliver specific health-promoting and disease-preventing benefits.

She is interested in the area of functional



ingredients and, in particular, low glycaemic foods based on novel ingredients, and her research aims to further evaluate the functionality of combinations of ingredients with results

that could have considerable commercial implications in developing healthy snack products.



Dr Ute Walker

– Learning a language by distance is a challenging experience. However, collaboration via the Internet allows students to practise their target language with native speakers, exchange points of view to obtain feedback on the language used and develop a social presence. Dr Walker's research project aims to promote content-based language learning and intercultural experience through online collaboration.



Mei Wah Williams

– Mrs Williams' PhD research investigating a theory of crime was awarded this year and investigates the sufficiency of low self-control to predict crime.

The study found low self-control was unable to explain behavioural intentions with university students but did so in a prison population. Her results suggest that significant others and behavioural self-control are important variables in understanding the causes of crime and may be potential targets in the reduction of criminal behaviour. She aims to further publish articles from the study.



Dr Liping Zou

– The main objective of Dr Zou's project is to empirically investigate share price reactions to corporate name changes. Like the quality of its products and services, the name of a corporate is considered to be an important part of its image as it is the main component of the organisation's identity.

The next step in the research is to expand the project to investigate approximately 5000 United States firms' share-price reactions to name changes since 1996.



Research Fellowship – Associate Professor Martin Perry, College of Business

Associate Professor Martin Perry will use his research fellowship to complete the book *Controversies in Local Economic Development*. The sole-authored book is currently being considered for publication by Routledge (London), which has worked with Dr Perry on two previous projects.

The book will focus on seven controversies attracting debate within the theory and practice of local economic development.

It will draw together the outcomes of various research projects and consolidate material from a variety of published and unpublished papers.

New business appointment

The College of Business has appointed a new professor who specialises in human resource management. Professor Jim Arrowsmith has come to the Department of Management and International Business on the Auckland campus from the Warwick Business School in the England.

Professor Arrowsmith has taught undergraduate and postgraduate Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations.

His principal research interests include variable pay systems, working time flexibility, discrimination and equality, employee representation in multi-national companies, employment relations in small firms.

To read the latest in news from Massey, complete with colour pictures and video clips visit us online:

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

\$5.4m Marsden funding boost for researchers

Eleven research projects led by Massey staff have been awarded a total of \$5.4 million in funding over the next three years from the Marsden Fund administered by the Royal Society.

The society last week announced \$54 million in total funding for leading-edge research projects in the sciences, engineering, maths and information sciences, social sciences and humanities, mostly to universities but also to Crown Research Institutes.

Massey was awarded seven Marsden grants and four Fast Start grants, which are designed to support outstanding researchers early in their careers.

Marsden Fund Council chairman Dr Garth Carnaby says the funded projects have been thoroughly reviewed internationally and are of excellent quality.

"The fund sits at the discovery end of New Zealand's research spectrum, allowing our best researchers freedom to explore their own ideas," Dr Carnaby says. "It represents a government investment in the creation of cutting-edge knowledge through scholarly research."

Last year, the University received eight new research projects led by University staff and four Fast Start projects for emerging researchers, with funding totalling \$5.86m over three years.

Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian Warrington says Marsden grants are awarded in a highly competitive environment and those receiving these prestigious awards can be very proud of their achievements.

"The significant number of grants awarded both to established and to new staff at Massey reflects very well on the continued high standards of research being undertaken at the University," Professor Warrington says.

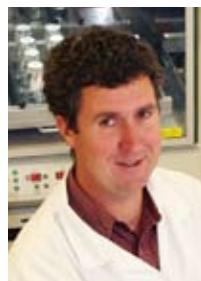
Marsden grants:



Professor Nigel French, Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences, receives \$740,000 for a project entitled *Cows, Starlings and Campylobacter in New Zealand: unifying phylogeny and epidemiology to gain insight into pathogen evolution.*

"The introduction of European wildlife and livestock into New Zealand has provided a unique opportunity to study the evolution of a globally important human pathogen: *Campylobacter jejuni*. Using analytical tools developed by our research team and detailed laboratory studies including whole genome sequencing, we aim to exploit the newly-discovered host specificity of *C. jejuni* strains and the historical separation of both host

and bacterial populations, to improve our understanding of *C. jejuni* evolution. Ultimately we can learn why *C. jejuni* emerged to become such a prominent pathogen, anticipate further evolution and restrict emergence and spread of new strains."



Professor Paul Rainey, Institute of Molecular Biosciences, receives \$880,000 for *The evolution of multicellularity.*

"The origin of multicellularity is one of the most perplexing and exciting problems in biology. Recent empirical work has led to recognition of shortcomings with existing theory. Together the applicants have formulated a radically new theory which shows that tension among levels of selection can fuel (rather than impede) transitions in individuality. A key realisation is that the fitness of higher and lower levels is intimately linked so that cells at each level can be considered at different stages of a life cycle. This proposal seeks to extend recent theory, test key predictions and experimentally recreate an evolutionary transition.



Professor Peter Schwertfeger, Institute of Fundamental Sciences, receives \$740,000 for the project *The variation of fundamental constants in space-time.*

"Fundamental constants like the speed of light, Planck constant or gravitational constant play defining roles in physics and chemistry. Modern theories attempting to unify all four fundamental forces of nature suggest that all fundamental constants may vary in space and time. The search for such small variations currently constitutes one of the most exciting areas of physics. For further progress in this area it is important to find enhanced effects of the variation of fundamental constants. We therefore want to find suitable molecules, perform calculations and stimulate new searches of the variation effects both in cosmic and laboratory molecular spectra.



Professor Martin Hazelton, Institute of Fundamental Sciences, receives \$310,000 for his project *New tools for statistical inference for network-based transportation models.*

Network-based models of road traffic

systems underpin a vast array of transport management and planning activities. In practice they must be calibrated for the traffic system under consideration, giving rise to a wide range of statistical inference problems. The most readily available type of data for fitting transport models comprises traffic counts on a set of network links. However, these do not uniquely determine the route flows, leading to a statistical linear inverse problem structure. By focusing on this common structure, our aim is to develop improved tools for inference with wide applicability in transportation science.



Dr Carlo Laing, Institute of Information and Mathematical Sciences, receives \$454,000 for his study into *Complexity reduction in neural models.*

"Recent advances have led to increasingly detailed models of neuronal networks. These models are time-consuming to simulate, and understanding their 'essence' is difficult. Recently developed 'equation-free' (EF) methods enable one to analyse and efficiently simulate complex, multi-scale systems. We aim to use EF methods to analyse several neural models, including the complex respiratory neural network.

The techniques involved include identification of low-dimensional variable(s), which describe the macroscopic dynamics of the network, and bifurcation analysis in terms of these variables. Our goal is to provide an understanding of such networks that cannot be found in any other way."

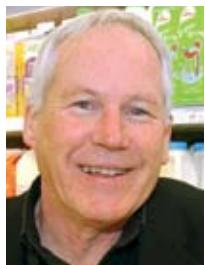


Professor Mick Roberts, Institute of Information and Mathematical Sciences, receives \$462,000 for his project entitled *Modelling a virus.*

"Viruses multiply and evolve within their hosts. A virus is in conflict with its host's immune system.

Transmission of a virus to a new host, even one of the same species, introduces it to a different environment and different selection pressures. Transmission of a virus between hosts of different species may result in unexpected consequences for host or virus. Mathematical models will describe the within-host evolution and between-host transmission of a virus.

Experiments carried out on the models will reveal how the virus' characteristics and environment determine how it spreads. The results will be related to HIV and influenza.



Professor Kerry Chamberlain, School of Psychology, receives \$645,000 for his study Social meanings of medication.

Medications abound in contemporary society, and many people believe there is 'a pill for every ill'. This project explores the social meanings of medications and their use within everyday life in domestic settings. "Specifically, we will sample three types of households: those containing younger children, people with chronic illness and users of alternative medications. Information will be sought through interviews, discussions, observations, diaries and photographic tasks, and from the contents of first aid kits and medicine cabinets."

"Our aims are to discern what medications are present, their pathways through such households, their symbolic meanings, and social practices involving their use."

Fast Start grants:



Dr Wayne Patrick, Institute of Molecular Biosciences, receives \$300,000 for his study Where do new enzymes come from.

All species must adapt to survive in changing environments.

however, the molecular mechanisms that underlie adaptation are poorly understood. My goal is to understand a key aspect of adaptation: the origins and evolution of new enzymes. I propose to use the high-throughput tools of functional genomics and *in vitro* evolution to observe the emergence of hundreds of new enzymes in the model organism, *Escherichia coli*. This work will provide unique genome- and proteome-wide insights into the fundamental biological processes of adaptive molecular evolution, as well as into applied problems such as the evolution of antibiotic resistance."



Dr Steffen Lippert, Department of Commerce, receives \$300,000 for Venture capitalists and intellectual property.

"Venture capitalists (VCs) often finance early stage innovations that are too preliminary for patent protection,

and are kept secret instead. This secrecy provides VCs with an information advantage, inducing stronger incentives for them to invest

into innovations than for traditional players.

"Therefore, the common wisdom suggesting that better intellectual property (IP) protection fosters innovation may be wrong, implying that policy-making could benefit from economic research on the link between IP protection and VC financing. Hence, we propose to use economic modelling to investigate this link and to test our predictions empirically, aiming at sound theory-based policy recommendations for fostering innovation."



Dr Leigh Signal, Sleep/Wake Research Centre, receives \$300,000 for Waking up can be hard to do: unravelling the dynamics of sleep inertia.

