



# Massey News

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ki Pūrehuroa



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Professor David Parry receives the Rutherford Medal from Professor Mary Fowler, great grand-daughter of Lord Ernest Rutherford.

## Rutherford Medal for University biophysicist

Distinguished Professor David Parry is this year's recipient of New Zealand's top science honour, the Rutherford Medal. Former Head of the Institute of Fundamental Sciences and a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand, Professor Parry is a world-renowned biophysicist based at the Institute of Fundamental Sciences in Palmerston North.

The award presented in Wellington on 11 November is the fourth in five years to a current or former Massey staff member, following Distinguished Professor David Penny in 2004, former staff member Professor Paul Callaghan in 2005 and former staff member Professor Ted Baker in 2006.

Pro Vice-Chancellor of the College of Sciences Professor Robert Anderson says the award is fitting recognition for Professor Parry, a world authority on fibrous proteins – the proteins that make up muscles, connective tissues, hair and skin.

"This latest accolade adds to an astonishing list of awards and appointments, all collectively attesting to Professor Parry's standing, nationally and internationally as a world leader in his specialist field. In short, his career continues to be a world-class act."

Professor Parry started his science career with a BSc at King's College in London, before he completed a PhD under Nobel Prize winner Maurice Wilkins. After graduating PhD, Professor Parry spent three years at the Australian CSIRO in

Melbourne, where he met wife Jenny. The pair spent two years in Boston while Professor Parry worked at the Harvard University biophysics department and two years at Oxford University as a postdoctoral fellow.

Young family in tow, Professor Parry arrived in Palmerston North to start work as a lecturer in physics at Massey University in 1973. Ending his full-time career as head of the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, Professor Parry continues to work at the University part-time, with a renewed focus on research.

"Even as head of institute I was able to do research," he says. "I was fortunate to have very good people around me and that's really been instrumental on the success I have had."

Professor Parry's current research is on the structure of hair, and previous research has included muscle structure and the structure of the skin at a molecular level.

"We have looked at hair diseases, for instance, in terms of changing the sequence of proteins and trying to interpret how that changes the structure and form of hair. And it applies in the same way to skin.

"One has to understand the structure before you can change it and improve it so you don't have that problem or disease any more."

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# Royal society awards for University staff

from cover.

Other Massey University staff to be recognised at the science awards dinner include:



- Associate Professor Simon Hall, who received the Fonterra Prize for industrial and applied chemistry. Dr Hall has carried out fundamental research and subsequent commercialisation of a rechargeable nickel-zinc battery. His citation says he has pursued high-quality research and made hard-nosed business decisions. "Few others have followed the brave process of stepping out of the academic environment to enable the commercialisation of significant new findings,

provide new employment opportunities and provide new technology developments for both the national and international communities."



- Emeritus Professor John Codd (posthumously) received the McKenzie award for educational research. Professor Codd had a distinguished record of international publication, his research contributing highly to the sociology of education, philosophy and policy analysis of education.



- Professor Mike Hendy received the New Zealand Mathematical Society's Research Award. Professor Hendy's innovative mathematical approach to molecular ecology transformed the field, his citation says, and his founding and co-directorship of the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology has led to the burgeoning of all aspects of the study of evolution in New Zealand. "His seminal work on the Hadamard transform – used to separate out pertinent signals in evolutionary data – is now an integral part of phylogenetic software internationally and has contributed to the solution of several fundamental problems."

Distinguished Professor Gaven Martin was awarded the Hector Medal in mathematical and information sciences earlier this year.

## New learning approach focus of symposium

Massey University should consider a new approach to tertiary teaching based on investment to meet the needs of a changing world in which knowledge is the primary source of economic growth, says Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey.

At this year's annual Vice-Chancellor's symposium Mr Maharey challenged staff to examine and contribute to a teaching model that will ensure all students are involved in learning that is relevant to the 21st century.

Keynote speaker for the symposium was Diana Laurillard, Professor of Learning with Digital Technologies at the London Knowledge Lab, part of the Institute of Education.

Professor Laurillard's current research is in two related areas: developing an interactive learning design tool to support teachers

moving to blended learning, and working with teachers to investigate the design of software interventions for learners with mathematic and numeracy difficulties.

Professor Laurillard says there is a clear link between the needs and requirements of education, and the capability of technology to meet them.

"It is time we moved education beyond the brink of being transformed, to let it become what it wants to be."

Her previous appointments include Head of the e-Learning Strategy Unit at the British Department for Education and Skills, the Visiting Committee on Information Technology at Harvard University, and Pro Vice-Chancellor for learning technologies and teaching at the Open University.



Professor Diana Laurillard with Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey.

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Checking out the Bod Pod at last week's official opening of the Human Nutrition Research Unit at Albany; Professor of Nutrition Bernhard Breier, guest lecturer Professor Philip Calder, Associate Professor Welma Stonehouse, Head of the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health Professor Richard Archer, senior lecturer Dr Cath Conlon, Professor Gil Hardy (seated), laboratory technician Carlos Miranda and nutrition lecturer Pam von Hurst.

## Bod Pod to play key role in nutrition research

A new Bod Pod able to accurately measure body composition including fat and muscle mass has the potential to boost research on obesity and athletic performance.

The space capsule-like pod is part of a new suite of high-tech equipment at the University's new Human Nutrition Research Centre – Te Wahanga Rangahau Kai – in Albany, including a bone density scanner and clinical laboratory. The American-made machine is one of only two in New Zealand. The other is at Massey Manawatu.

The pod measures and tracks body fat and lean muscle mass using air displacement technology – replacing the tape measure and callipers or water displacement tanks previously used in research.

Associate Professor Welma Stonehouse says the Bod Pod is a highly useful analytical tool for research related to obesity, as well as for elite athletes who need to closely monitor muscle and fat ratios.

"The Bod Pod gives a very accurate reading for body composition because it measures weight and volume," she says.

"Because fat weighs less than muscle, it can be difficult to gain a precise estimate of how much fat an individual is made of and this can lead to false interpretations of what it means to be overweight."



The new Bod Pod will accurately measure body composition for obesity and sports performance research.

The unit has a purpose-built clinical laboratory where researchers can process biological samples and analyse biomarkers found in blood and urine that reveal information about health status. New video conferencing facilities and computers will be used for research interviews and online food questionnaires.

The unit and its expertise will be made available to non-University researchers, including health providers and sports groups. Existing projects under way on campus include the KIWI Study, an investigation into the effects on women's iron levels of eating vitamin C-rich kiwifruit with iron-fortified breakfast cereal, and the Salmon Study, a research project comparing the Omega-3 status of people eating salmon with those taking fish-oil capsules.

Dr Stonehouse says staff are also keen to connect with researchers in the food industry, sporting organisations and the public health system.

Professor Philip Calder, Professor of Nutritional Immunology at the University of Southampton, gave a lecture on Omega-3 fatty acids and cardiovascular disease – evidence explained and mechanisms explored, prior to the opening ceremony complete with Māori blessing by local kaumatua.

## Water safety signals designed to save young lives

A set of water signals and safety equipment is the first to standardise distress signals and may help save New Zealanders from drowning.

The final-year project by design student Nicole Slattery featured in the Design Exposure exhibition of student projects at the Viaduct Harbour. Watertalk expands on the raised hand signal used by swimmers in distress.

"There is currently no universal set of water safety signals used between lifeguards and swimmers," Miss Slattery says.

"I've always been intrigued by sign language, and I wanted to find some way of applying sign language that would be of help to the community.

"My visual communication project aims to illustrate a set of water safety signals that will appeal to and inform primary school children as to what they should do when they get into emergencies in the water".

West Harbour-based, Miss Slattery is completing her Bachelor of Design at Massey's Auckland School of Design in Albany. A beach lover who once rescued her younger sister from drowning in a swimming pool, she has created six signals for use by the person in danger and rescuers. The set includes signals for dangers such as rips, rocks and sharks in the sea, or chemical spills at a pool.

Miss Slattery has designed flashcards and wall tiles illustrating the safety signals. A flutter board and floatie also carry the water safety signals. The products would be suitable for schools, public swimming pools and sports organisations, says Miss Slattery, who hopes to see her Watertalk project commercialised in the future.

The water safety project was among a number at the show focused on social and environmental issues. Others included the Bio Bottle, a water bottle that splits into two biodegradable plant pots, a tribute to Auckland's parks to highlight awareness of the proximity of nature sanctuaries, and educational projects on dyslexia and autism.



Nicole Slattery with her Watertalk products designed to keep youngsters safe.



Amy Whiting. Photograph: *Dominion Post*

## Designer finds comfort and style

Tired of coming home from a night on the town with sore feet, design student Aimie Whiting decided to do something about it.

Point of Difference is the result – cushioned high-heeled shoes designed with comfort as well as style in mind.

Ms Whiting, who is in her fourth year of a Bachelor of Design degree at the Wellington campus, says there is an obvious need for the product.

"I've come home from many nights out dancing with excruciating pain in my feet," she says.

"These shoes provide comfort to women who want to wear fashion heels to work, go on to a bar for after-work drinks and then on dancing."

The shoes provide cushioning for all parts of the foot, she says.

"They have a co-moulded heel using hard and soft polyurethane with bypassing shafts.

There's also metatarsal and heel padding. Basically, the heel compresses when you walk, reducing the feeling of bruising on the balls of your feet."

Producing a prototype product was difficult.

"I had to make the shoes by hand, which was quite a challenge without the right tools. Luckily Kumfs in Auckland provided me with some leather and the shop I Work Miracles in Wellington let me use their tools."

Ms Whiting, from Whangarei, now has a prototype and is working to commercialise her design, which can be applied to other shoe shapes and colours.

The shoes are being showcased at Exposure, a design exhibition celebrating the work of Massey University College of Creative Arts final-year design students. The exhibition was part of Blow08, the annual two-week arts festival hosted by Massey.

## Short course makes sense of science

The University's EpiCentre has hosted a short course to enable researchers to "make sense of science".

The three-day short course on critical appraisal and evidence synthesis was led by Professor Mark Elwood of the Canadian British Columbia Cancer Agency at the Manawatu campus earlier this week.

This course provided a set of tools and an easy-to-use approach for 'making sense of science' – the process of reading a scientific article, identifying its main findings, assessing

its methodological quality, and understanding how the results can be put to practical use.

