



Massey University

Massey News

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Te Pūrongo – 4 Hereturikōkā, August 2008 Issue 11

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Amy Jerram with some of the hardest workers on her parents' Ongaonga farm.

World-first study into the health of agriculture's 'hardest worker'

A world-first study into the health of farm dogs will provide an insight into their contribution to New Zealand agriculture. Masters student Amy Jerram will also develop measures that could improve working-dog well-being and add value to farming operations.

Based at her parents farm in Ongaonga, Central Hawke's Bay, Miss Jerram has observed farm dogs throughout her life. "The farm dog is New Zealand agriculture's hardest worker," she says. "We have always had heaps of them and we are with the dogs all day – they are a passion. They work really hard, spending all day trying to please you."

Ms Jerram says she has not been able to find any epidemiology-type health-related information on farm dogs, although there are many studies undertaken throughout the world on pets and commercial livestock.

"We don't even know how much work farm dogs do," she says. "It totally depends on where the dog is – on a station they might be covering huge kilometres every day, in other instances they may be covering only a small distance. But that's only

distance. People may only use them at certain times of the day or for certain reasons – it may be there's a huge variety too in the number of dogs used."

Associate Professor Mark Stevenson, who is supervising Ms Jerram's research, says dogs are a very important part of the farm operation.

"A good dog does the work of several men on quad bikes, in terms of being able to get to the stock quickly and effectively and move them," he says. "There's good dogs and there's not so good dogs and it's important that if farmers find good dogs we can maximise their longevity and keep them productive."

These high-performing farm dogs are the elite of the farm dog population, Dr Stevenson says.

"When good dogs are found we want to know how long they last and why they are being retired – is it due to old age or injury? If arthritic conditions are identified as an important reason for loss, for example, then a useful outcome of this study will be to provide owners with some

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New Zealand's 'best' library catalogue system

A range of state-of-the-art Library catalogue features was launched at the Palmerston North campus last Wednesday, making the University Library the first in New Zealand to offer the enhanced on-line tools.

MasseyLink and *Encore* are designed to make searching faster, easier and more effective. University Librarian John Redmayne says they represent a major leap to the new generation of library systems.

"I have recently returned from a short study tour of British university libraries and, with these advances, we are now right up with the best practice in leading universities there," Mr Redmayne says.

MasseyLink brings together the options for obtaining material identified in article databases. It can lead directly to online full text, to print holdings or, if those do not exist, identify another library where the

material is held.

Encore is a Google-like search option, useful for quick, broad keyword searches to see what the Library has on a topic.

The display offers extra information and options on the results page, while searches can be refined by format, campus, date or other facets. It is a new product still under development, so extra features are expected to be added.

The Library catalogue's look and feel have been redesigned and new functionality has been added, which allows users to personalise their use, with options such as reading history, preferred searches, email alerts when new subject material becomes available and reader ratings of the material on offer.

New library underway at Auckland campus

Construction of a \$30 million library for the Auckland campus is underway.

Despite heavy rain and ferocious winds, earth movers began levelling ground adjoining the existing library in preparation for the six-storey building that will house the library and be connected by internal archways to the current facility, which it will incorporate.

It is expected to be completed by the end of next year and will provide a full range of information and study facilities including over 1000 new study spaces, 150 computers and 120,000 more books, as well as a cafe, says campus head librarian Valerie Cohen.

The building will reflect the Mediterranean architectural theme of the campus.

It will also provide relief for a serious shortage of study space for postgraduate students, says Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Auckland and International) Professor John Raine.

They comprise nearly a third of the 7000 Auckland students.



Auckland campus head librarian Valerie Cohen and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Auckland and International) Professor John Raine at the site of the new library building with the current library in the background.

Health of agriculture's 'hardest worker' to be studied

from page

early intervention strategies: maybe a reduction in the intensity and length of work periods and providing a few home comforts."

Miss Jerram completed a Bachelor of Health Sciences at Auckland University, before returning to the family farm and starting postgraduate study at Massey's EpiCentre, the largest veterinary epidemiology training and research centre in Australasia.

The centre has expertise in the

understanding and control of disease in animals, the transmission of disease from animals to humans, and hazards in food of animal origin.

Information will be collected from more than 100 farms in Manawatu, Wanganui, Hawke's Bay and Wairarapa. "We want to find out about the farming operation, experiences of the people with working dogs, the health of dogs currently in work on the farm and

dogs retired from the farm in the previous 12 months," Ms Jerram says.

"It will only take 30 minutes for farmers to complete but we will analyse the data to identify common health problems and risk factors for farm dogs, and initiate changes to assist the dogs."

Ms Jerram will be supported by the University EpiCentre staff Dr Naomi Cogger and Associate Professor Mark Stevenson.

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Carolina Pena with her children's "art lab" table.

Blood sugar levels might be new measure of health

Blood sugar levels might be just as important in measuring good health as blood pressure or cholesterol, new University research suggests.