"How the brain transitions in and out of sleep remains a fundamental unsolved mystery of neurobiology. On awakening, consciousness returns before full waking function.

The poor performance and grogginess experienced in this transitional period is known as sleep inertia. Two studies will be conducted that systematically manipulate the factors affecting the magnitude and time course of sleep inertia after short periods of sleep at different times of the day and night.

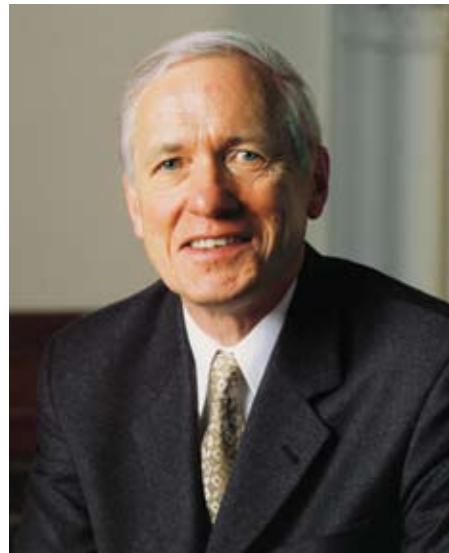
The proposed research will significantly advance basic scientific understanding of dynamics of sleep inertia and is directly relevant to the issue of workplace napping in safety critical settings."



Dr Ingrid Horrocks, Department of English and Media Studies, receives \$220,000 for her study Reluctant wanderers: women reimagine the margins, 1775-1800.

"This project will explore how and why the figure of the female wanderer became important in late 18th Century British literary culture. There is a significant understudied corpus of literary texts from the last three decades of the 18th Century that foreground this figure.

"Reluctant Wanderers" will analyse the uses to which the figure of the wanderer is put in texts by Mary Wollstonecraft, Charlotte Smith, Frances Burney, Ann Radcliffe and other women writers, critically examining their content, context and formal attributes to reveal a uniquely female contribution to wide-ranging debates about the nature of sympathy, community and social exclusion.



Professor David Skegg.

NZVCC praises funding boost but calls for more

New Zealand Vice-Chancellors' Committee research committee chairman Professor David Skegg says the increase in Marsden Fund allocation to \$54 million this year is good but should be increased further.

The eight universities secured 87 per cent of the total Marsden allocation, which is spread over 91 new research projects over the next three years. Last year \$44 million was allocated.

Professor Skegg says that as the most significant research sector in the country, universities need more research funding to maximise their contribution to an economy based on growth and innovation.

"The fact that only 11 per cent of preliminary proposals in this year's Marsden round actually received funding is a sure indication that many university research projects which had the potential to add to New Zealand's social and economic well-being have missed out.

"Universities are the country's major source of new knowledge and basic research and as such, continue to advocate for increased public investment in university research through the Marsden Fund, Health Research Council and the Performance-Based Research Fund."

Professor Skegg pointed out that among the successful university proposals in this year's Marsden round were research projects involving venture capitalists and intellectual property, and MDMA (ecstasy) abuse and brain behaviour.

"These are good examples of both universities' contribution to commercialisation of the national research effort and addressing problems which have a serious impact on New Zealand society.

"Universities could, and should, do more to improve the standard of living and quality of life for all New Zealanders but need more public investment in their research to fully deliver on that potential."



'Fantastic time' to be at Massey says new VC

Incoming Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey officially starts in the role this week, after giving his valedictory speech in Parliament on Thursday as outgoing MP for Palmerston North.

Mr Maharey says he is looking forward to being able to devote all his attention to the University. He has spent considerable time this year meeting staff, students and stakeholders and preparing a strategic plan.

"It's been a great year for Massey," he says. "This is a fantastic time to be starting. There have been a lot of good things happening and there will be many more in the coming months and next year."

"This week the University pays tribute to the best of our researchers, whose work is of an international standard, our excellent teachers, who have been nationally recognised repeatedly in recent years, the emerging talent we have across the teaching and research spectrum, and the experienced staff who devote so much time and energy to supervise and mentor colleagues."

Mr Maharey will be the Speaker at the annual Research Medals and Teaching Awards Gala Dinner being held at the Palmerston North Convention Centre on Thursday night.

He plans to highlight the heritage of Massey and detail some of the defining moments in its research history.

"The awards, started in 2003 under the previous Vice-Chancellor Professor Judith Kinnear, stand on the shoulders of 80 years of Massey research and teaching excellence and innovation," he says.



PhD student Ruakere Hond makes his research presentation.

Encouraging more Māori-speaking communities focus of PhD research

Māori language revitalisation advocate Ruakere Hond has begun PhD research into the creation of Māori-speaking communities.

Mr Hond, from Taranaki, was given the go-ahead to complete his thesis after a presentation in te reo Māori at the Palmerston North campus recently.

Present were his doctoral supervisor, Professor Taiarahia Black, senior Māori academics involved in teaching and research, fellow PhD students, senior Māori management at Te Wānanga o Aotearoa and kaumātua Pani Waru.

Mr Hond is one of nine PhD candidates completing their doctoral theses in reo Māori at Massey.

Professor Black says the attendance by a broad audience added to the vitality and validity of the presentation.

He says Mr Hond's presentation was a poignant reminder that the future of reo Māori needs to be planned for, defined by Māori and can also be informed by leading international language revitalisation experts such as Bernard Spolsky (Israel), Joshua Fishman (New York) and Muiris O'Laoire (Ireland).

"Mr Hond's research will investigate two key issues; language revitalisation – community-based language initiatives, especially where language is passed to younger generations – and language reversal – institutional or legal avenues for developing language and its status," Professor Black says. "By emphasising these two areas of activity the thesis will pay particular attention to building communities of speakers."

Mr Hond (Taranaki, Ngāti Ruanui and Te Ati Awa) is a long-time kaiako (teacher) with Te Ataarangi, a Māori language learning system

developed 30 years ago, and is a prominent member of Te Reo o Taranaki Charitable Trust. He was instrumental in developing the trust's Māori language revitalisation strategy and online initiative. He has a Master of Arts from Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiarangi and is a board member of Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori (the Māori Language Commission).

He says international revitalisation experts strongly advocate intergenerational language transmission and this has been well recognised for many years.

"Supporting positive environmental conditions for community development is less well acknowledged and so my research will focus at the whānau and community level and how initiatives create a supportive social context for speakers."

"Forming Māori language speaker communities has been largely neglected [to date] as attention has tended to be given to institutional and legal approaches. Progress made in those areas now lends itself to return our gaze to a community level of language use, especially localised forms of language."

Mr Hond will conduct his analysis on strategies for the retention and enhancement of local knowledge and study a number of successful models of learning Māori within a community context.

These will include groups such as Te Ataarangi, Māori immersion schools and preschools, iwi and pan-tribal initiatives.

Professor Black says he is excited by the research, which will capture and highlight the language activities of the past 30 years, plot a course for the future and add to academic Māori language writing.



Associate Professor Alex Chu, Professor Hugh Blair and Professor Steve Morris.

'Three brothers' will boost lambing output

Enabling New Zealand farmers to produce lamb year-round is the backbone of a tripartite agreement between Massey University and two Chinese institutions, but the benefits will be much greater, Professor Hugh Blair says.

The partnership is between Massey, Peking University and Xinjiang's Shihezi University, with the Chinese-Government funded project enabling collaboration to identify gene markers that enable non-seasonal lambing in selected breeds of Chinese sheep. Professor Blair says that if New Zealand sheep were able to breed year-round in some areas, it would be a further tool for the industry.

"It's not about changing the industry," he says, "and many farmers wouldn't dream of lambing out of season. But up to about a fifth of sheep farmers do have a suitable climate and providing lambs out of season would mean being paid a premium for them."

The research is focusing on the Chinese Hu Yang sheep.

"We know that tropical breeds have a greater chance of breeding year-round because of course they don't have a winter.

"We were in Xinjiang last year in August – our equivalent of February climate and season – and there were lambs on the ground."

In New Zealand, most sheep breed between

February and June with some minor breeds breeding between November and August. "For most of our breeds, as daylight hours are decreasing the animals come into cycle and that means they will drop their offspring in the Spring. This is sensible from an evolutionary point of view but for farmers it's a huge spike in supply and the work is also very seasonal."

If New Zealand farmers are to adopt an intensive lambing system that requires ewes to get pregnant at any time of the year, we require access to genetics that are not currently in New Zealand, Professor Blair says.

The Hu-Yang sheep cannot simply be transported to New Zealand because with ewes weighing around 30kg, they are too small to be profitable.

"What we need to do is find the genes that enable the year-round breeding and then move them to any breed we think is suitable."

The partnership is working with the International Sheep Genomics Consortium to gain access to their genetic tools, and Professor Blair has been made an Honorary Principle Investigator in the Chinese Academy of Science to enable him to represent the Chinese partners in the Consortium.

He worked on the agreement with Associate Professor Alex Chu, former Massey

international liaison and special projects adviser. Now retired, Dr Chu remains involved in this key Chinese collaboration. The pair, with Professor Steve Morris and Dr Paul Kenyon, have visited China several times, including a visit to remote farms bordering Kazakhstan, where the farmers are in fact soldiers settled on the land by Chairman Mao.

Professor Blair says that by the end of this month, he hopes to have collected DNA samples from several Chinese breeds of sheep for the international consortium as a first step in developing the genetic tools to assist in looking for the DNA markers which correspond to out of season breeding. A target date of 2011 has been set for proving the marker genes exist.

"But the work is likely to also find other things of interest.

"We may find out about disease-resistance, or meat quality characteristics for example – there's always a degree of serendipity when you explore. We're also seeing opportunities for our staff and students, Master's and PhD, and for Chinese staff and students to travel to Massey."