Professor Elwood is an epidemiologist and public health medicine specialist (MD, DSc, FRCP, MBA). He has been Professor of Cancer Epidemiology at Otago University and director of the National Cancer Control Initiative in Australia. Professor Elwood has been extensively involved in research and program development in cancer prevention and screening and has produced more than 250 scientific papers and several books.

# Doctoral graduand finds Potter films aid learning

Repeatedly watching their favourite films is beneficial to children's learning according to research by a senior lecturer in the School of Educational Studies.

Brian Finch, who graduates with a Doctorate in Education at the University's November graduation on Friday, used the second film in the popular Harry Potter series, *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, to focus on children's behaviour and depth of understanding when viewing a film more than once.

"When children engage with films they know lots of detail about the dialogues, the characters and they are immersed in the action. They have a very good depth of knowledge of the structure of the stories, so that too shows valuable learning," Mr Finch says.



Brian Finch.

Pairs of 9 and 10 year old children were videoed while re-watching *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* in the home of one of them. Their viewing practices varied, with some pairs talking and gesturing to the screen and each other, and other pairs moving and saying little throughout the 90-minute viewing.

"Gestures were not only at the literal level of mimicking characters' onscreen actions but also at the personalised engagement level where they physically elaborated on characters' emotional states which were not being overtly expressed onscreen," Mr Finch says.

He says the range of understandings that were shown by the children included aspects of characters, narrative, causation in the film and special effects.

"Discussions about characters included symbolism and understandings that

unsympathetic characters helped generate dramatic tension", he says.

"A number of the children also showed an awareness of the narrative arc the genre "formula" common to each of the first three Harry Potter films.

The study aimed to provide insights for educators by demonstrating the range and nature of understandings, about a film, that children could bring into the classroom."

He says an initial school-based survey of favourite films produced 17 children who nominated the film as a favourite that they had already viewed at least 10 times.

November graduation ceremonies take place at the Regent on Broadway theatre in Palmerston North at 10am and 2pm.

British High Commissioner George Fergusson will address the morning ceremony, and Ashley Berrysmith, New Zealand Entrepreneur of the Year (2007) and Director of New Zealand Fresh Cuts will speak in the afternoon.

Twenty-nine new doctorates will be awarded, a record for November graduation ceremonies, see pages 10-11.



Zonta Design Awards winners with fashion designer Annah Stretton, from left: Amy Sisson, Juliet Whyte, Belinda Coppin, Annah Stretton, Ruth Browne, Cleon Ferreira and Leilani Isara.

# Wellington grads awarded top Zonta design prizes

Top textile design graduate Ruth Browne was named supreme winner at the Zonta Design Awards in Wellington recently, with a further five graduates recognised as category winners of the prestigious annual awards.

The awards are a joint initiative between global women's organisation Zonta and the College of Creative Arts, with support from the Wellington business community.

The six category winners each receive \$1000, with an additional \$4000 for the supreme winner. They are:

Industrial Design (award sponsored by Weta Workshop) – Juliet Whyte of Kilbirnie, Visual Communication Design (Saatchi & Saatchi) – Leilani Isara of Newtown, Interior Design (Limited Editions) – Cleon Ferreira of Wainuiomata, Fashion and Textile Design (Rembrandt Suits) – Belinda Coppin of Mt Victoria, Photographic Design (Imagelab) – Amy Sisson of Brooklyn, Textile Design (ES design) – Ruth Browne of Newtown.

The awards ceremony was hosted by College of Creative Arts Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Sally Morgan and attended by the Vice-Chancellor, Steve Maharey, and Wellington Regional Chief Executive Professor Andrea McIlroy. Fashion designer and businesswoman Annah Stretton was guest speaker.

Zonta has more than 33,000 members in 68 countries, with 29 clubs in New Zealand. The three clubs based in greater Wellington combine to support the awards.

Zonta spokeswoman Therese Marie says the awards are a wonderful example of the academic, business and wider communities working together to assist the young stars of tomorrow.

"These awards are a real means of advancement for our winners. Obviously they receive some financial reward, but the connections, contacts and work experience are what's really beneficial."

Wellington businesses which sponsor the awards and are active supporters of the college as well as employers of its graduates.

# Royal Society Fellowship for Professor Mick Roberts

Mick Roberts, Professor of Mathematical Biology in the Institute of Information and Mathematical Sciences at the Albany campus has been elected to a Fellowship of the Royal Society.

Professor Roberts is one 10 new fellows elected – six from universities and four from crown research institutes. He is the only one from the mathematical and information sciences panel.

“I owe a lot to the people I’ve been collaborating with, particularly Professor Hans Heesterbeek from the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands,” Professor Roberts says. “We’ve been working on modelling infectious diseases for the past 15 years.”

Professor Tony Norris, Head of the Institute of Information and Mathematical Sciences at Albany, says the election means the mathematics group now has three Royal Society fellows “making it one of New Zealand’s leading research and teaching groups in the mathematical sciences”.

“We are delighted by Mick’s election as a fellow of New Zealand’s most eminent scientific society.”

The citing document, published today, says Professor Roberts has demonstrated strong leadership for nearly 30 years in the important area of mathematical epidemiology. “He has brought to it the rigorous mathematical tool of dynamical systems, and he has where necessary incorporated stochastic variability, using stochastic differential equations.

“With great and proved success, he has built physiologically-realistic models, which enable robust description and prediction of the rate and severity of both animal and human disease epidemics. Work done in conjunction with the Ministry of Health enabled that body to avert a measles epidemic in NZ in 2001 and instigate a change in the pertussis vaccination program in 2006.”

It also says one of his papers, published in the Proceedings of the Royal Society (of London), Series B, in 2004, is described by many as “the most important new development in mathematical epidemiology of infectious diseases in the last couple of years”.

Professor Roberts joined Massey in 2003 after working for AgResearch at Wallaceville, Wellington, for many years. Internationally, he



is included in programmes in the universities of Oxford and Utrecht, and has frequently participated in world forums such as the World Health Organisation as an invited speaker on the incidence of dangerous diseases.

The Royal Society Academy of Fellows covers all sciences and is represented by nine panels. There are currently 334 fellows and 48 honorary fellows, the latter resident overseas.

## Psycho-oncology effectiveness investigated

The effectiveness of psychological support for cancer patients and cultural perspectives on cancer were among topics to be addressed at the recent National Psycho-Oncology Conference, hosted by the University and the Central Districts Cancer Society in Palmerston North.

School of Psychology clinical doctoral student Philippa Croy was among researchers who presented at the conference. Ms Croy is investigating the outcomes of the psycho-oncology service provided by the University for the MidCentral District Health Board. The board’s regional cancer treatment service is the first in New Zealand to offer evidence-based psycho-oncology support for people with cancer, and their families.

“When someone is diagnosed with cancer its impact extends beyond the physical effects of the disease,” Ms Croy says. “Cancer can cause considerable distress, impacting significantly on a person’s quality of life psychologically, emotionally, socially, spiritually and functionally. The aim of my study is to investigate the effectiveness of a New Zealand psycho-oncology service in alleviating distress and improving quality of life for cancer patients.

“The study will provide much-needed New Zealand-based research regarding improving quality of life for those with cancer, and their families.

“It will also provide valuable information that could be used by other DHBs in the implementation of similar services throughout the country.”

Cheryl Woolley, who led development of the psycho-oncology service, says more than 560 people have been seen since it started in June 2006, many of them at Massey, but others at locations around the region including the Cancer Society’s Addis House, in Feilding and in Horowhenua and Tararua districts.

“The service is the only one of its kind in New Zealand,” Ms Woolley says. “As well as services to the clients, the academic rigour of the University means we are able to also research effectiveness and appropriateness of psycho-oncology interventions, which is particularly important for development of other psycho-oncology services in other regions in future.”

The DHB’s cancer treatment clinical director and oncologist, Dr Simon Allan, believes the psycho-oncology service provides excellent support for patients and families affected by cancer.

“The service has had a major impact on large numbers of patients in the MidCentral district. It has significantly and positively influenced the journey with cancer for numerous patients and their families.”

Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Māori and Pacific) Professor Mason Durie gave a keynote address speaking on cultural perspectives of cancer. Māori face higher rates of some cancers and less positive outcomes.

## Ecology angle for new Chair of Statistics



Professor Marti Anderson.

The University has appointed ecologist and statistician Associate Professor Marti Anderson as the new Chair of Statistics for the Albany campus.

Dr Anderson is currently at the University of Auckland’s Department of Statistics, where she has worked for the past nine years. She will take up her new role at Massey in February 2009.

Dr Anderson says she is “delighted by the appointment and the challenges I can see by coming to Massey”.

She trained in marine biology and ecology

in the United States and Australia, and has a master’s degree in mathematical statistics and PhD in marine science from the University of Sydney.

Dr Anderson says she is excited by the opportunities for leadership in interdisciplinary research at Massey’s Albany campus involving statisticians and researchers from the ecology group.

“I think ecology and environmental science is a real growth area, and quantitative statistics can play a key role in future developments in this area.”



Dr Richard Shaw.

## Code of conduct needed for ministerial staff

The new National-led Government needs to put in place a code of conduct for non-departmental staff employed in ministers' offices, according to researchers from Massey and Victoria universities.

Massey University senior lecturer in the School of People, Environment and Planning Dr Richard Shaw and senior lecturer of Victoria University's School of Government, Dr Chris Eichbaum, have carried out research on the relationship between ministerial staff and the public service in New Zealand and abroad.

"In Opposition, the National Party quite correctly raised concerns regarding what they saw as the risk of politicising New Zealand's politically neutral and expert public service. The public service has a duty of service to the government of the day, and any government will expect the public service to be appropriately responsive given the nature of its electoral mandate. But the public service also has a responsibility to provide a government with the advice that it needs to hear, not just advice that it may want to hear—this is a fundamental element of New Zealand's constitutional arrangements," says Dr Shaw.

Recent governments across the political spectrum have employed staff in political and policy roles within ministerial offices, as well as those employed in press and communications roles. These staff are not part of the permanent public service, and are typically employed on fixed-term contracts tied to the tenure of their minister.

"There will be a significant number of new ministerial staff, many of

whom will have no experience of working within government, and quite possibly little understanding of the rules and conventions, including ethical standards, guiding interactions between ministerial offices and the public service. The incoming government should ensure that all staff participate in formal induction processes providing clear advice and guidance on these rules and conventions," says Dr Eichbaum.

Codes of conduct for these staff members exist in Australia and Britain.