The Chinese Government has funded the project by about \$750,000.



Chief pilot for the Auckland Rescue Helicopter Trust, Dave Walley with Massey flight simulator expert, Savern Reweti.

Low cost flight training simulators to aid pilot training

When the Auckland Rescue Helicopter Trust was looking for a way to cut the high cost of pilot training, the solution came from an expert in flight simulation at the University's School of Aviation, lecturer Savern Reweti.

Mr Reweti has based his PhD thesis on several low-cost flight simulation development projects.

Working with the helicopter trust, he has played a key role in the development of a BK117 helicopter procedural simulator. Based in Auckland at Mechanics Bay, the simulator is providing ongoing training for the trust's seven operational pilots who regularly fly on rescue missions across the region.

Trust chief pilot Dave Walley says the high cost of instrument training – almost \$300,000 an hour on a real helicopter – was stretching the operational budget of the charitable trust, and the need for a cost-effective simulator was urgent.

"Because we fly on instruments, our pilots have to practise constantly to keep their skills up," Mr Walley says. "Without this simulator we would have to spend huge amounts of money flying around in helicopters for skills training. Massey and Savern Reweti have been very important in making this happen."

Mr Reweti, who has been involved in the development of simulators for more than a decade, says the project was a perfect fit for him because he is dedicated to developing low-cost simulation devices.

He was responsible for all the software design and the customised scenery and software links with the hardware control modules.

He says the next step is to gain Civil Aviation Authority certification, which would give the simulator considerable commercial potential. With private funding now available, he has begun designing a second simulator.

The trailer-mounted simulator will also be an important promotional and marketing tool for the trust.

Graduate scoops business award

A global aviation tracking company using technology developed by Massey mechatronics graduate James McCarthy was named the supreme winner at the Manawatu Business Awards this month.

Spidertracks was named the Emerging Business category winner at the awards dinner, held in Palmerston North. Mr McCarthy and former University staff member Don Sandbrook developed the Spidertracks system to combat radar blackspots – areas where no radar coverage exists – meaning planes can now be located at all times.

Mr McCarthy worked with the University's School of Aviation to trial the system in its earlier stages and now, in a significant commitment to safety, the school has bought five units.

The palm-sized Spidertracks unit picks up a global positioning systems (GPS) signal giving the plane's position, transmits it to the Iridium satellite network and beams it down to servers in Australia and Wellington. From there the signal travels via the web to the operations base. In real time, the route of the craft is overlaid onto Google Earth maps. Updates on the position of the plane appear every few minutes for as long as there is a power supply to the Spidertrack unit.

Spidertracks is different from all other satellite tracking systems because Mr Sandbrook discovered a way to integrate a GPS receiver and satellite transmitter into one unit, without the need for external antennae –



James McCarthy.

the first time this had been done. Spidertracks is now used by helicopter, fixed wing and land-based operations in more than 26 countries.

The University sponsored the Emerging category, with the award presented by Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Palmerston North) Dr Sandi Shillington. Convener of judges was lecturer Dr Shirley Barnett, with Klaus Buhr and Bill Wilson, all from the University's College of Business.

Other award winners were: Focal Point Cinema (Discovering Manawatu Award), Baker No-Tillage (Generating Award), Enable New Zealand (Spirit of the Community Award), Glow Studio (Solo entrepreneur Award) and Steve Lange (Lifetime Service Award).

More than technical skills needed to make pilots

There is a need to broaden the base of pilot training beyond the technical skills needed to fly an aircraft, says one of the longest serving staff at the School of Aviation, and a veteran of the industry, Ritchie de Montalk.

Mr de Montalk has just completed his PhD in Aviation which focused on the case for teaching non-technical skills in order to develop greater proficiency in pilots graduating from basic flying training programmes.

He found that while the industry perceives training in technical skills to be highly satisfactory, there is less commitment to the value and teaching of non-technical skills like leadership, management and organisational focus.

At Massey, Mr de Montalk is the manager of aviation safety, chief flight examiner and the co-ordinator for a paper on crew resource management that is part of the Bachelor of Aviation programme. He came to the school with extensive flying experience and has held a number of senior roles internationally within the airline industry.

"Currently training focuses largely on the technical aspects of flying an aircraft. The graduating pilots come out with a licence but at this stage of their careers they are not yet

acceptable as employees to a bigger airline. They have to accumulate hours and hours of flying experience in order to be acceptable as pilots to larger airlines.

"But the whole assumption that hours logged means proficiency gained, is questionable. There is a flawed assumption that somehow, something will occur in their overall development just because they have accumulated more flying hours."

"In effect, they have been released into the aviation world, largely unsupervised and expected to somehow become equipped with a broader range of skills and competencies that can in fact take years to acquire."

"In New Zealand standard commercial pilots seeking employment in the airlines receive little education for their future roles. By nature, pilots tend not to be company people."

"The plane is their office and their working world and they don't necessarily identify with the company they are working for. They don't have much understanding of its strategies and objectives or of the other skills that go into running the organisation."

Mr de Montalk says there should be more emphasis on developing non-technical skills from the onset of any pilot training course.



Charlie Maling, Dr Cath Conlon and Jack Macpherson at the Tiny Tots early childcare centre for the video launch.

Nutritionist spells out healthy infant eating tips

A Massey child nutrition specialist teamed up with a *Shortland Street* star recently to promote a free video for childcare centres aimed at highlighting the need to instil healthy eating habits in infants and toddlers.

Dr Cath Conlon, nutrition lecturer at the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health in Auckland, provided expertise for the video, *Little Sprouts*, developed by international pharmaceutical manufacturer Wyeth Nutrition.

She launched it this month at the Tiny Tots early childhood centre with Te Kohe Tuhaka – alias *Shortland Street* bad boy Kingi.

Dr Conlon told parents, caregivers and reporters at the launch that the first two years of life are a real “window of opportunity”, and noted the importance of establishing healthy eating and exercise habits that remain for a lifetime.

“In a country like New Zealand, we’re fortunate not to see the effects of severe malnutrition very often. But we do see the effects of poor nutrition and we are seeing more children with nutritional deficiencies such as anaemia – due to a lack of iron – and rickets – due to a lack of vitamin D,” Dr Conlon

says. “We are also seeing more of the effects of over-feeding with even very young children being overweight.”

Encouraging mothers of babies in child care to continue breastfeeding by expressing and storing breast milk was another of the key nutritional messages Dr Conlon voiced at the launch of the video, which is being distributed to early childhood centres nationwide.

“The promotion and support of breastfeeding, especially during the first six months of life, is an important foundation for health,” she said. “I’m pleased to see that this resource [Little Sprouts] supports mothers to continue breastfeeding even if their baby is in day-care by giving mothers good tips on how to transport and store expressed breast milk.”

Wyeth Nutrition provided an educational grant for the production of the video to create more awareness among early childhood education providers of the nutritional needs of infants from six to 12 months, as well as toddlers, in their care. Their focus on early childhood centres is in recognition of the increasing numbers of young children attending them.

Mr Tuhaka is a trained chef and presenter of

the television show *Cool Kids Cooking*, as well as being a father and passionate “foodie”. Dr Conlon says he gave many inspiring tips for parents and carers on getting children to eat healthy foods such as how to include fruit and vegetables in recipes children will enjoy eating and help prepare.

Dr Conlon says there is room for improvement in several areas. Although there are no national data on what children under-two are eating, smaller studies suggest children are not breastfed for long enough, they are introduced to other foods too early (before six months), and given cow’s milk too early (before the age of one).

She says it is important breastfeeding mothers are supported, particularly when they return to work.

The current recommendations for infant and toddler feeding can be found in the Food and Nutrition Guidelines for Healthy Infants and Toddlers published by the Ministry of Health, which were recently reviewed and updated by a team led by Massey nutrition specialists Dr Carol Wham and Dr Clare Wall.

Dr Conlon receives a 2008 University Women’s Award - see page 7.

Home affordability improves again in last quarter

Home affordability has improved for the third consecutive quarter, says the latest report on home affordability from the University's Real Estate Analysis Unit. In the three months to 31 August, eight out of 12 regions showed improved affordability.

Affordability is based on a formula that looks at wages, house prices and mortgage interest rates.

Unit director Professor Bob Hargreaves says the housing cycle is still in the downturn phase, with sales at very low levels and sellers accepting lower prices than they could have achieved 12 months ago.

National affordability has improved by 4.1 per cent over the year to the end of August. The nine regions showing improved affordability on an annual basis were: Northland 10.5 per cent, Canterbury/Westland 4.8 per cent, Auckland 4.3 per cent, Taranaki 0.9 per cent, Waikato 0.7 per cent, Otago and Hawkes Bay each 0.6 per cent, Central Otago Lakes 0.4 per cent and Nelson/Marlborough 0.2 per cent.

In Wellington affordability has not moved over the year. The only regions showing an annual decline in affordability were Manawatu/Wanganui 10.5 per cent and Southland 7.4 per cent.

On a quarterly basis the Northland region showed the greatest lift in affordability at 19 per cent followed by Southland 10.8 per cent, Taranaki 8.1 per cent, Auckland 4.8 per cent, Manawatu/Wanganui 2.6 per cent, Hawkes Bay 2.3 per cent, Canterbury/Westland 2.2 per cent, Nelson/Marlborough 0.6 per cent.

However affordability declined in Waikato 3.1 per cent, Otago 1.1 per cent, Central Otago Lakes 0.4 per cent and Wellington 0.3 per cent. Central Otago Lakes continues to be the least affordable place to buy a home followed by Auckland then Nelson/Marlborough.