"A code should clarify the role of ministerial staff and, among other matters, outline the requirements regarding relationships with the public service, and the requirement to ensure that there are no constraints on the capacity of the public service to provide the government of the day with advice that is free, frank and comprehensive. The code should also provide an opportunity for breaches to be raised, as appropriate with departmental chief executives, ministers, and/or the prime minister," says Dr Eichbaum.

Dr Shaw says that ministerial staff have made an important contribution to the policy process and governance in the past – particularly since the advent of the MMP electoral system and multi-party government.

"There is the potential for this to continue, but the opportunity presented by the change of government should now be taken in order to institute robust and transparent induction and accountability mechanisms for political appointments."

## Lecturer honoured by accountants' institute

Chartered accountant and University senior lecturer Dr Nives Botica-Redmayne was one of 16 businesspeople honoured with Fellowships of the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants at its annual meeting in Dunedin recently.

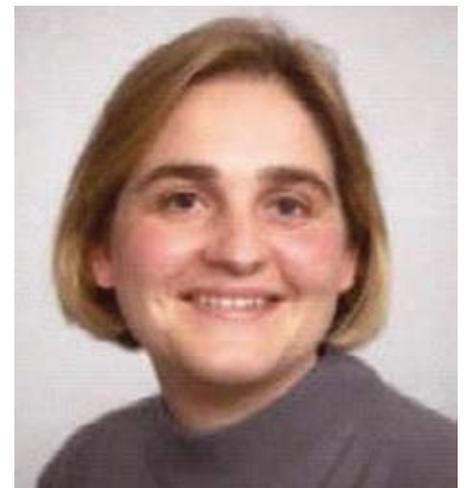
Fellowships are conferred by the institute each year for outstanding contributions to the accountancy profession and/or service to the community.

Dr Botica-Redmayne teaches second and third-year and postgraduate auditing and financial accounting courses. Her PhD was on the effects of political risk and governance on audit production, audit effort and audit fees in the public sector. Her research interests are audit services production and economics of auditing and audit risk.

She has been the University's representative on the Manawatu branch committee since June 1995, became vice-chair last year, is responsible for the technical and legislation sub-committee and prepares and comments on submissions on professional and reporting standards for the branch.

She also writes a quarterly article about developments in standards for the branch newsletter.

Dr Botica-Redmayne is strongly involved in promoting the profession and institute membership and has convened the Executive Insight programme for the Manawatu region. She was also key to the introduction of the new scholarship being presented by the branch to a Massey Manawatu student, and is a member of the scholarship panel.



Dr Nives Botica-Redmayne.



Massey's Contact Centre team, from left: Katrina Norriss, Melissa Eveleigh, Gary Zellman, Renee Berghuis, Kim Merlo, Tina Hilliam, Tim Trow, Lisa Snook, Nina Kibby, Margaret Cootes, Pearl Theron, Helen Peek, Craig Lochhead, Colin Steeples (Amtel Communications), Pat Sandbrook and Amanda Seymour-East. Photo: Nothing Negative.

## Team leader tops in contact centre management finals

Massey's National Contact Centre Manager Tina Hilliam won the award for Contact Centre Manager of the Year in the category under-50 seats at the annual Manawatu Contact Centre Awards on Friday.

Student Management Director Dr Pat Sandbrook congratulated Miss Hilliam and her team of 30 staff, who provide a national service for customers of all the University's frontline communications channels, including staff, students and the public on the Wellington, Manawatu and Albany campuses including

extramural students

Manawatu has one of the largest clusters of national contact centres of any region in New Zealand and Massey's centre and its staff have received regular recognition for their performance.

Miss Hilliam also won the same award two years ago and is the first in the Manawatu to win it twice.

The centre had an impressive list of finalists in this year's awards:

- Pearl Theron was a finalist in the category

of Team Leader of the Year for the second year running.

- Katrina Norriss was a finalist in the category of Customer Service Representative of the Year.
- The centre overall was a finalist for Contact Centre of the Year (under-50 seats).

Lisa Snook, who won the customer service representative of the year award last year, led the process of putting the centre's application together this year.

## Massey scientist helps boy patent compost invention

The success of North Shore nine-year-old inventor Ryan Nicholls in getting his eco-friendly waste disposal invention patented is a proof youngsters enjoy making their own stuff despite the profusion of ready-made games, says Massey product development lecturer Chris Chitty.

Mr Chitty, aka "Dr Robotech – the mad scientist" from TVNZ children's show Let's Get Inventing, worked with Ryan to transform his project into a marketable product.

Their efforts resulted in Ryan becoming New Zealand's youngest patent applicant. His application was accepted by the Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand and his invention, the Waste-Away, this week won the \$10,000 Patent Prize Package from patent attorney firm AJ Park and the Icehouse Business Incubator.

The idea was one of 700 inventions sent to the television show from children around New Zealand and from which Mr Chitty helped select the best for further development.

"My job was to work with Ryan's inventive imagination, add some practical know-how and make his idea a real product," says Mr Chitty, a veteran of 53 episodes over three series of the show.

He says Ryan sent in a video presentation about his project – borne of frustration at

having to traipse downstairs with the family food scraps to an outdoor compost bin. He and Ryan created the system by adapting a kitchen sink waste disposal unit and using a boat winch, 44-gallon drum and 12 plastic nut-and-bolt storage containers to create the system.

It works by flushing food scraps and water down a pipe to the system which sits underneath the kitchen window. These pass through a through a filter, with the separated water driving a simple water wheel. This turns the concrete mixer-like drum, in which the waste food turns to compost before it is then used in the garden.

"There's nothing electrical, it's completely safe, and it's green and renewable," says Mr Chitty, who visited Ryan at home several times to refine the system.

From his experiences working on the show, he says children are natural inventors and creators, driven by curiosity and desire to solve problems and make things work better. Many were motivated by inventing devices to help other people with difficulties and disabilities rather than for obvious commercial gain, he says.

The abundance of ready-made, high-tech games does not appear to be smothering the inventive impulses of the 21st century



Chris Chitty and Ryan Nicholls.

youngster. Instead, they have more at their fingertips to be inventive with," says Mr Chitty.

From rocket-powered roller skates to a carbon-fibre knee fitting which recharges a cell phone as you walk, the scope and variety of inventions he has seen in his time with the show has amazed him.

"No one has told them they can't do it, so they just give it a go."

# More research needed to tackle occupational health

More research is needed to gain a better understanding of the neglected field of occupational health, specialists say.

Each year there are between 700-1000 work-related deaths in New Zealand, at an annual cost of \$4.9 billion.

*The Occupational Health in New Zealand: Challenges and Opportunities* conference, hosted by the University's Centre for Public Health Research, brought together experts from around the world.

Keynote speakers included Professor Aaron Blair from the United States National Cancer Institute in Washington DC, who spoke about the study of cancer in the workplace.

He told the symposium that funding for research into occupational health had been steadily decreasing in recent years.

"Some believe that occupation is not an important contributor to the cancer burden," Professor Blair said. "There have been regulatory efforts to control exposure to harmful substances in the workplace, so many believe it isn't an issue."

More research was needed, however, not less. "We need to improve exposure assessment and also expand the research to cover women and minority groups, which have been largely ignored," he said.

The centre has received a three-year grant from the Health Research Council for a project on occupational health research in New Zealand. Lead researcher Dr David McLean agrees it is an area that requires more study.

"It's been a neglected field, so over the next three years we hope to bring the issues to the attention of policy-makers and advance the understanding of the issues."



Associate director of the Centre for Public Health Research, Associate Professor Jeroen Douwes (left) and Professor Aaron Blair.

Dr McLean says the symposium also featured representatives and stakeholders from business and policy-making institutions.

"Our goal is to see research implemented into policy," he says, "so it's important that people from the Department of Labour, the Council of Trade Unions and Business New Zealand are among those who attended."

# Animal welfare interest leads vet to OIE internship

Veterinary science graduate Rebecca Jennings has completed an internship at the OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health) recently, working in the international trade department and contributing to papers on animal welfare issues including pain in chickens and fear in cattle.

Miss Jennings undertook animal welfare as a special topic in her final year of vet training last year, and through that project met David Bayvel, director of animal welfare at MAF and chairman of the OIE animal welfare working group.

"David saw this as a good opportunity to find an interested student who might be appropriate for an internship," Miss Jennings says. "As Massey is the New Zealand OIE Animal Welfare Collaborating Centre it was quite appropriate."

The OIE was formed in 1924 after an outbreak of rinderpest in Belgium, when it was recognised that an organisation to prevent outbreaks of serious disease should be formed. Member countries agreed to share information regarding the occurrence of serious disease and to work together to develop effective methods to control them. In 2000, following a unanimous decision by the 167 member countries, the organisation expanded its mandate to become the leading international organisation in the field of animal welfare. The organisation appoints expert groups to assist with its global animal health and welfare roles. Massey was appointed the Collaborating Centre for Animal Welfare Science and Bioethical Analysis last year.

"During my internship I attended the Animal Welfare Working Group meeting and assisted in producing the report for the meeting," Miss Jennings says.

"During the meeting the AWWG reviewed the report of the first meeting of the ad hoc group on Animal Welfare and Livestock Production Systems. A decision was made based on the ad hoc group's recommendations that a review of the scientific information should be undertaken covering animal based and resource based criteria regarding the welfare of farmed animals beginning with broiler chickens. It was also decided a review should be conducted on the relationship of affective states and animal behaviour to animal health. This task was completed by myself and another intern from the Trade department, Dr Alice Mukakanamugire.

"I produced a summary of published research covering contact dermatitis, ascites, lameness and broiler breeders. I also produced a short paper covering the affective state of pain in cattle and fear in



From left are Rebecca Jennings, Dr Yamoto Atagi, Dr Sophie Chartier, Dr Willem Droppers, Dr Gillian Mylrea, Dr Alice Mukakanamugire, Dr Sarah Kahn (Head of the International Trade Department). Dr Leopoldo Stuardo deputy-head of the international trade department, was unable to be present.

chickens and linked this to behaviour and animal health.

"The review of the literature performed by myself and Dr Mukakanamugire will be used to assist in the development of Animal Welfare Standards for broiler chickens."

Miss Jennings says she also spent a week with the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) in London thanks to the help of former Massey lecturer Dr Ian Dacre.

"Ian is currently working in South East Asia heading a disaster assessment and response team in the region. I worked with the disaster management crew at their headquarters and was involved in preparing biosecurity guidelines for disaster management field teams. I also summarised some research regarding emergency feeding of large ruminants. WSPA and the OIE share information and participate in meetings of mutual interest."

Miss Jennings was supported in the OIE internship by MAF, and says she particularly wants to thank Dr Bayvel and Kirsty Grant from MAF and staff from the Massey OIE collaborating centre – Professor Kevin Stafford, Dr Craig Johnson and Professor David Mellor. "I am very grateful for the opportunity to work with both of these great organisations – the opportunity to learn from these people, attend meetings and learn about the development of OIE standards was unique and extremely valuable."

Miss Jennings is now working as a vet in Sydney.

# Graduation: New Doctorates in November

## **Christine Elizabeth Coutts – to the degree of Doctor of Education**

Mrs Coutts examined drop-out from state girls' secondary schools in New Zealand from an ecological perspective. Leavers' stories showed dropping out to be both an outcome and an initiator of developmental change in the students themselves. Mrs Coutts concluded that the important challenge for schools is not necessarily to reduce dropout rates, but to provide leavers with the skills and confidence to navigate transitions into employment or further training.

## **Brian Thomas Finch – to the degree of Doctor of Education**

Mr Finch investigated the understandings that children developed of a film, *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, which they had repeatedly watched in their own homes. The study showed that the children had developed a wide range of understandings about the film's characters, narrative structure, causation and special effects. The research shows that through viewing films at home, children develop educationally relevant understandings.

## **Matthew Oluwasegun Aladesaye – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Automation and Control**

Mr Aladesaye investigated maintenance practice in several New Zealand industries and the improvements that could be obtained by the use of predictive maintenance techniques. Results showed a well-defined preventive maintenance schedule embedded into a systems, applications and products programme to monitor routine maintenance. He further investigated the current predictive maintenance that uses a Fast Fourier Transform algorithm and discovered its limitations in diagnosing gearbox faults.

## **Xiaowei Chen – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Genetics**

Ms Chen's research was on non-protein coding RNA (ncRNA) molecules in *Giardia*. Her research has identified a large number of previously known types of ncRNA as well as new ones of as yet unknown function. The results have wide implications for understanding the basic control functions of all nucleated cells.

## **Rene Anne Corner – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Animal Science**

Ms Corner investigated the effects of stressors during mid- and late-pregnancy on lamb birth weight and survival. The effect of ewe nutrition and shearing during mid- and late-pregnancy on ewe live weight and behaviour was also examined. Findings showed that mid-pregnancy shearing consistently increased lamb birth weights, and altered ewe and lamb behaviour 12-24 hours after birth.

## **Ritchie James de Montalk – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Aviation**

Mr de Montalk examined the differences between the skills and competencies of New Zealand flight school graduates and the types of skills and competencies believed to define a proficient air transport pilot. The technical skill of aircraft handling was highly valued, and training in this skill was perceived to be satisfactory. In contrast, while non-technical skill deficiencies were found to be factors in many aircraft accidents, the pilot groups considered some of the non-technical skills to be less important than technical skills and the training of non-technical skills to be less effective.

## **William Greenwood – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in History**

Mr Greenwood studied the development of rugby league in New Zealand from its introduction in 1908 until 1920. The research focused on when and where the game was played in New Zealand, who played the game, and the factors which helped and hindered its development. It was found that the majority of rugby league players were working class and were attracted to the game because it was perceived to be a clean and open game, in contrast with the slower and more injury-prone code of rugby union.

## **Xiong Zhao He – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Plant Protection**

Mr He investigated the reproductive behaviour of *Aphidius ervi*, a cosmopolitan parasitoid species of several major aphid pests found on economically important crops. The main aims of his research were to study its general biology and investigate factors that affected its reproductive fitness. Parasitoids of both sexes preferred larger and younger mates for mating due to their higher reproductive potential. This study provided valuable information for integrated pest management developers in improving mass rearing and biological control strategies.

## **Katherine Angharad Holt – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Earth Science**

Ms Holt focused on the geological and paleoclimatic history of the Chatham Islands over the past two million years, the Quaternary period. Findings recognised subtle cyclic changes in the composition of the Chatham Island flora and types of surficial deposits over the past half million years, which have been ascribed to major global fluctuations in climate.

## **Kathryn Joy Hutchinson – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Animal Science**

Ms Hutchinson studied the use of metabolic challenges for determining quantitative trait loci (QTL), which are associated with genes that underlie some of the important metabolic

pathways involved in milk production. The research has shown that metabolic challenges did not provide useful information for the detection of QTL for milk production traits.

## **Trevor Kenneth James – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Soil Science**

Mr James studied the behaviour and fate of herbicides in sawdust and paper pulp. These two materials are frequently waste products from the forestry industry, but have the potential to be used in the arable cropping industry as soil amendments. Experiments showed that waste products affect the behaviour of herbicides in the soil. This will enable farmers to apply herbicides, where these soil amendments have been used, without environmental damage.

## **Darryn James Joseph – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Māori Studies**

Mr Joseph researched Māori language features that would provide a strong foundation for appreciating Māori literature. He created a Māori text-type taxonomy and defined 10 figures of speech, such as metaphor, simile and idiom, using examples and explanations from participants. His research on the grammar and nomenclature of figurative language has deepened our ability to evaluate the beauty of Māori text.

## **Stephen Kirk – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry**

Mr Kirk's research focused on the synthesis and characterisation of novel inorganic phosphazene polymers containing transition metals. Mr Kirk's results contain what is thought to be the first evidence for a fluxional mechanism in these compounds. His work has also produced the first stable polyphosphazenes with 2-oxypyridine moieties coordinated to transition metals.

## **Kavitha Kongara – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Veterinary Clinical Science**

Mrs Kongara's research focused on renal safety and efficacy of novel analgesics, tramadol and parecoxib, in dogs. The efficacy and safety of analgesics was screened under controlled conditions. Subsequently, their efficacy was compared with morphine in dogs undergoing surgery. These studies on novel analgesics significantly contribute to safe and effective pain relief in dogs.

## **Carlos Adolfo Lehnebach – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Plant Biology**

Mr Lehnebach explored the phylogenetic affinities of native New Zealand buttercups and the morphological and genetic diversity of buttercups found in the New Zealand Alps. Mr Lehnebach's research has provided support for the reinstatement of two alpine buttercup species. His investigations have also provided support for a framework for interpreting and

understanding the nature of the extensive morphological variability observed in widespread alpine buttercups.

**Jeffrey Karl McNeill – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Politics**

Mr McNeill examined the efficacy and role of regional government in New Zealand using environmental management as a case study. The regional councils' abilities to identify and achieve environmental policy outcomes were examined. Despite having a mandate to promote their communities' well-being, most regional councils continue to exercise a narrow set of functions.

**Carolyn Jean Mincham – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in History**

Ms Mincham found that horses and the traditions associated with them played a significant role in the process of colonisation in New Zealand. She also found that horses contribute to how New Zealanders perceive themselves as a nation. Ms Mincham concluded that the absence of an iconic horse around which to construct ideas about national identity in New Zealand reflects both the strength of local and regional ties as well as a continuing allegiance to British horses and customs.

**Clyton Moyo – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Plant Science**

Mr Moyo investigated methods to reduce quantities of herbicide used in pasture through improved targeting of weeds. His research into spot-spraying of pasture weeds showed that ingress of clover stolons is more important than re-establishment from seed, in the recovery of patches created by herbicide damage. He also showed that application of herbicides to the centre of weed rosettes is as effective as 100 per cent plant coverage, greatly reducing the risk of damage to pasture.

**Reginald Hedley Newell – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in History**

Mr Newell's research focused on 3NZ Division in the South Pacific in World War II. He examined the creation of the division, its deployment into the South Pacific, committal to combat and its eventual disbandment. He also examined the command style of its leader, Major General HE Barrowclough, the complex relationship with the Americans, the often dreadful conditions experienced by the troops and the limited legacies of the division.

**Pia Pechtel – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology**

Ms Pechtel addressed the need for an improved understanding of adult functioning following sexual abuse in childhood. Her research revealed perceptions of sexual abuse consequences from three different viewpoints: clients with a history of childhood sexual abuse, non-abused adults, and sexual abuse practitioners. Comparing a multiplicity of perceptions yielded valuable insights into

how sexual abuse may be recognised in society and may affect the client-practitioner relationship in therapy.

**Marissa Bacay Roldan – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Plant Biology**

Mrs Roldan examined the effects of the availability of the important soil nutrient, phosphate, on gene expression and protein accumulation on the enzyme, ACC oxidase, in roots of the pasture legume, white clover. In phosphate-depleted roots, the up-regulation of one of the ACC oxidase genes coincided with a greater increase in lateral root production. This suggests that differential gene regulation and the ethylene produced is significant in fine tuning the plant's responses to phosphate stress.

**Susan Margaret Smith – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Māori Studies**

Ms Smith investigated how iwi and hapū of Ngāti Tūkorere in Kuku, Horowhenua, came together to exercise kaitiakitanga (active guardianship) over fragmented ecosystems in tribal coastal areas. What emerged from the co-intelligence and co-management strategies for knowledge development was that iwi and hapū participants determined and effected significant ecological improvements. In drawing on Māori concepts, local experiences and aspirations for environmental rehabilitation, the research articulated new ways of revitalising remaining ecosystems within revered cultural landscapes.

**Aye Kywat Soe – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Animal Science**

Miss Soe's research investigated the origin and molecular nature of larval paralysis factor (LPF) – a natural anthelmintic agent expressed in the gut mucosa of nematode-resistant sheep. The research developed and optimised conditions needed for high-level production of LPF from in vitro cultures of small intestinal mucosal cells. Miss Soe concluded that this molecular lead, combined with a sensitive biological monitoring system, will speed up the search for a potential new class of anthelmintic agents based on natural sources.

**Kathryn Janey Stewart – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work**

Ms Stewart's research focused on critical incident responses in secondary schools in Aotearoa New Zealand and identified a gap in the current research. The voices of young people in the delivery of such responses were found to be under-represented. Ms Stewart's research aimed to redress this situation by ascertaining from this population their experiences and suggestions, in order to develop responses and services that meet their particular needs.

**Mairi Stewart – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Animal Science**

Ms Stewart investigated the use of infrared thermography as a non-invasive measure

of stress and pain in cattle. She measured changes in heat emitted from blood vessels around the eye, using an infrared camera, and compared these changes with cardiac responses. Ms Stewart's research has implications for the assessment and alleviation of pain in animals and could have wider applications for non-invasive assessment of animal welfare and animal emotions.