Peter Turner, curator, with Prince Philip at the opening of 'American Images - Photography 1945-1980', Barbican Art Gallery, London in 1985.

Photographic historian to give first memorial lecture

An esteemed Australian photographic historian, curator and writer will give the inaugural Peter Turner Memorial Lecture next month.

Wellington-born Helen Ennis will give the 9 October lecture on The Importance of Photography. Her starting point will be some of the published works of photography-enthusiast Peter Turner, for whom the lecture is named.

The annual lecture has been established in the memory of the late author, editor, curator and former teacher at the Wellington School of Design, who died in 2005.

Ms Ennis is a senior lecturer in art theory at the School of Art, Australian National University, Canberra. She says Mr Turner was always engaged with photography. "He was an enthusiast, and mad about photography," Ms Ennis says. "He was very determined to consider photography in a professional way but reach a broad audience."

She says when she first started thinking about her lecture; she did not have to go far



Helen Ennis. and trying to extend the way we might talk about and write about photos."

"It's not just about a photo, a 2-D flat object, but about the size of the picture, the condition of it, whether it has writing on it, or has been filed in an album," she says.

"My whole career has been based on the fact photography, more than anything else, is based in our own lives. I will be elaborating on that and trying to extend the way we might talk about and write about photos."

Helen Ennis will present The Importance of Photography on 9 October at 6pm at the Wellington campus in the Museum Building Tokomaru theatrette. All are welcome but please indicate attendance by emailing s.richards@massey.ac.nz with "Helen Ennis" in the subject line.

for inspiration. "I had three of Turner's books on my own shelves, without even going to the library. He was a very important writer on photography of the 20th century."

The lecture, at which 50 photographs will be shown, will also cover some of Ms Ennis' thoughts on photography, including the potential for photographs to tell a story, and to be considered as more than just a two-dimensional object.

"It's not just about a photo, a 2-D flat object, but about the size of the picture, the condition of it, whether it has writing on it, or has been filed in an album," she says.

"My whole career has been based on the fact photography, more than anything else, is based in our own lives. I will be elaborating on that and trying to extend the way we might talk about and write about photos."

Award for iron-boosting kiwifruit and cereal study

An investigation into whether kiwifruit in breakfast cereal could help women overcome iron deficiency has been given a \$5000 grant by the New Horizon for Women Trust.

The author of a doctoral study, dietitian Kathryn Beck and her supervisor, Dr Cath Conlon, from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health in Auckland, received one of two research grants awarded by the trust this week.

Ms Beck says lack of iron is the world's most common nutritional deficiency and young

women are particularly at risk.

"Iron deficiency can cause fatigue, decreased cognitive functioning and reduced work capacity," she says.

The grant will enable her to more than double the number of participants in the survey, which is partly funded by Zespri International.

Eighty-nine participants with mild iron deficiency are being provided with a four-month breakfast programme combining cereal with different fruits to assess the impact on iron levels.

The grant will enable Ms Beck to screen a further 150 women to take part in the study to identify those with low iron stores.

She says dietary intervention is the recommended first treatment for iron deficiency.

This can include using iron rich foods or foods high in vitamin C, such as kiwifruit, which increase the absorption of iron.

The Wellington-based trust was launched in 1992 to provide grants for women to develop their academic and research potential.

Disaster specialist warns NZ 'ain't seen nothing' in past 70 years

A free public lecture will be given this week by a Massey University disaster researcher who says New Zealanders have become too complacent after 70 relatively benign years.

An intense curiosity about volcanoes at age 13 has turned into a life's work on surviving disasters for Dr David Johnston.

Dr Johnston, director of the Joint Centre for Disaster Research run by GNS Science and Massey, will give a public lecture titled *And the Walls Came Tumbling Down: Surviving Future Disasters in New Zealand* on Thursday.

"I was fascinated with the [1980] Mt St Helen's eruption when I was in third form," Dr Johnston says. "And I guess I have continued with that, but now I get paid for my school projects."

As well as supervising six doctoral students and teaching two emergency management papers at the university, he has ongoing national and international collaborative projects on tsunami warning options, and pandemic and earthquake preparedness.

"A lot of people seem to think of hazards and disasters from personal experience but we [New Zealanders] ain't seen nothing yet," Dr Johnston says. "We have had a very benign 70 years. The good thing is it doesn't bring death and destruction but it has lured people into a false sense of security. Sooner or later we will be hit by something beyond the experience of most New Zealanders."

"We all think we have more immediate things to deal with. We know what we need to do but assume we can always do it tomorrow."

Fashionable graduate on the verge of success

The inaugural winner of a \$10,000 fashion development grant is a former School of Design student who has already had a taste of success.

Michelle Wilson was recently named the winner of Verge's \$10,000 Business Development Grant after showing her Winter 2009 collection at Air New Zealand Fashion Week.

The 25-year-old Auckland-based designer, who shows under the label Michelle Yvette, was one of five to show as part of the Verge Breakthrough Designers Show.

Ms Wilson was inspired by the beauty of Afghanistan and opened the show with models in burqas shipped from the war-torn country.

She was judged the winner by buyers, media and fashion players in the front rows of the show on the basis of whose garments were the most commercially viable.

The Verge Breakthrough Designers Programme offers designers mentoring and support to show at Air New Zealand Fashion Week, including a "boot camp" on topics including marketing and finances. This was



Dr David Johnston.

I want to make disaster preparedness part of mainstream activities, not an add-on. If people think about it, engage in it, and discuss it they are more likely to prepare. It's actually about the community taking ownership."

In his lecture, he will paint a picture of New Zealand's history, and look at some of the lessons from overseas disasters.

"People talk about natural disasters but there's actually nothing natural in a disaster. It's the consequence of humanity and nature, and the interaction between the two."

The lecture will be held at 6pm on at the Wellington campus in the Museum Building Tokomaru theatrette. All are welcome but please indicate attendance by emailing s.richards@massey.ac.nz with "Associate Professor Johnston" in the subject line.

Schools struggle to meet literacy standards

A recent Education Review Office finding that more than half of the pupils struggle to read at a Porirua intermediate school is far from surprising, according to Massey literacy researchers who have found that one in five children have difficulty reading and writing.

College of Education Pro-Vice Chancellor Professor James Chapman says that while Brandon Intermediate's report is concerning, many schools are struggling to meet the literacy needs of their pupils.

"New Zealand has shown poor literacy achievement results in international and local surveys for well over a decade," he says. "It simply reflects that many schools throughout New Zealand have received inadequate support and advice about effective literacy teaching methods."

Professor Chapman says he sympathises with those who see the effort put into improving literacy standards and who have little to show for it, but that different and more appropriate teaching methods would provide different and far more positive results.

"The effective teaching of literacy requires well-trained teachers who are knowledgeable about effective research-based teaching approaches," he says.

Professor Chapman says that in order for literacy learning to be more effective, teachers must be up to date on contemporary and research-supported approaches.

"Passing literacy problems off to school support workers who have less training is not an appropriate way to address the very serious challenges of poor literacy achievement in New Zealand."

Extramural Society announces new scholarship

The Extramural Students' Society has announced a new \$3000 annual scholarship to assist tradesmen and women to study at Massey for a tertiary qualification.

Society president Ralph Springett says he will donate the fees he receives as the extramural student representative on the University Council to fund the scholarship.

The society, which represents the University's more than 15,000 extramural students, has also increased its annual scholarship fund from \$5000 to \$10,000 to support disabled students, Māori students and students at risk of withdrawing from study.



Michelle Wilson, with some of her models, at the Verge Breakthrough Designers Show.
Photo: NZ Herald.

the first year a grant has been offered.

Ms Wilson, who completed a Bachelor of Design majoring in fashion design at the Wellington campus in 2004, was asked the previous year to design a shirt for *Lord of the Rings* star Viggo Mortensen to wear at the premier of *Return of the King* after attending his photography exhibition at the university.

Stomach cancer likely cause of dolphin death

A tumour the size of a mandarin is the most likely cause of death of Kelly, Marineland's last dolphin.

A team from the University's Veterinary Teaching Hospital completed a post-mortem examination of the 38-year-old dolphin. Kelly had been unwell for several days and died on 10 September. She had been at Napier's Marineland since 1974.

Wildlife health centre director Dr Brett Gartrell says the main findings were indicators of Kelly's old age.

"But we also found what we think is cancer at the base of her stomach - the mass is being tested and we will know for sure in a couple of weeks.

"What we do know is that she was in really good body condition, and that she had no parasites or long-standing disease other than the cancer."

The 95kg common dolphin's body is at the vet teaching facility on the Palmerston North campus.

"Her body being used by researchers studying wild dolphin," Dr Gartrell says, "so there will be some good to come from her death much like the way a human body left to medical research can contribute. Kelly will go on and provide valuable information for comparing to the wild dolphins."

Staff at the University's Institute for Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Sciences undertake post mortem examinations many times each year, on wildlife ranging from birds



Marine biology researcher Karen Stockin was one of a team from the University to undertake a post-mortem examination of Kelly.

to marine mammals.

Dr Gartrell was assisted by Master's student Jodi Salinsky and marine biologist Karen Stockin. Ms Stockin is a research officer and lecturer in the Coastal Marine Research Group at Massey's Institute of Natural Resources in Auckland. Her just-completed doctoral research on the New Zealand common dolphin

provides the first substantial scientific data on the species.

Ms Stockin says the species has been overlooked by researchers as a result of false assumptions based on the dolphin's name. Despite being labelled common, it is in fact not nearly as common in terms of its abundance as some other species of dolphin.

Psychologist leads global task force to tackle poverty

Psychologists throughout the world have responded to an initiative by a Massey academic who wants organisational psychologists to do more to combat poverty.

Professor Stuart Carr, based at the School of Psychology in Auckland, launched a global task force earlier this year to encourage organisational psychologists worldwide to become involved in a United Nations lobby group. One of the UN's millennium development goals is to halve human poverty by 2015.

Professor Carr says the group has become truly international, with representatives from low- and high-income economies, diverse cultures and regions of the globe. "Our argument is that organisational psychology can incorporate both a humanistic dimension and promote greater effectiveness and efficiency in a range of approaches designed to tackle poverty – from direct foreign investment to business partnerships and community," he says.

Although poverty reduction tactics commonly revolve around economic development to overcome material deprivation, he says organisational and industrial psychologists have an important role to play in working with aid organisations by highlighting human factors that determine how effectively they reduce poverty.

The global taskforce would bring the benefits of work/industrial/organisational psychology to bear on the reduction of human poverty, by "playing a key role in the consultation, design, delivery and evaluation of international aid", he says in a paper on the venture shortly to be published in the *Journal of Organisational Behaviour*.

Psychologists can also assist in strengthening partnerships on which aid development depends as well as providing "essential human services to health, education and industry".

Organisational psychologists' contribution to poverty reduction could include ensuring "harmonisation" between donor agencies and "alignment" of agencies with local priorities.

The taskforce, which includes members from Uganda, the United States, Italy, Hong Kong, Ireland and New Zealand, arose from the Poverty Research Group Professor Carr founded in 2006. The group's multi-disciplinary team collaborates with leading researchers and policy analysts worldwide to help make a difference in human development and social

justice. The group has researched issues such as the impact of salary discrepancies between aid workers from developed nations and those of the donor country they work with.

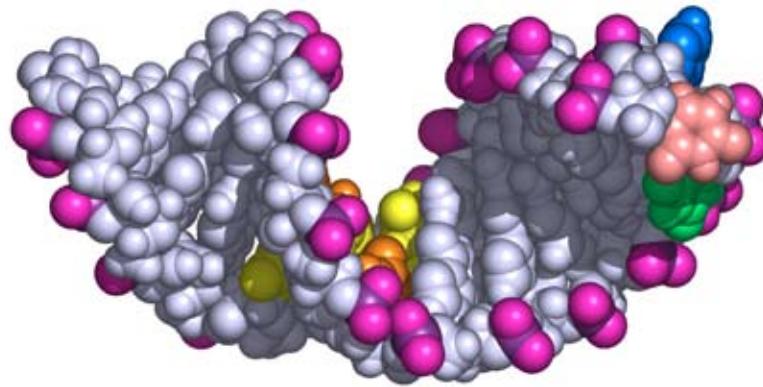
Prior to coming to Massey, Professor Carr spent four years working at the University of Malawi. He says the experience of witnessing first-hand the tragedy of children dying of preventable diseases such as malaria, or from and lack of access to health care services, haunted him and strongly influenced his subsequent academic focus.

To harness support for the taskforce, Professor Carr is co-editing a Global Special Issue on Psychology and Poverty Reduction, incorporating contributions from 11 international psychology journals on the shared theme of the relationship between psychology and poverty reduction, to be published in 2010.

See link: Poverty Research Group <http://poverty.massey.ac.nz>



Stuart Carr.



A structural model of the results of an NMR experiment.

New book to demystify NMR

Senior lecturer in physics and director of the University's BioNMR Research Centre for Structural Biology Dr Steven Pascal has authored a new book to "demystify the process of an NMR experiment".

The work, *NMR Primer: An HSQC-Based Approach* includes vector animations by physics tutor Jennie McKelvie.

"NMR is used by biophysicists to study the structure (shape) and dynamics (motions) of the molecules of life, such as DNA, RNA and proteins," Dr Pascal says. "Unlike a microscope, you can't directly see the molecules. You can infer the shape from the results of a large series of complicated experiments. The scientists doing these experiments need to understand how they are run and what information results in order to put it all together into a structural model."

"Up until now, descriptions of how the experiments work are either very sketchy

or have very involved quantum mechanical calculations which younger biophysicists and non-specialists might find difficult to follow," Dr Pascal says. "We've introduced a new way to understand the experiments, using animated cartoons essentially to visually follow the path and orientation of the magnetism on the molecules during the experiment."

"What we hope is that new students entering the field of structural biology will be able to more quickly grasp the physical meaning of the experiment once they can see how the experiment works."

Target audiences for the book are scientists and students entering the field of structural biophysics and using NMR spectroscopy as a tool.

"There is nothing else like it out there," Dr Pascal says, "and we are already receiving praise from abroad. It has been ordered for the library at Cambridge University, for instance."

Writing prize goes to teacher-turned-student

A change of direction has paid off for a former associate professor in computer science who has been awarded a top undergraduate prize as a student of the School of English and Media Studies.

Dr Ray Kemp, who previously worked in the former Institute of Information Sciences and Technology at Massey, has been awarded the RG Frean prize for critical or expository work.

The prize is awarded each year to the two best undergraduate works, with one also given in creative writing.

Dr Kemp's essay *Did Hedda Gabler and Miss Julie have to Die* was written for the third-year modern drama paper.

He says studying English has been a great way to keep his mind ticking over in retirement.

"I had always enjoyed English at school but was brought up in an era where you were either specialised in the sciences or the arts with no opportunity to mix and match," he says. "It is said that in cricket, a bowler gets more satisfaction from getting a good score

with the bat than by taking a lot of wickets. In a completely different context I can now appreciate that sentiment."

The prize for creative writing was won by Tina Makereti for her work *Kuia*, who says the award has given her confidence as a writer a great boost.

"Feedback in this form is very encouraging, particularly as writing can be such an isolated activity," Ms Makereti (Ngāti Tuwharetoa, Te Ati Awa, Ngāti Rangatahi and Moriori) says. "Sometimes it is only through affirmation of this kind that you learn whether your work connects with others in a meaningful way."

English lecturer Dr Sarah Ross helped judge the awards.

"The standard of entries was very high this year and the school is delighted to be able to celebrate students' achievements with this award in two vital branches of the programme."

The prize, worth \$1000 to each winner, is named after Professor Roly Frean who was the University's foundation Professor of English.

IVABs awarded by Phoenix Foundation

The University's Institute for Veterinary Animal and Biomedical Sciences has received this year's Mayoral Award from the Phoenix Society.

Phoenix is funded by the Ministry of Social development to provide supported employment for people with a disability. The award is made to a tertiary institute that has created a supportive and diverse workplace culture.

Vice-Chancellor Designate Steve Maharey attended the awards ceremony recently, where chief executive Janice Gordon said the institute was an outstanding example of what can be achieved with an open-minded attitude and an eagerness to make a difference in a person's life.

"This employer recognises and values the contribution of all staff regardless of the challenges faced by an individual. These differences are seen as a regular part of having diversity in the workforce, and this employer acknowledges and promotes the right of all people to be able to make their contribution to our community."

In January last year Ian Bright started a two-year position within the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, supported by Phoenix.

"He has been superbly supported by all staff there and has continued, with support and accommodations, to contribute in the workplace," Ms Gordon said.

"This is testament to both his attitude to his work and the team's embrace of diversity and disability," Ms Gordon said.

This year another Phoenix client was employed at the institute, bringing the total of Phoenix-placed staff at the University's Palmerston North campus to four.

Operations manager Bessy Rasmussen accepted the Phoenix award.

Batt Memorial Lecture

The eighth Richard Dean Batt Memorial Lecture will take place on the Palmerston North campus on 10 October. Professor Michael Walker, joint director of Nga Pae o te Maramatanga, New Zealand's Centre of Maori Research Excellence, will deliver the lecture *He whainga maramatanga, He kimihanga turangawaewae – Seeking understanding, seeking a place*.

Professor Walker will speak on understanding our world and the interactions among science and science education together with the Māori and metropolitan societies in New Zealand. The public lecture will start at 3pm, in the Marsden Lecture Theatre on the Palmerston North campus, with a reception to follow.

Massey people in the news

2 September

Bay of Plenty Times; Oamaru Mail/NZPA (3 September); www.abc.net.au (5 September); ammadonreggiefountainville.blogspot.com (8 September): Professor **Jeroen Douwes**, from the Centre for Public Health Research, and a team of researchers, say it is already known that children living on farms with mothers who were exposed to animals, have a lower prevalence of asthma, and they have reported in the European Respiratory Journal that exposure before and after birth halved the risk of the allergic diseases.

3 September

Waikato Times: Professor **Richard Bedford**, from the Research School of Public Health, has been appointed to the Marsden Fund Council, the body that advises on and makes decisions about investment from the Marsden Fund in leading-edge science.

bFM: Professor **Peter Lineham**, from the School of Social and Cultural Studies, notes that there has been incredible violence recently in India against Christians, and it is a very religious country so it is hard for the Government to step in.

stuff.co.nz: **Struan Webb**, a second-year student at Massey Palmerston North campus, finished eighth in the duathlon nationals in June, and goes on to represent New Zealand at the World under-19 elite race in Rimini, Italy.

scoop.co.nz; Manawatu Standard; The Tribune (7 September); NZ Education Review (12 September): **Ralph Springett**, EXMSS President, is recycling his fees for attending Massey Council meetings into a new trade-to-tertiary scholarship worth \$3000 a year, which is available to Massey distance learners and is intended to assist a tradesperson to make the transition into tertiary study.

www.jonnybowden.com: Dr **Abdul Molan**, from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, is the lead researcher in a collaborative study on the effects of blueberry extracts on rats, and says antioxidants may trigger receptors in the upper intestine that tell the brain you're full.