**Kathy Louise Stuart – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology**

Ms Stuart's research explored how New Zealand parliamentarians manage emotion in the workplace. Becoming a parliamentarian entails developing a new occupational identity and learning to understand emotions differently. Parliamentarians come to understand their work as requiring both rationality and emotionality. This passionate rationality enables parliamentarians to feel they are doing a good job, and to retain a sense of integrity and personal authenticity in work situations that call for complex negotiation and compromise.

**Vernon Charles William Trainor – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Plant Biology**

Mr Trainor undertook the functional characterisation of two novel genes, known as Terminal Ear (TEL) 1 and 2, from *Arabidopsis thaliana*. These genes are normally expressed in the growing areas of the plant known as the root and shoot apical meristems. He was able to show that normal differentiation of leaves and the tissues of the root was delayed or prevented. He concluded that these genes do have an important role in the regulation of cellular differentiation within the meristems and on the regulation of plant development.

**Brian Michael Vest – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry**

Mr Vest used quantum theoretical computer simulations to determine the properties of chromium dihalides from small clusters in the gas phase to the infinite bulk system. The magnetic and structural properties for small clusters closely resemble that for the solid-state. The process of nucleation, which was open to speculation for several decades, has been resolved for the first time.

**Anna Marie Williams – to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Chemical Technology**

Ms Williams investigated the effects of key droplet and fines properties on the extent of agglomeration to allow a mechanistic understanding of the process. Agglomeration can be a difficult process to control and operators find it hard to tune the process to produce specific powder properties. This thesis has gained insight into agglomeration processes during spray drying and offers practical guidelines to industry to improve the control of agglomeration processes.



Showjumper Chloe Akers.

## Equestrians line up Youth Olympic gold

Two Academy of Sport students have been selected in the equestrian team to represent New Zealand at the Youth Olympics.

Showjumper Chloe Akers and dressage specialist Hannah Appleton are two of the seven-member team that will compete in Sydney in January.

After missing most of the year with a broken toe, Ms Akers says she is delighted to have been picked.

"I've just started competing again in the last two weeks, and will have a competition every week until the Olympics in January."

Ms Akers, 18, an education student, says riding an unfamiliar horse will be challenging. "We don't take our own horses, and only get two days of training on a borrowed horse, so that will be interesting."

Ms Appleton, who this year successfully defended her title at the New Zealand Young Rider and Pony Dressage Championships, is looking forward to the event.

"It's great to have been selected, but of course last time we competed at the Youth Olympics, New Zealand won the dressage team gold, so there is some pressure."

The 19-year-old studies agricultural science and is based in Palmerston North during the academic year and her home town of Nelson during the summer.

Organised by the Australian Olympic Committee, the Youth Olympics will feature 2500 athletes from 20 countries. The equestrian team will compete against riders from Australia, Great Britain, Japan, Sweden, Malaysia and the United States, with the competition held at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre.

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>



Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey today received one of the new range of vehicles, a diesel-powered RAV4, at Toyota New Zealand's headquarters in Palmerston North. He is pictured with Toyota NZ chief executive officer Alistair Davis.

## University deal with Toyota drives in greener fleet

Massey University and Toyota New Zealand have announced a partnership to make the University's 130-vehicle fleet cleaner and more sustainable.

Vice-Chancellor Steve Maharey and Toyota NZ chief executive officer Alistair Davis signed letters of understanding that will see cutting edge technology increasingly used by the University for its transport.

"Massey wants to lead the region and lead New Zealand, not just in our teaching and research, but in our impact on the environment and this is a practical and vital step," Mr Maharey says.

"We chose to approach Toyota because of its track record for fuel efficient vehicles, including hybrids, that are essential if we are to meet the climate challenge."

Over the coming years the University's leased vehicle fleet will progressively be replaced with diesel and, where appropriate, hybrid, vehicles, which offer reduced CO2 emissions and greater fuel efficiency.

Mr Davis says Toyota, a world leader in new motoring technology, is delighted to partner Massey on this project. "Both are major organisations and leaders in New Zealand, and this partnership fits well with our goal of improving the sustainability of motoring," he says.

## Dolphin researcher wins NZ Geographic grant

Science, ecology and nature magazine *Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards 2009*

*Massey University teaching staff or teams of staff are invited to apply for the 2009 Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Teaching and the New Zealand Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards.*

*The Vice Chancellor will grant up to four awards of \$10,000 each for excellence in teaching. The Vice Chancellor's Awards will be judged within the categories below and according to the national award criteria which is also available on the Ako Aotearoa website with the proviso that applicants for the Vice Chancellor's awards do not necessarily have to meet the requirement of having practised for six years, however, applicants who have less than six years of teaching practice will*



Dr Karen Stockin.



Dr Felix Ram with his Lecturer of the Year certificate and cups for 2007 and 2008.



Te Ahu Rei (standing).

## Hui focuses on whanau language development

Visitors from Te Ataarangi, Te Puni Kokiri (Ministry of Māori Development) and Te Taura Whiri i te reo Māori (Māori Language Commission) attended a hui at the Manawatu campus last week.

Māori student liaison adviser Te Ahu Rei delivered a whaikorero, supported by Professor Tairarahia Black, Professor Bob Jahnke and Dr Darryn Joseph.

Te Pūtahi-ā-Toi The School of Māori Studies hosted the hui to discuss the progress of the Whanau Language Development programme, He Kainga Korororero.

Te Pūtahi-ā-Toi was contracted early last year to carry out qualitative research on the Whānau Development project, in order to evaluate the impact of the project and investigate the possibilities for improvement and further development.

Te Pūtahi-ā-Toi researcher Dr Rangi Mataamua says the hui was a great success. "We're realising that in order for Te Reo Māori to survive it must be spoken in the home, so it's important He Kainga Korororero continues."

## Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards 2009

Massey University teaching staff or teams of staff are invited to apply for the 2009 Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Teaching and the New Zealand Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards.

The Vice Chancellor will grant up to four awards of \$10,000 each for excellence in teaching.

Applications for all awards will be by teaching portfolio. Portfolios must be submitted in the first instance to the Massey Teaching Excellence Awards Nominations Committee (c/o Dulce Tokley, Office of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), PN134, no later than 5 pm Monday February 23, 2009.

This will enable the committee to make its recommendation to the Vice Chancellor and for national award nominees to respond to committee feedback prior to being submitted to Ako Aotearoa toward the end of March. More information is available on page 19.

## Teaching nurses like doctors clinches top lecturer award

The assignments were tougher than expected, the homework taxing – but postgraduate nurses say Dr Felix Ram's practise of teaching them the same material he taught student doctors is a winner.

He was named Lecturer of the Year at the Albany campus for the second year running, from a total of 109 teaching staff nominated by students at the campus.

Dr Ram, a senior lecturer in clinical pharmacology at the School of Health and Social Services, says his students – mostly experienced, practising nurses – can apply what they have learned in his lectures when they are at work in a hospital or clinical setting.

"It's important for adult learning that knowledge can be applied immediately," he says.

As a former teacher of medical students in the UK at St George's Hospital Medical School in London and Bradford Royal Infirmary in Yorkshire, Dr Ram joined Massey in 2005. He says he teaches nurses "in the same way I used to teach doctors.

"They are senior nurses and they need to know the same things, so I use the same text book a doctor would use."

Dr Ram says he tries to nurture a sense of professional respect among his students for each other – something that can often be

undermined in the workplace through stress and competition.

"I also try to be fair and open, and not just pay attention to the bright ones," he says.

Students submitted comments on the lecturers they nominated, with many heaping praise on Dr Ram. His sense of humour was also a vital ingredient in the mix of qualities and skills that earned him the award.

The event, organised by the Albany Students' Association, was launched in 2005. Association co-ordinator Penny Lyall says the award ceremony this year, with catered lunch and jazz band, was designed to recognise teaching staff who have made a significant and meaningful impact on students during the teaching year, and to give recognition to all of the nominees, not just the winners.

"Every nominee is presented with a certificate that has a compilation of the comments made about them by students who voted," she says.

Dr Ram, who has done extensive research on respiratory diseases and medicine, is currently surveying New Zealand's 800 pharmacists to gauge consumer and health professional satisfaction to a newly introduced generic asthma inhaler, Respigen. He is about to release results of another study on the effectiveness of copper IUD contraceptive devices.

# Massey people in the news

## 30 October

*Unlimited:* Dr **Alan Cameron**, from the Department of Management, has researched farmers' markets here and overseas and has no doubt they play an important role in helping establish and grow boutique food businesses. *Pharmacy Today:* Professor **Jeroen Douwes**, from the Centre for Public Health Research, suggests as many as half the children with asthma in New Zealand could be receiving the wrong medicine, with statistics showing that one in two children with asthma could be suffering from non-allergic asthma.

*Opunake & Coastal News:* Professor **Vince Neall**, and Dr **Shane Cronin**, both from the Institute of Natural Resources, are among speakers attending a seminar organised by the Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Group, focusing on impacts, consequences and recovery from volcanic activity.

*Opotiki News; The Dominion Post (5 November):* **Fernanda Mottin**, psychology student, is seeking people with sleep difficulties to take part in a study aimed at helping insomnia sufferers as part of her doctorate, and says her research will examine the components and outcomes of the treatment by looking at the direct effects as well as broader repercussions.

*Management:* **Sue Foley**, former TV3 news chief, is to take up her new role as Massey's new external relations director and will lead the communications, marketing and alumni activity.

*Her Business:* Professor **Claire Massey**, from the Department of Management, says people are her main focus daily, and not only does she oversee a large group of academics, but continually works to bring together the many groups in the community that support and drive small and medium enterprises towards success.

*River City Press:* Dr **Bethan Greener**, from the School of People Environment and Planning, is guest speaker at a dinner to celebrate United Nations Day, and spoke about UN and international policing.

## 31 October

*scoop.co.nz:* **Azhar Mohamed**, from the School of Design, says that each year the School of Design celebrates New Zealand's up-and-coming transport, industrial and visual communication designers by displaying their latest projects at the exhibition.

*Autofile:* Dr **David Tripe**, Director of the Centre for Banking Studies, says the mortgage funds are an artifice of past regulation and will not necessarily continue to play much of a role in the investment scheme.