Gisborne Herald; Manawatu Standard (16 September): **Nick Roskrug**, from Kaitautoko Māori, Institute of Natural Resources, is collaborating with Crop and Food Research and Auckland University scientists in the Best of Both Worlds programme to promote the economic, cultural and environmental sustainability of Māori horticulture.

4 September

Manawatu Standard: Professor **Bob Hargreaves**, from the Department of Finance, Banking and Property, says Manawatu has a reputation for stability and economically, the heart of the region is agriculture, which is doing ok.

clearnet.co.nz; www.odt.co.nz; onlinkk-news.blogspot.com; Manawatu Standard/NZPA; yahoo.com; www.radioaustralia.net.au (5 September); www.fijitimes.com (7 September); Wellingtonian: **Alice Wylie Van Berd**, health science student, is the first New Zealander in six years to be selected for diving's World Junior Championships to be held in Germany, and will compete in the one-metre and three-metre spring board categories.

Guardian: Dr **Simon Loveday**, from the Riddet Centre, is guest speaker at Te Manawa's Science Café, and will speak on the topic *What is the future of Food?*

South Taranaki Star: **Sarah Greenaway**, from the Social and Health Outcome Research and Evaluation Centre, is part of a research team investigating alcohol-related marketing and promotion, and says the results identify that messages about alcohol are commonplace in our community.

webmatters.net.nz: Dr **Martina Battisti**, from the College of Business, has formed research highlighting the ageing of small business owners and a lack of planning on how to get out of their businesses, and found that a bulk of business owners are nearing retirement, but only 17 per cent had a formal succession plan.

5 September

Manawatu Standard, stuff.co.nz: **Alex Sorenson**, President of the Student's Association (Wellington), says Wellington is one of the most expensive places to live and needs their food-bank. **Ying-Yue Zhao**, President of the Student's Association (Palmerston North), says one of the reasons she chose to study in Palmerston North was the lower costs.

Otago Daily Times: **Terry Kelly**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, presented his findings on the comparisons between conventional and organic dairy production and spoke of the advantages of organic, at the Organic Systems in Agriculture seminar at Telford Rural Polytechnic.

Dannevirke Evening News: Professor **Gurvinder Singh Virk**, from the Institute of Technology and Engineering, is heading the project Massey Robot Society (MARS) where lecturers in electronics, computer systems, mathematics and engineering will guide teenagers nominated by their schools for six weeks, after which they will take on individual robotic projects.

NZ Education Review: Professor **Paul Rainey**, from the Institute of Molecular Biosciences, has been appointed as director of Massey's Allan Wilson Centre, which investigates New Zealand's unique molecular ecology and evolution.

NZ Education Review: Distinguished Professor **Paul Moughan**, from the Riddet Centre, has been appointed chair of an international

committee to review post-graduate research and teaching at Wageningen University in the Netherlands, which has one of the world's leading agrifood programmes and ranks in the top 200 universities in the world.

NZ Education Review; Waikato Times, AgBrief (9 September): Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor **Robert Anderson**, from the College of Sciences, says that Applied Science graduates produced by Massey have been major players in agriculture education but it is time for a change, and his comments follow the announcement of three new 'Agri' degrees being introduced next year to replace the Applied Science courses of the past fourteen years.

NZ Education Review: Professor **Anne Noble**, from the School of Fine Arts, has won a United states National Science Foundation grant for a six week photographic venture in Antarctica to document the unique qualities of Antarctic light, space and atmospheric phenomena.

NZ Education Review: Dr **Lisa Emerson**, from the School of English and Media Studies, says the qualities that make a great teacher are the opposite of those that make a good scholar, and the two qualities that spring to her mind that link two roles are an inclination to ask and pursue questions, and an ability to pay attention to students.

The Devonport Flagstaff: **Al Rowland**, from the Institute of Molecular Biosciences, and his world-first study on naval veterans exposed to nuclear tests, has bolstered a \$36.5 million class action being taken amongst the British Government by British, New Zealand and Fijian veterans.

Oamaru Mail; Community News-Western, Community News-News Advertiser, Community News-Observer (7 September): Adjunct Professor **John Birkbeck**, from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, says Doug Sellman's advice for lifestyle change and long-term weight-loss sounds very sensible.

6 September

www.iabcwellingon.co.nz: Professor **Frank Sligo**, from the Department of Communication, Journalism & Marketing, together with Paul Rayner, Research Director at IABC Wellington, is conducting a study into the quality and quantity of measurement activities as part of internal communication programmes within New Zealand organizations,

Taranaki Daily News; www.medicalcareersite.com (9 September): Professor **Jenny Carryer**, from the School of Health Sciences, has recently shown a United States nurse practitioner through Waves, an innovative holistic youth health service, set up by Lou Roebuck who Professor Carryer says deserves praise for putting her skills to work by identifying what young Taranaki people need and want.

Manawatu Standard: Professor **Cynthia White**, from the School of Language Studies, will discuss why emotions matter when it comes to learning a language, in her lecture titled *Language Learning Beyond Reason – Why Emotions Matter*, which addresses the emotional revolution of language learning.
Gisborne Herald: **Robbie Eastham**, earth science student, has his sights set on London 2012 after coming close to making the final of the men's 50-metre prone rifle shooting at Beijing, coming in at 14th place.

7 September

The Tribune: **Yasmin Bhattacharya**, majoring in Japanese and computer science, shares her overseas experience at the University of California, Los Angeles.

3news.co.nz, TV 3 News: **Claire Robinson**, from the Institute of Communication Design, believes that politicians need to take advantage of social networking sites to gain an edge, and the National Party is very good in terms of its engagement of the Internet but the other parties haven't made the most of what's available to them.

Radio New Zealand (also 11 September): Professor **Richard Corballis**, from the School of English and Media Studies, is writing a book about Bruce Mason, the writer of the play *The Pohutukawa Tree*.

8 September

The Press: Professor **Peter Lineham**, from the School of Social and Cultural Studies, says there is an extraordinary range of nervousness among churches about how they can possibly continue in regards to Protestant denominations.

The Dominion Post: **Sandy Heffernan**, from the Department of Fashion Design, says graduates from the 2007 class are now working in New Zealand, Australia and Europe for textile companies, and closer to home for Weta Workshop in textile effects.

TV3 60 Minutes: **Stuart Shepherd**, from the School of Fine Arts, has commented on Amy Szostak's success in becoming an international art sensation, despite being labelled retarded.

TV3 Campbell Live, 3news.co.nz; blog.greens.org.nz; www.odt.co.nz, yahoo.com, clearnet.co.nz (15 September); The New Zealand Herald/NZPA, The Dominion Post/NZPA, nzherald.co.nz, Straight Furrow, Ashburton Guardian/NZPA, Gisborne Herald, Westport News/NZPA (16 September); Westport News (17 September); Greymouth Star/NZPA, Horowhenua Mail (18 September); Radio New Zealand (19 September): Dr **Mike Joy**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, warns that if we continue to pollute our rivers at the current rate, we may destroy the whitebait fishery for good, and the dwindling numbers are affected by the number of fishers who catch juvenile

whitebait and sell them for up to \$150 per kg.
www.poropitia.blogspot.com: Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori) Professor **Mason Durie**, is a guest speaker at the LIANZA Conference 2008.

www.electrickall.blogspot.com: Dr **Andrew Chrystall**, from the Department of Management and International Business, is the author of *The New American Vortex: Explorations of Marshall McLuhan*, which explores McLuhan's strategies and procedures and exposes his theory and practice of communication.

yahoo.com, 3news.co.nz, clearnet.co.nz: Dr **David Tripe**, Director of the Centre for Banking Studies, says banks move fixed rather than floating rates, and his comments following KiwiBank's pledge to cut its floating home loan rate if the Reserve Bank of New Zealand cuts its official cash rate.

9 September

Radio New Zealand; BBC 5 (10 September); Hokitika Guardian (11 September); The Dominion Post/NZPA, stuff.co.nz (13 September): Dr **Philip Battley**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, discusses the reasons for why Godwits are returning early, and says climate change may be altering the seasons and thus the godwits' breeding and migration cycles but the early arrivals are not unprecedented.
Manawatu Standard: **Lawrence O'Halloran**, from the Association of University Staff, is the latest candidate standing to be Palmerston North's next MP for the Green Party, and says we have to stop going into elections with people voting on the basis of what will affect us and our back pocket, and think about what sort of planet our children and grandchildren are going to inherit.

Manawatu Standard; yahoo.com (10 September): Dr **Philip Battley**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, says the migratory godwits arriving from Alaska could now be expected to arrive steadily until about December.

Waihi Leader: **Steph Schilderink**, a fashion design student, has won finalist honours in the Style Pasifika Awards 2008, with her dress Bahay kubo that she created for her third year fashion design paper.

The Daily Post: Professor **Tom Nicholson**, from the School of Education, says phonics could help Māori children and advocates teaching how to sound out words using phonics, an approach which has been largely dropped by the New Zealand education system in favour of a whole language approach.

Wairarapa Midweek; Manawatu Standard (16 September): Professor **Kevin Stafford**, from the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Science, is a guest speaker at the New Zealand Companion Animal Conference in to be held Masterton, and will speak on whether animals like us.

10 September

volcan.wordpress.com: Dr **Louise Lee**, from the Department of Management, has recently completed research on Employee Volunteering, and says it is the key way businesses have relationships with voluntary organisations, and volunteer Centres play an important role in facilitating Employee Volunteering projects.

environment.newscientist.com; The Dominion Post, stuff.co.nz, New Scientist (13 September): Dr **David Raubenheimer**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, has been working to find the best way of boosting the kakapo diet during lean years, and has developed a mathematical tool to compare the nutrients needed by kakapo with nutrients in their food.
globalclimatesolutions.org: **Peter Read**, from the Institute of Technology and Engineering, discusses the ideas at the International Biochar Initiative and the facts about Biochar.