*The Ensign; www.thefoodsection.com (4 November); Cambridge Edition (5 November); www.tasteasyougo.com (6 November):* **Kay McMath**, from the Institute of Food, Nutrition

and Human Health, believes that ice cream tastes better licked than eaten with a spoon because it is eaten in smaller amounts when licked, the full melt and flavour was released with every lick.

*scoop.co.nz; NZ Education Review (7 November); The Tribune (9 November):* **Genevieve Cooper**, business and science student, is the recipient of this year's Zonta International Jane M Klausman Women in Business Scholarship, awarded to students of outstanding achievement and future potential in their third or fourth year of undergraduate study.

*Radio Live:* Dr **David Tripe**, Director of the Centre for Banking Studies, doesn't believe banks are currently being incredibly vicious, and thinks banks would be lenient because they don't want to force sales in the current situation.

*TVNZ 7 News:* Dr **Carol Wham**, from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, says a healthy active child can eat a fair amount of snack food and not suffer ill effects, although childhood obesity can have serious effects later in life, following the research that reveals almost 90 per cent of parents are concerned about the amount of sugar and fat their children are eating.

*NZ Education Review:* Dr **Paul Perry**, from the School of People, Environment and Planning, has been elected to the scientific advisory board of the World Values Survey Association at their conference and general assembly in Istanbul.

*NZ Education Review:* Professor **Neil Pearce**, from the Research School of Public Health, has assumed presidency of the International Epidemiological Association.

*NZ Education Review:* **Gordon Suddaby**, from the Training and Development Unit, is head of a trans-Tasman body with a focus on e-learning and distance education, and discusses the common challenges facing Australasia's tertiary institutions.

*NZ Education Review:* **Jack Noone**, a PhD student, is conducting a survey for his doctoral research which looks at how retirees are preparing in terms of their future lifestyle, health, finances, and their psychological preparations, and says his research goes beyond financial planning.

*ABC Radio National Australia:* Dr **Claire Robinson**, from the Institute of Communication Design, discusses the election with The National Interest.

*The New Zealand Herald:* Dr **Claire Robinson**, from the Institute of Communication Design, discusses political marketing in Colin James's article.

## 1 November

*Manawatu Standard:* **Mary Murray**, from the School of People, Environment and Planning, is investigating the idea of people living forever, and says fear and meaningless drives

the search for immortality, but perpetuates the very thing it sets out to overcome because without death, it's even more difficult to appreciate the quality of life.

*Gisborne Herald:* Dr **Claire Robinson** believes the Greens and Māori party have a valuable added factor being that their MPs live their brands, and being "Green or "Māori" is a way of life, not just a set of politics.

*Kaipoi Advocate:* Professor **Glyn Harper**, from the Centre for Defence Studies, is to give a presentation at the special commemoration of Armistice Day, at the Memorial Park in Raven Quay.

## 2 November

*Sunday Star Times, stuff.co.nz:* **Michelle Mars**, from the School of Sociology, Social Policy, and Social Work, says our MPs are cautious not to present a sexier side of themselves for fear of offending lingering pioneer attitudes towards sexuality.

*Herald On Sunday, nzherald.co.nz, wellingtonhive.blogspot.com, lindsayaddie.blogspot.com:* Dr **Claire Robinson** feels Labour's latest move have left it looking silly because the mud refused to stick to John Key, and trying to shock voters with a 20-year-old scandal, that is not really a scandal, won't make voters change their minds.

*Herald On Sunday:* Dr **Claire Robinson** joins the discussion on PR moments of the week.

## 3 November

*The Dominion Post, Timaru Herald, Waikato Times, Nelson Mail, Manawatu Standard, Taranaki Daily News, stuff.co.nz:* Dr **David Tripe** believes Michael Cullen has played a safe hand in regards to the guarantee for investment-grade financial institutions, and says it is a way of avoiding finding out what might have happened if the guarantee wasn't in place.

*Radio Live:* Dr **David Tripe** says there are doubts that Government's extension of the bank deposit guarantee scheme will change how banks handle customers who are struggling with their mortgages.

*Radio Live:* Dr **Claire Robinson** from the Institute of Communication Design, discusses Pasifika celebrity endorsement, and says National is not naturally identified as a Pacific-oriented party, so for Pacific icons to come out in support of National is quite unheard of.

## 4 November

*The New Zealand Herald, nzherald.co.nz, waatea.blogspot.com, internationalrugbynews.co.uk; Sunrise TV 3 (11 November):* **Charles Nicholson**, industrial design student, and Tony Kemp, former Warriors coach, have worked together to create a padded suit fitted with sensors to get help modern children off the couch and back

on the turf.

*Manawatu Standard:* Professor **Jacqueline Rowarth**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, says that if the Fast Forward science initiative is lost, there will be a big loss to agriscience as a major agricultural driver for the country.

*Manawatu Standard:* **Rachael Mason**, from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, is part of a project focussing on the effect of Whole Body Vibration on people with Multiple Sclerosis, is still seeking volunteers and says the pilot study seeks to find out whether the vibration therapy helps MS sufferers with limited ability to exercise, or to retain or regain some of their mobility.

*Rural News:* Professor **Grant Guilford**, from the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Science, describes National's proposal as very positive and well thought-out, and identifies high student debt as one of the reasons new veterinary graduates depart for lands with stronger currencies.

## 5 November

*The New Zealand Herald; Manawatu Standard, stuff.co.nz, beattiesbookblog.blogspot.com (6 November); The Dominion Post (8 November):* Professor **Glyn Harper**, from the Centre for Defence Studies, is the author of the recently launched book titled *Images of War*, a unique record of New Zealand's part in World War I, which depicts every imaginable scene from the war.

*The Press:* **Basia Smolnicki**, printmaking tutor for the College of Creative Arts, has a variety of work on display at the New Prints exhibition at Paper-graphica gallery, containing works in paint, makes prints, and produces sandblasted designs on glass, metal and mirror.

*The Dominion Post; scoop.co.nz (6 November):* Vice Chancellor **Steve Maharey**, has a goal to make Massey the defining university of New Zealand by 2020, and has his target for the university to earn a worldwide reputation as a leader in tertiary education.

*bFM:* Professor **Peter Lineham**, from the School of Social and Cultural Studies, took part in a theological discussion and comments on the Atheist posters appearing on British buses.

*Marlborough Express:* Professor **Peter Lineham**, from the School of Social and Cultural Studies, says rather than church attendance declining, it is changing, and there is some evidence to suggest there's a more committed core and evangelical churches have a clear focus, which often means a committed core.

*Wairarapa News:* Professor **Ralph Sims**, from the School of Engineering and Advanced Technology, says he has never known of any subdivision that's considered a sustainable lifestyle option to the degree that Totarabank is.

*pubs.acs.org:* Professor **Peter Schwerdtfeger**, from the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, has investigated high-coordination metal

complexes and says isolated molecular compounds with coordination numbers as high as twelve have been observed only for lanthanide and actinide elements

*Radio Rhema:* Dr **Claire Robinson** discusses aspects of political campaigning in New Zealand.

## 6 November

*The Independent Financial Review:* Dr **David Tripe** says many of the Australian-owned banks may choose to access funding through the parent company as it will be charged less by the Reserve Bank of Australia.

*The Wellingtonian:* **Leana Keen** and **Alicia Young**, design school graduates, are displaying their works in an exhibition titled *The Light Room* at the Saatchi and Saatchi gallery, which celebrates the completion of their 2008 year-based research project which explore themes of memory, perception and essence.

*The Wellingtonian:* **Fiona Shearer**, from the Department of Communication, Journalism and Marketing, says the biggest benefit for students in working with audiovisual recording equipment is to build confidence by seeing and hearing themselves in a very supportive environment, and how we actually sound is much more positive than how we expect.

*www.scoop.co.nz:* Dr **Brian McDonnell**, from the School of Social and Cultural Studies, is on a Fulbright Visiting Lectureship teaching New Zealand studies in film and literature at Georgetown University Washington, and says it is a privilege to be able to witness such a historic Presidential campaign climaxed by such a moving night of victory for Barack Obama and Joe Biden.

*Wanganui Chronicle/NZPA; Otago Daily Times (8 November); The Tribune (9 November); Dannevirke Evening News (10 November); Newstalk ZB, www.newstalkzb.co.nz (13 November):* Dr **Cat Pausé**, from the School of Arts, Development and Health Education, is project co-ordinator for the Adult Identity Development Project which is looking at the weight identity of men and women as part of their body image/identity, and says it is irresponsible to assume all fat people are unhealthy and all thin people are healthy.

*Newstalk ZB:* Dr **Claire Robinson**, from the Institute of Communication Design, says celebrity endorsements can play a vital part in the elections.

## 7 November

*Manawatu Standard:* Dr **Richard Shaw**, from the School of People, Environment and Planning, does not believe the American election would have a big impact on the New Zealand result, but the seven Maori seats could be critical.

*Manawatu Standard:* Dr **Nives Botica-Redmayne**, from the School of Accountancy,

is one of 16 business people honoured with a Fellowship of the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants, at their annual meeting in Dunedin held recently.

*NZ Education Review:* Professor **Howard Lee**, from the School of Educational Studies, says many differences in the pronouncements from left and right-of-centre parties become evident once their publicity material is scrutinised, providing an indication for what the election results may bring for education.

*www.newswire.co.nz:* Dr **Claire Robinson**, takes part in an interview with Whitirea journalism student, and discusses politician's voices.

*National Radio:* Dr **Claire Robinson** talks about election prospects in interviews with Bloomberg and Reuters, and discusses the recent polls.

## 8 November

*Southland Times, The Dominion Post:* **Lilian Mutsaers**, from the Department of Fashion Design, teaches the unromantic side of fashion, involving pattern-cutting and computer-aided design skills that form the base on which students can let their imaginations run wild.

*Otago Daily Times; scoop.co.nz (11 November):* Professor **Mick Roberts**, from the Institute of Information and Mathematical Sciences, has been elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

*nzherald.co.nz:* Dr **Grant Duncan**, from the School of Social and Cultural Studies, says the good weather will help traditional Labour voters get to a polling booth, as they may not have access to transport and are less likely to vote in poor weather going on past traditions.

*Rural Delivery TV One:* Professor **Jacqueline Rowarth** believes science is the driver of the economy, and the great work from the USA has shown that the ability to create wealth from innovation relates to the number of scientists and engineers in the workforce.

*Bay of Plenty Times:* Professor **Ross Hemera**, from the School of Visual and Material Culture, is judging the art pieces and awarding certificates for the winner in each category at the Tauranga National Art Awards.

*Wanganui Chronicle; Taranaki Daily News, stuff.co.nz (12 November):* Vice Chancellor **Steve Maharey**, aims to retain the talent of young people in the regions and is travelling through the country to meet with school principals and community leaders, focussing particularly on Massey's traditional catchment areas in the lower North Island.

*Radio NZ:* Dr **Claire Robinson** is part of the New Zealand Election Night Team.

## 9 November

*nzherald.co.nz:* Dr **Grant Duncan**, from the School of Social and Cultural Studies, says the realisation that the country has voted for a potential return of 'Rogernomics' was the

## Massey people in the news

stand-out event for him on election night, and National can not govern without ACT.

*Radio Live, Newstalk ZB:* Dr **Claire Robinson** discusses election results, and says Labour may have a bit of a dilemma finding a new leadership team after Helen Clark's decision to step down.

### 11 November

*The New Zealand Herald, nzherald.co.nz:* **Joe Nelson**, industrial design student at Massey's Auckland School of Design, has invented Rei, an urban electrical commuter scooter with a secure compartment for a helmet and baggage built in, which is on display at the annual design exposure exhibition at Auckland's Viaduct.

*Manawatu Standard:* Dr **Dave Horne**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, says the majority of farmers do not have large enough effluent storage on their farms, and that is for a whole number of reasons, not least because cow size has increased.

*The Dominion Post, Nelson Mail, The Daily Post, stuff.co.nz, prettyprettypretty.com, www.thaindian.com; scoop.co.nz, 3news.co.nz, ouchmytoe.com, Campbell Live TV3 (12 November); www.nbr.co.nz, living.oneindia.in (13 November):* **Aimie Whiting**, Massey design student, has designed three-inch polyurethane high heels which compress when worn and relieve pressure and strain on tired feet, which she hopes to license to footwear companies for commercial production.

*Rangitikei Mail, Feilding Herald:* **Liam Rutherford**, College of Education student and supporter of the Drinking Liberally party, says he wants the public to hear about policies the candidates stand for and has organised a series of candidate meetings for the Rangitikei electorate.

*www.abc.net.au:* Professor **Glyn Harper** says he understands former Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating's views on Gallipoli, and although the event should be remembered, there are other important battles that deserve as much recognition.

*Rangitikei Mail:* Dr **Alan Cameron**, from the Department of Management, says when choosing the supreme winner for the Rangitikei Business Awards, he and his colleagues

were looking for the X-factor and wanted to find a business that was not critical about government rules and paid their taxes ahead of time.

### 12 November

*Otago Daily Times, The Dominion Post, The New Zealand Herald, Nelson Mail, The Press, Manawatu Standard, Radio New Zealand, radionz.co.nz, yahoo.com, clearnet.co.nz, www.odt.co.nz; scoop.co.nz, stuff.co.nz (13 November):* Professor **David Parry**, from the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, is the recipient of the 2008 Rutherford Medal for Science and Technology, and his research on fibrous proteins has led to major advances in understanding the structure of hair, the working of muscles and connective tissue and how protein shape affects their function. Professor **Simon Hall**, from the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, received the Fonterra Prize for Industrial and Applied Chemistry, for his research and commercialisation of a rechargeable nickel-zinc battery, and Professor **Michael Hendy**, also from the Institute of Fundamental Sciences, received the New Zealand Mathematical Society Research Award. Awards were presented at the Royal Society of New Zealand's Science Honours dinner.

*The Dominion Post, Manawatu Standard, Gisborne Herald, Nelson Mail, stuff.co.nz, Radio New Zealand; Timaru Herald, Taranaki Daily News, Marlborough Express (13 November):* **Jhanitra Gavala**, from the School of Psychology, is sceptical about the label 'Internet addiction disorder', and says many prefer the term pathological Internet use because 90 per cent of people who experience problems have pre-existing mental health issue like depression, anxiety and obsessive compulsive behaviour and their internet use is just a manifestation of these underlying problems.

*TV One NZI Business:* **James Hanly**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, says a year long trial of deferred irrigation at a Massey University farm may have found a solution to irrigation problems, as it allows farmers to be told when the best time is to irrigate their

farms with effluent with minimal waste.

*bFM:* Professor **Peter Lineham**, from the School of Social and Cultural Studies, has commented on the survey conducted to show what factor religion played in both the American and New Zealand elections.

*Radio New Zealand:* Dr **David Tripe** says people have generally been borrowing what they can only afford, and there is concern about the structure of banks funding, and too much short term borrowing to fund long term loans.

### 13 November

*Radio New Zealand:* **Claire Matthews** has commented on Finsec's questioning as to why interest rates for credit cards remain high.

*scoop.co.nz:* **Jason Greene**, Massey horticulture student, has been named Young Horticulturalist of the Year, out of the eight young horticulturalists competed for the Horticulture Industry Training Organisation Young Horticulturist of the Year competition held at the Auckland Botanic Gardens.

### 14 November

*New Zealand Listener:* Professor **Roger Openshaw**, from the School of Educational Studies, has critiqued Te Kotahitanga for the Post Primary Teacher's Association and says it is flawed in several respects.

*Taranaki Daily News:* **Belinda Coppin**, Massey design student, has won the major award for fashion designs, and was one of six top female designers recognised at the Zonta Design Awards in Wellington.

*Otago Daily Times, The New Zealand Herald, Hawkes Bay Today:* Dr **David Tripe** says credit cards cost more to administer than home loans because they are made up of a large number of small amounts, and it wouldn't be unreasonable to conclude that banks have been slow to drop their rates.

*The Dominion Post:* **Hannah Mitchell**, Massey fashion design student, has created an end-of-year collection of garments that makes a political statement on the Guantanamo Bay prison, and says it is a political continuum regarding the way media distorts the truth

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behind cultural conflicts, civil wars, and different situations around the world.

## 15 November

*The New Zealand Herald*: Dr **Louise Lee**, from the Department of Management, says often volunteers want to do something different than the work they usually do, and there are tensions around the fact that many employees do not often want to do what they do at work.

*The Press, Manawatu Standard*: Dr **David Tripe** says that formulas for bank charges are based on straightforward logic, but the calculations are not simple.

## 17 November

*NZ Woman's Weekly*: Dr **Carol Wham**, from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, says you can help children learn good food habits that will stick with them for the rest of their lives, as we learn dietary habits in childhood and carry them through to adulthood.

## Events

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

### AL – Tuesday 25 November

10.00am – 11.00am

Dept Commerce Seminar Series: *Using Response Behaviour Theory to Design Surveys*:

Prof Gerald Albaum

This presentation reports on a study that examines survey participation and response rates for personal interview surveys designed on the basis of different theories of survey response behaviour in two culturally distinct places. Field experiments were designed to investigate the extent to which the theories of exchange, cognitive dissonance, self-perception, and commitment/involvement can influence potential respondents to participate in a personal interview survey in Australia and Hong Kong. The results show that there were significant differences in Australia with the theory of self perception having the strongest impact on survey response behaviour, while

cognitive dissonance has the least impact. In contrast, the effects in Hong Kong were not significant. Since differences in response rates appeared in Australia, an analysis was made of the effects on response content.

<http://www.unm.edu/welcome/>

Venue: QB 8 map

Contact: Dr Andrew Murphy

Tel: ext 9258

### AL – Wednesday 26 November

12.00pm – 1.00pm

Dept Commerce Seminar Series: *Reciprocal Effects between Memories, Views, and Behaviour*

Prof Mamoru Kaneko

Abstract

We explore the inductively derived views obtained by players with partial temporal (short-term) memories. A player derives his personal view of the objective game situation from his accumulated (long-term) memories of playing, and uses it for decision making in the objective situation. A salient feature that distinguishes this paper from others on inductive game theory is partiality of a memory function of a player. This creates multiplicity of possibly derived views. Although this is a difficulty for a player in various senses, it is an essential problem of induction. Faced with multiple possible views, a player may try to resolve this multiplicity using future experiences. This creates a two-way interaction between behavior and personal views which is another distinguishing feature of the present paper.

<http://infoshako.sk.tsukuba.ac.jp/~kaneko/>  
Venue: QB 8 map  
Contact: Dr Steffen Lippert  
Ph: ext 9283

<http://infoshako.sk.tsukuba.ac.jp/~kaneko/>

Venue: QB 8 map

Contact: Dr Steffen Lippert

Ph: ext 9283

### MW – Friday 28 November

10.00am – 4.00pm

Massey University celebrates the achievements of our graduates with two Graduation Ceremonies on Friday 28 November 2008. Join the graduates, their family and friends, along with Massey University staff and Alumni for the Graduate processions along Broadway Avenue to the Convention Centre at

the conclusion of each ceremony.

Venue: Regent Theatre, Broadway Avenue

Contact: Anna Hamilton

Ph: 06 350 5872

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

## Scholarships and Awards

[awards.massey.ac.nz](http://awards.massey.ac.nz)

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

Undergraduate

Bay of Plenty Federated Farmers Scholarship – 30 November 2008

Kauri Museum Mervyn Sterling Memorial Scholarships – 1 December 2008

Prime Minister's Athletes' Scholarships – 1 December 2008

Seafarers Union Scholarship – 1 December 2008

Toll NZ Undergraduate Scholarship – 1 December 2008

Rotary Club of Port Nicholson Goal Setter Awards – 5 December 2008

Hugh Williams Ravensdown Memorial Scholarship – 12 December 2008

IPENZ (Manawatu) Bursary – 15 December 2008

The Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust Final Yr First Degree Award – 17 December 2008





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**Massey University**

Massey University Elite Sports World Travel Award – 19 December 2008

The Adastra Foundation Scholarships – 19 December 2008

Business and Professional Women - Hibiscus Coast – 31 December 2008

Postgraduate

Postgraduate Field Research Awards – 28 November 2008

Bay of Plenty Federated Farmers Scholarship – 30 November 2008

JADE Student Scholarship – 30 November 2008

McKenzie Music Therapy Scholarship – 30 November 2008

Pipfruit NZ Research Fellowship – 30 November 2008

Commonwealth Scholarship – 1 December 2008

Joe Walding Memorial Bursary – 1 December 2008

Peter Turner Scholarship in Documentary Photography – 1 December 2008

Prime Minister's Athletes' Scholarships – 1 December 2008

Rotary Club of Port Nicholson Goal Setter Awards – 5 December 2008

Top Achievers Doctoral Scholarships – 10 December 2008

Gates Cambridge Scholarship – 15 December 2008

NZ Institute for Crop & Food Research Ltd Statistics Scholarship – 15 December 2008

The Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust Postgraduate Diploma Award – 17 December 2008

The Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust Bachelor (with Honours) – 17 December 2008

The Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust Masters Degree Award – 17 December 2008

Massey University Elite Sports World Travel Award – 19 December 2008

The Adastra Foundation Scholarships – 19 December 2008

Business and Professional Women - Hibiscus Coast – 31 December 2008

The International Council for Canadian Studies Graduate Students Scholarship – 31 December 2008

Post-Doctoral Canadian Post-Doctoral Research Fellowships – 1 December 2008

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SOCIAL SCIENCES LECTURE BLOCK FOYER, TURITEA SITE AND IN EACH ACADEMIC UNIT

## General notices

editor@massey.ac.nz

The New Zealand Social Statistics Network 2009 Summer Programme

The New Zealand Social Statistics Network (NZSSN) is offering 1 four-day and 8 five-day short courses in Social Research Methods and Technology, during the three weeks from 9th to 27th February 2009.