11 September

Manawatu Standard, stuff.co.nz: **Linda Shailer**, first-year sport-and-exercise student, is heading to China to compete in the second World University Water Ski Championships, held at Vanke Dongli Lake International Water Sports Park in Tianjin.
City Life – Wainuiomata Edition: **Tafa Pa'u Mulitalo**, from the School of Social and Cultural Studies, says there are two family groups that are historically the only ones in Samoa that hold the mantle of Tufuga allowing them to tatau (tattoo) using the traditional "au".

12 September

The Press: Professor **Jacqueline Rowarth**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, says the go-ahead for a new partnership between Silver Fern Farms and the Craig Norgate-led company PPG Wrightson bodes well for the industry to get together, and sees an industry profiting from a big company providing direction and research.

lutfibelwael.blogspot.com: Professor **Trevor Kitson**, from the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, says that the international project titled the Large Hadron Collider, the world's largest particle accelerator, aims to prove the existence of dark matter which is the same entity as what black holes are made of.

Manawatu Standard, stuff.co.nz; Otago Daily Times (13 September); stuff.co.nz (16 September); The New Zealand Herald, Ashburton Guardian/NZPA, Bay of Plenty Times, Hokitika Guardian/NZPA (17 September): Dr **Roberto Aguilar**, from the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Science, has helped nurse a yellow-eyed penguin back to health and says these penguins are a true sub-Antarctic species, so this one was either lost or afflicted with wanderlust to reach the North Island.

Massey people in the news

Manawatu Standard: Professor **Tony Signal**, from the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, has played a part in the decades of work that concluded in the switching on of the Large Hadron Collider, and is chairman of a team involved in one of four Collider experiments, helping build a key part of the machine.

radionz.co.nz, yahoo.com, clearnet.co.nz, stuff.co.nz, mammalz.com; Timaru Herald, Manawatu Standard, The Daily Post (13 September); www.redorbit.com (15 September); Dr Brett Gartrell, from the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Science, was involved in the post-mortem of Kelly the Marineland dolphin, and says the main finding was that the dolphin died of old age, but they did find a cancer at the base of her stomach which is now being tested.

Dannevirke Evening News: **Murray Hill**, classics student, is the organiser of Catapult Camp, a programme focused on teaching students the history, theory and safe operation of pre-gun powder artillery.

Food Industry Week, NZ Education Review; Indian Newslink (15 September); Manukau Courier (16 September): Professor **Ray Winger**, from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, is very excited that there is a pending decision on Government funding of \$9 million for the major food technology centre in Manukau City, and says the money will be used to create a state-of-the-art innovation centre.

NZ Education Review: Steve Corbett, from Information Technology Services, has mentored Grace Xue, the founder of the Who Stole My Money business, has won the Telecommunications Users Association of New Zealand award for innovator of the year and was runner-up in the awards' commerce category.

NZ Education Review: **Gerrit Bahlman**, Director of the Information Technology Services, has annually surveyed the members of the Council of Australian Universities Directors of IT, and will speak at the 26th Tertiary IT Conference to be held in Dunedin.

NZ Education Review: Professor **Chris Cunningham**, from the Research Centre for Maori Health and Development, is one of five collaborators researching the differences between Maori and Pakeha in long-term

health changes from 1850 to 2008.

NZ Education Review; Hutt News (16 September): Dr **Ridvan Firestone**, from the Centre for Public Health Research, is leading a study that looks at factors during pregnancy and early life that play a role in the development of allergies and diseases such as cancer, diabetes and asthma, and says the most accurate way of finding out this information is following babies from womb and throughout life.

14 September

Sunday Star Times: Professor **David Mellor**, from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, is part of a research team decapitating young chicks to test whether the euthanasia method is humane, where they will use electrodes to measure electrical pain signals in their brains.

Radio New Zealand: Dr **Brendan Moyle**, from the Department of Commerce, discusses Conservation funding in New Zealand.

15 September

Manawatu Standard, stuff.co.nz: **Alison Fitch**, Massey Auckland graduate and Olympics freestyle swimmer, is speaker for the Massey University Blues Dinner in October.

TV One News, tvnz.co.nz: **Susan Flint-Hartle**, from the Department of Economics and Finance, says a slumping property market and decreasing interest rates offer a chance for first home buyers to get into the market, but warns that information in the marketplace can be misleading.

Indian Newslink: Emeritus Professor **W H Bill Oliver** has been honoured with the Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement for 2008, which includes a citation and \$60,000 was presented by Prime Minister Helen Clarke at a function held in Wellington.

16 September

Manawatu Standard: **Nick Roskrug**, from Kaitautoko Maori, Institute of Natural Resources, says people were excited by Maori potato varieties and their Maori names, which he took to the International Potato

Centre in Peru, for the International Congress of Ethnobiology.

Rural News: Professor **Grant Guilford**, from the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Science, says good thinking exists on both sides of the debate over online sales of over-the-counter animal remedies.

yahoo.com, nzherald.co.nz, 3news.co.nz; The New Zealand Herald, Ashburton Guardian/NZPA, Bay of Plenty Times/NZPA, Westport News/NZPA (17 September); Hawkes Bay Today/NZPA (18 September): Kathryn Beck and her supervisor **Cath Conlon**, both from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, have received a \$5000 grant awarded by the New Horizon Women Trust, for their research into whether kiwifruit in breakfast cereal can combat iron deficiency in women.

Ruapehu Bulletin: **Matthew Brodie**, a biomechanics PhD student, has received runner-up in the MacDiarmid Young Scientists of the Year Awards, for his invention of a system for measuring the exact movements of an alpine skier racing downhill. He also took out the Future Science and Technologies section.

17 September

Northern Outlook: Professor **Glyn Harper**, from the Centre for Defence Studies, is giving a presentation at the Combined North Canterbury Returned and Services Association 90th anniversary Armistice Day event in Kaiapoi. *The New Zealand Herald (also 22 September), nzherald.co.nz, efoodalert.blogspot.com, Radio Live; Radio New Zealand (18 September); The Dominion Post, Taranaki Daily News, stuff.co.nz (20 September): Dr Henry Chung*, from the Department of Commerce, says Fonterra would have made a serious business mistake if it had issued a public recall of contaminated milk powder without cooperation in China, and Fonterra must work within Chinese rules such as the saving face tradition.

The Dominion Post: **Tauamata Maunsell-Petersen**, from the School of Psychology, says there is a shortage of Maori psychologists and isolation is a key factor in some turning away from the profession as the further Maori went into their psychology studies, the less other Maori were there to support them.



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Events

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

PN – Monday 29 – Tuesday 30 September

8.00am – 3.00pm

Conference: *Assessment for learning, enquiry and curriculum*

Dr Rose Hipkins and Prof Helen Timperley
A Conference for all educators interested in Assessment for learning, enquiry and curriculum.

As well as keynotes there will be sessions by and for teachers, school and centre leaders, facilitators and researchers.

Venue: College of Education, Hokowhitu Campus, Centennial Drive, Palmerston North
Contact: Brian Coles
Ph: 06 350 9275

WN – Wednesday 1 October

6.00pm – 7.00pm

Tales from the crypt: How to enjoy the monsters, madness, and mayhem of postgraduate study
Ian M. Evans, PhD FRSNZ, Professor of Psychology.

A special invitation to all Wellington Postgraduate Student:

Learn how to really get the maximum benefit and enjoyment from postgraduate research activities – it's not as scary as it sometimes looks!

My first act as a new doctoral student was to drop a sandwich onto my supervisor's prize Persian rug. I have never looked back or down.

The purpose of this talk is to share some personal stories, reflect on insightful anecdotes, and reminisce over the downright bizarre after my 38 years of postgraduate teaching.

I have supervised over 40 doctoral theses, which you can calculate is more than one every 12 months.

Have I learned anything of value over this time period? Maybe, maybe not, but either way I am emboldened to comment on postgraduate supervision across three university systems - British, American, and New Zealand - and offer some thoughts about getting the most

enjoyment and value out of graduate school, given that my supervisor is now deceased and I never knew what happened to the Persian rug. Following the lecture there will be an opportunity for you to network with your fellow students over light refreshments. Registration essential.

Venue: Theatrette, Museum Building, Massey University, Entrance D, Buckle Street, Wellington

Contact: Serena Richards s.richards@massey.ac.nz with 'Professor Evans' in the subject line by Monday 29 September.
Ph: 04 801 5799 ext 62300

WN – Thursday 2 October

6.00pm – 7.00pm

AND THE WALLS CAME TUMBLING DOWN: Surviving Future Disasters in New Zealand
Associate Professor David Johnston

ABSTRACT:

Globally, rising losses have shown that advances in physical science and the increasingly sophisticated technology of warning systems cannot alone prevent disasters. New Zealand is vulnerable to a wide range of potentially devastating impacts from diverse natural hazard phenomena, including earthquake shaking and fault rupture, volcanic eruptions, landslides, flood, tsunami, climate change and extreme storm events.

Although New Zealanders have been subject to significant earthquakes in the past (e.g. 1931 Napier earthquake) we have had a relatively calm period over the past 77 years. The fact that few New Zealanders have experienced disastrous hazard events is a good thing. The downside, however, is the resulting complacency and limited understanding of natural hazard risk.

The benefits of improved risk awareness include: increased support for risk reduction activities, increased readiness and response capacity and a capability to recover from events in an efficient manner and in a way that contributes to the future social capital of the country.

Furthermore, building these capabilities at individual and community levels can reduce our economic exposure to future natural hazard events. Much inherent strength lies within communities and this can and should

be harnessed to improve resilience. The active involvement of formal and informal community networks in hazard education and other mitigation activities has been shown to be a key predictor of preparedness. This talk will focus on the strategies for surviving future disasters in New Zealand, the importance of community-based hazard education, and the opportunities that exist to increase preparedness and resilience in our community.

RSVP (acceptances only)

Venue: Theatrette (10A02), Museum Building, Massey University, Entrance D, Buckle Street, Wellington

Contact: Serena Richards s.richards@massey.ac.nz with 'Associate Professor Johnston' in the subject line
Ph: 04 801 5799 ext 62300

AK – Friday 3 October

4.00pm – 5.30pm

DEPRESSION in Real Life

Dr David Goldsmith

Part of the Fridays@4 Seminar Series arranged by Chaplaincy Services

David Goldsmith is a psychiatric registrar currently working at ADHB. He trained at Auckland Medical School and initially began to specialise in Oncology before changing his mind and undertaking training in psychiatry instead. David has been a Christian since his early 20s and is a member of Shore Baptist Church where he also spoke recently on the topic of depression. He is married with four children. His other interests include cricket and the music of Bob Dylan.

Come prepared with plenty of questions and a willingness to share your insights.

Likely topics covered will include: What is "depression" and how to recognise it? What causes depression? Do Christians get depressed? What help is there? Do medications really work and are there alternative means of treatment? How to stay healthy and can depression be prevented? Open to the public

Venue: NW 100

Contact: Ricky Waters

Tel: 09 4140800 ext 9224

Wharerata

venue • cuisine • events

Winemakers Dinner, Thursday 23 October, Lake Chalice Winery, Marlborough.

5 wines and a 4 course dinner \$75.00 6.30pm start

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

Our dining room and café open Monday to Friday from 830am to 2pm for morning tea and lunch

Notices

PN – Friday 3 October

9.00am – 1.00pm

Domestic Violence Presentations

The School of Psychology is excited with the opportunity to discuss our mutual interests in domestic violence intervention with a Rotary sponsored domestic violence team from Denver.

There will be presentations from the Rotary sponsored team from Denver and from the Massey team currently working with members of the Waitakere Anti Violence Essential Services Network (WAVES) and the Waitakere Family Violence Court. All welcome.

Venue: School of Psychology Building Room P2.22
Contact: Helen Page
Ph: 06 356 9099 ext 2040

PN – Friday 10 October

6.30pm – 10.00pm

Massey Agriculture and Applied Sciences End of Year Dinner
Speaker - David Skiffington, 2008 Young Farmer of the Year

Tickets are now on sale for the Massey Ag and Applied Sciences End of Year dinner.
\$30 each, available from the Cashiers Office, Registry Building.

Be in quick, tickets are limited. Tidy Dress. Cash Bar available.
Venue: Convention Centre, Main Street, Palmerston North
Contact: Anna Hamilton
Ph: 06 350 5872

PN – Friday 10 October

3.00pm – 4.30pm

IVABS SEMINAR

Prof Elwyn Firth

Professor Firth's seminar is titled "The responses of equine musculo-skeletal connective tissues".

Venue: Ira Cunningham Lecture Theatre Institute of Veterinary Animal & Biomedical Sciences

Contact: Carol Orr
Ph: 06 350 4525 ext 2790

AK – Friday 10 October

4.00pm – 5.30pm

RELATIONSHIPS in Real Life

Dr Ralph Bathurst

Ralph Bathurst began his working life as an orchestral musician and school music teacher. He received his PhD in Management from Victoria University of Wellington and lectures at Massey University in Management and Leadership.

Appreciative Intelligence comes out of the research method 'appreciative inquiry' and seeks to locate things that work and give life within groups and individuals. This way of looking at life has its origins in the idea that

we are mutually dependent: we live in a web of relationships. Qualities of persistence, personal conviction, tolerance for uncertainty and resilience that spring from this idea will be explored in this discussion.

Part of the Fridays @ 4 Seminar Series arranged by Chaplaincy Services.

Open to the public

Venue: NW 100

Contact: Ricky Waters

Ph: 09 4140800 ext. 9224

PN – Friday 10 October

3.00pm – 5.00pm

8th Richard Dean Batt Memorial Lecture
Professor Michael Walker, School of Biological Sciences, Auckland University

This year's Batt Memorial Lecture will be entitled *He whainga maramatanga, He kimihanga turangawaewae - Seeking understanding, seeking a place.*

Understanding our world and the interactions among science and science education together with the Maori and metropolitan societies in New Zealand.

All are welcome to this public lecture which will be followed by afternoon tea at 4 pm in the Marsden Foyer.

<http://www.sbs.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/science/about/departments/sbs/research/ecoievolution/walker-michael/professor-michael-walker.cfm>

Venue: Marsden Lecture Theatre

Contact: Toni Wilson

Ph: ext 3508

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 Awards

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

Full information about these scholarships and all others scholarships can be found on <http://awards.massey.ac.nz/>

Undergraduate

Edna Waddell Undergraduate Scholarships for Women in Technology – 1 October 2008

Exchange Students Travel Grant – 1 October 2008

Freemasons University Scholarship – 1 October 2008

Health Research Council Summer Studentships – 1 October 2008

North Shore City Council Environmental Services Planning Scholarship – 1 October 2008

ZESPRI Horticulture Scholarships – 10 October 2008

NZP Massey ChemiSTORY (100 Level) Bursary – 15 October 2008

Sport Manawatu Athletes Scholarship – 16 October 2008

Ballance Agri-Nutrients Scholarship – 24 October 2008

Annie Rumble Trust – 31 October 2008

Ann Sinclair Charitable Trust – 31 October 2008

Mr M & Mrs T Olechnowicz Scholarship – 31 October 2008

Te Rau Puawai Workforce Development Scholarships – 31 October 2008

Postgraduate

Edward & Isabel Kidson Scholarships – 1 October 2008

Betty Loughhead Soroptimist Scholarship Trust – 1 October 2008

BING'S Scholarship – 1 October 2008

Cambridge Commonwealth Trust Prince of Wales Scholarship – 1 October 2008

Camellia Memorial Scholarship – 1 October 2008

Dan Watkins Scholarship in Weed Science – 1 October 2008

Dave Smith Memorial Research Scholarship – 1 October 2008

Dick and Mary Earle Scholarship in Technology – 1 October 2008

Fish & Game New Zealand Research Scholarships – 1 October 2008

Frank Knox Memorial Fellowships – 1 October 2008

Freemasons Postgraduate Scholarship – 1 October 2008

Freemasons University Scholarship – 1 October 2008

Freyberg Scholarship – 1 October 2008

15 September 2008 - issue 15

Publisher: Massey University Communications and Marketing

Printed: Massey University Printery

Next issue: 13 October 2008

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

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

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

Health Research Council Summer Studentships – 1 October 2008

Henry Kelsey Research Scholarships – 1 October 2008

Lovell & Berys Clark Scholarships – 1 October 2008

Marion Rayward Memorial Scholarship in Music – 1 October 2008

Massey University Vice-Chancellor's Doctoral Scholarship – 1 October 2008

Massey University Doctoral Scholarship – 1 October 2008

Massey University Masterate Scholarship – 1 October 2008

Massey University Masterate Scholarship for Maori Students – 1 October 2008

Pukehou Pouto Scholarship – 1 October 2008

Resource Management Law Association Postgraduate Scholarship – 1 October 2008

Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders' Fellowship – 1 October 2008

The Association of University Staff Crozier Scholarship – 1 October 2008

Todd Foundation Awards for Excellence – 1 October 2008

William Georgetti Scholarship – 1 October 2008

Miss E L Hellaby Indigenous Grassland Research Trust – 10 October 2008

Sarah Beanland Memorial Scholarship – 22 October 2008

Rehabilitation Scholarships – 29 October 2008

Annie Rumble Trust – 31 October 2008

Agmardt Scholarship – 31 October 2008

Ann Sinclair Charitable Trust – 31 October 2008

Human Resources Institute of New Zealand (HRINZ) Postgraduate Scholarship – 31 October 2008

Ministry of Fisheries Postgraduate Scholarships in Quantitative Fisheries – 31 October 2008

Mr M & Mrs T Olechnowicz Scholarship – 31 October 2008



www.fuelfitness.co.nz

LL TIMES
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ISHED
WEIGHTS



Recreation Centre staff Laura Anderson, Anita Vertigan, James Price and Sophie Staniforth (below front) work out at the Recreation Centre.

Recreation Centre offers opportunity to gain work-life balance

New equipment at the Palmerston North campus Recreation Centre has made it easier for University staff to fit in a quick workout, says centre manager Terry Rivers.

The equipment, made by Life Fitness and worth more than \$40,000, was installed in May and makes it easier for people of all sizes, shapes and levels of fitness to work out easily and efficiently.

"The equipment is specially engineered to give a wide range of motion and control," Mr Rivers says. "It's a user-friendly way of working out, as the equipment has diagrams and explanations on it to increase user confidence."

The equipment is laid out so all major muscle groups can be worked in a simple circuit.

Mr Rivers says the centre is a cheap and easy way for staff to maintain fitness as University staff receive a 40 per cent discount on a one-year membership, making it the cheapest gym membership in the city.

"The University has a work-life balance policy and the Recreation Centre is ideally placed to offer staff the ability to exercise near their workplace," he says. "The environment is non-threatening, there are highly qualified staff available to help in any way and a wide variety of fitness programmes on offer."