The courses will take place at the School of Government, Victoria University of Wellington.

The NZSSN summer programme is designed to cater to fundamental, changing and emerging research strategies, and to serve a wide variety of needs for training and professional development within the academic, public and private sectors. Courses cater not only to researchers in the social and political sciences, but also those in areas such as the behavioural sciences, medical and health sciences, epidemiology, policy research, education, economics, law, management, marketing, public relations and human resource management.

Our short courses are delivered by highly qualified instructors and previous courses have received outstanding reviews.

### SOCIAL RESEARCH METHODS AND TECHNOLOGY, SHORT COURSE 2009 SUMMER PROGRAMME

The New Zealand Social Statistics Network is offering the following short courses at the School of Government, Pipitea Campus, Victoria University of Wellington, 9th – 27th February 2009

#### Week One

RESEARCH SYNTHESIS FOR POLICY AND PRACTICE: 9th – 12th February 2009 (4 days)  
David Gough, EPPI-Centre, University of London

A range of approaches to research synthesis are covered. Systematic reviews can address a broad range of research questions, and research reviews, like all research projects, have to be appraised for strengths and weaknesses.

### INTRODUCTORY ANALYSIS OF LINKED DATA: 9th – 13th February 2009

Professor D'Arcy Holman, University of Western Australia

A course in the theory and practice of analysis of large sets of linked administrative data, mainly in the health area but with applications throughout the social sciences. Provides theoretical grounding and hands-on practical exercises.

### QUALITATIVE RESEARCH TECHNIQUES: 9th – 13th February 2009

Dr Delwyn Goodrick, Program Evaluation Consultant

An introductory course consisting of lectures and practical workshops, designed for those with no background in research or with no previous experience with qualitative techniques of data collection and analysis.

#### Week Two

### INTRODUCTION TO STATISTICS: 16th – 20th February 2009

Dr Stephanie Budgett, Department of Statistics, The University of Auckland

An introductory course in statistical techniques with an emphasis on those applicable to the social sciences, focusing on concepts rather than mathematics.

### USING MIXED METHODS IN RESEARCH AND PROGRAM EVALUATION: 16th – 20th February 2009

Dr Delwyn Goodrick, Program Evaluation Consultant

Dr Gordon Emmerson, Victoria University of Technology, Australia

An introductory course intended for current and emerging researchers who want to know more about using both qualitative and quantitative methods in their research activities.

### DATA ANALYSIS IN SPSS: 16th – 20th February 2009

Associate Professor Brian Phillips, Swinburne University of Technology

This course provides the beginner in quantitative data analysis with the basic requirements for analysis in an SPSS computing environment, focusing on the analysis of survey, administrative and/or census data.

#### Week Three

### MIXED METHODS: FROM ANALYSIS TO PUBLICATION: 23rd – 27th February 2009

Dr Delwyn Goodrick, Program Evaluation Consultant

Dr Gordon Emmerson, Victoria University of Technology, Australia  
 Planning, execution and analysis are essential in conducting mixed methods research. Afterwards, the next important step is to take the data and develop an integrated presentation where findings are clear and key claims illuminated.

**INTERMEDIATE STATISTICS: 23rd – 27th February 2009**

Andrew Balemi, Department of Statistics, The University of Auckland

An introduction to the statistical computing package R, a review of the concepts of statistical inference from Introduction to Statistics, and case studies in statistics.

**INTRODUCTION TO NVIVO: 23rd – 27th February 2009**

Dr Leonie Daws, Principal Consultant, Kihi Consultancies

A course designed for those familiar with qualitative research approaches and interested in using NVivo to assist with qualitative data analysis. The focus is on learning the NVivo data analysis toolkit through hands-on experience.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND/OR TO ENROL, PLEASE VISIT:**

[www.nzssn.org.nz](http://www.nzssn.org.nz) OR CONTACT [courses@nzssn.org.nz](mailto:courses@nzssn.org.nz)

If you do not wish to receive emails from NZSSN regarding training and other activities, please "reply" to this message with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

## Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards 2009

Massey University teaching staff or teams of staff are invited to apply for the 2009 Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Teaching and the New Zealand Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards.

The Vice Chancellor will grant up to four awards of \$10,000 each for excellence in teaching. The Vice Chancellor's Awards will be judged within the categories below and according to the national award criteria which is also available on the Ako Aotearoa website with the proviso that applicants for the Vice Chancellor's awards do not necessarily have to meet the requirement of having practised for six years, however, applicants who have less than six years of teaching practice will not be eligible for nomination for a National Award:

The categories for the Vice-Chancellor's awards are;

- Sustained Commitment to Teaching Excellence
- Excellence in Teaching First Year Students
- The Darrylin O'Dea Award in the Field of e-Learning

From the nominations received for the Vice Chancellor's awards, Massey may then forward up to three nominations for consideration for a National Award in the single inclusive category of sustained teaching excellence. There will be nine such national awards of \$20,000 each and the Prime Minister's Award of \$30,000. Applications for both series of awards will be considered in the first instance by the Massey Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards Nominations Committee.

In considering applications for the Vice-Chancellor's Awards, the selection committee will apply the criteria used for determining the national awards. Please note that there has been a slight change to the criteria: "the panel is looking for systematic summary evidence of student feedback across the period for which the application is made. The panel is also looking for clear evidence that the nominee's practice has impacted on the practice of other staff". As noted above, to be eligible for nomination for a New Zealand National Award, applicants will need to meet the criterion "...that they have practised and developed their skills predominantly in New Zealand, over a minimum period of 6 years". Applications for all awards will be by teaching portfolio. Portfolios must be submitted in the first instance to the Massey Teaching Excellence Awards Nominations Committee (c/o Dulce Tokley, Office of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), PN134, no later than 5 pm Monday February 23, 2009.

This will enable the committee to make its recommendation to the Vice Chancellor and for national award nominees to respond to committee feedback prior to being submitted to Ako Aotearoa toward the end of March.

### Application process

Teaching staff wishing to be considered for a Teaching Excellence Award are required to prepare and submit a portfolio that demonstrates the ways in which the relevant award criteria have been met. Six copies of each portfolio should be submitted and, with respect to the Vice Chancellor's Awards, must state the category of award being sought. Please note that the timing of this process is very tight. Staff interested in submitting an application and portfolio should begin to assemble these immediately.

For the 2009 round, any appendices and supporting documentation must be included in the portfolio 8,000 word limit. Applicants should not include supplementary audio-visual material

**Those seeking further information on the awards scheme or assistance in preparing their portfolios may contact [CADEL@massey.ac.nz](mailto:CADEL@massey.ac.nz) Workshop dates on the application process will be announced as soon as they are set.**

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

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Young Farmer of the Year David Skiffington.

## Ag-Hort double for young Massey grads

Massey graduate Jason Greene has been named New Zealand's Young Horticulturalist of the Year, making it a double for Massey after agriculture graduate David Skiffington scooped Young Farmer of the Year honours in July.

Eight young horticulturalists aged under 30 competed for the Horticulture Industry Training Organisation Young Horticulturalist of the Year competition held at the Auckland Botanic Gardens on 7 November.

Based on the Young Farmer of the Year contest, the Young Horticulturalist competition involves a series of regional and sector events leading to a grand final in Auckland.

Participants undertook challenges including presenting a marketing project, an interview with the judging panel and a prepared speech. The high point of the competition was a horti-sport event, where the finalists raced against each other as well as the clock, tackling horticulture-based challenges.

Mr Greene, who is based in Ramarama as the sales manager for Rainbow Trees, represented the Nursery & Garden Industry Association sector.

"Winning the competition is a benchmark for me in terms of where I am with my career," he says. "There were a lot of high profile people in the audience at the dinner on the final night and it was great to win the prize in front of them.

"The hardest part of the competition was the prepared speech. By that stage we knew where everyone was standing. I was very nervous, but in the end I was okay and pulled it through."

Mr Greene received a selection of prizes worth more than \$20,000 and says he intends to use the travel component of the prize to visit his company's suppliers and some nurseries in Europe.

Applied academic programme director Ewen Cameron says that Mr Greene was alerted to the Auckland job opportunity after another graduate – Andrew Tayler, the firm's general manager and also a Massey alumni – got in touch with his old department to find a new graduate for the vacancy.

Mr Greene won the practical and interview sections of the competition, which Mr Cameron attended with top horticulture students Helen Free and Daniel Sutton.

"We thought Daniel and Helen might like to see where their career might take them in future," Mr Cameron says. "They also visited the New Zealand Hothouse operation to see really 'high-tech' horticulture and it was a nice opportunity for them to meet other graduates as there are now large numbers of Massey graduates across the industry."



Young Horticulturalist of the Year Jason Greene competes in the final.

Mr Skiffington competed in district and regional finals of the Young Farmer competition, taking the Taranaki-Manawatu title for the second consecutive year, before winning this year's grand final in Ashburton in July. The Young Farmer event includes theory and technical challenges, outdoors activities including agri-sports and practical challenges from ploughing to shearing, with a top prize package worth \$82,000. Mr Skiffington and his wife Megan, also a Massey graduate, farm outside Feilding in the Manawatu.