Naomi Brewer.

Naomi Brewer, a research fellow at the University's Centre for Public Health Research, is the lead author of

a study published in the international journal *Diabetes Care*, published by the American Diabetes Association.

The study followed 47,904 people who had undergone haemoglobin A1C testing – a standard way to measure blood sugar – as part of a screening programme for hepatitis B from 1999 to 2001. They were followed until the end of 2004, when it was found 815 had died.

Ms Brewer and her team discovered that the likelihood of death rose in parallel with blood sugar levels, even when the analysis was restricted to people without diabetes. Those in the highest category of blood sugar levels had more than twice the death rate of those with low levels.

"In future, people will need to know their haemoglobin A1C level, just as they may currently know their blood pressure or their cholesterol levels," she says.

As well as the association with the overall risk of death, strong associations were seen for some specific causes of death, including endocrine, nutritional, metabolic and immunity disorders (which can include diabetes and cystic fibrosis), and diseases of the circulatory system (which can include heart disease). Weaker associations were noted between elevated blood sugar levels and deaths from cancer. The associations were equally strong in men and women.

Ms Brewer was surprised at the lack of previous research into the subject in New Zealand. The association has previously been seen in several overseas studies, but this new study is the largest to be carried out internationally, and the first such study in New Zealand.

"People might have thought of those with diabetes as being in one corner and themselves in another. This suggests there might be more to it than that," Ms Brewer says.

"It is interesting because it's something people might want to know, and to think about. There's possibly more of a continuum between not having diabetes and having diabetes than previously supposed."

Focus on children's design nets global award for design student

A passion for designing for children and a love of nature have combined to help final-year Bachelor of Design student Carolina Pena win a bronze award in international design awards.

Mrs Pena won the award in the student section of the International Design Excellence Awards for *Close Up*, a combination drawing table with specimen viewing containers for bugs, insects, leaves or flowers.

Described as an "art-lab" table for six and seven-year-olds, it features removable containers with magnification lenses and a light underneath to enable children to study and then draw or trace the flora or fauna in the containers.

"I really like to design for children and I'm really into nature, so I wanted to look at how to inspire and motivate children with art and

nature," says Mrs Pena, who is studying at the Auckland campus majoring in product design.

Close Up was the result of a third year-furniture and technology component of Mrs Pena's study, during which students were challenged to design marketable, educational furniture.

Run independently by the Industrial Designers Society of America and sponsored by *Business Week* magazine, the contest attracted more than 1500 entries in 17 categories.

Mrs Pena says winning the bronze award is very encouraging. "It really motivates me to keep working harder. You have to work hard and believe in yourself."

She is now working on her final major project, which is designing for children with sensory dysfunction.



Dr David Tripe.

Bank provisions no cause for panic

Provisions announced by both the National Australia Bank and the ANZ banks in the face of the global liquidity crisis should be viewed as prudent steps, the director of the University's Centre for Banking Studies, Dr David Tripe says. He says other big banks might soon announce similar moves.

Dr Tripe says that although both banks are clearly expecting things to get worse, the provisions they are making now will still leave them in profit at the end of the year.

Because the banks are going to remain profitable, he says, the situation is very different from the string of recent finance company collapses.

Last month the National Australia Bank publicly signalled it would write down the value of loans it has in the disastrous United States sub-prime market, thereby cutting an estimated \$600 million from its profit. The ANZ subsequently followed with an announcement that it would significantly increase its reserves to cover bad debt arising from some of its loans in Australia.

The ANZ said that although its underlying business would continue to deliver solid results, the continuing deterioration in global credit markets, a weak New Zealand economy and softening Australian economy would result in further provisions and valuation adjustments this year.

"The moves made by these two banks are an example of prudent behaviour of banks, which hold relatively high credit ratings, compared with finance companies, which hold relatively low credit ratings," Dr Tripe says. "What we are seeing here is not going to cause either of the banks to move into a loss situation. The write-downs the NAB is making are small relative to the total amounts of their assets."

As the two Australian banks have gone public in their plans to address losses related to their current loan exposure, Dr Tripe expects it is likely other banks will also face difficulties.

"It wouldn't surprise me if some of the other big banks go public on potential problems they may have in their loan portfolios."

Never better for small businesses

The environment for small businesses has never been better but there is a need for a change in the way the sector is perceived, New Zealand Centre for Small and Medium Enterprise Research director, Professor Claire Massey told the country's recent small business summit in Auckland.

"Although the environment has never been more complex, support for small business has never been stronger. Today there are more agencies small business can turn to for help, more experts on the subject, more funds available and more websites to seek information from."

Professor Massey was a keynote speaker at the summit, which she says was an excellent initiative for a sector of business people crying out for information. A long-time observer of government policy as it relates to small business, she says New Zealand will suffer unless we develop a better appreciation of the complexity of the sector and become more effective at recognising its contribution to the country.



Professor Claire Massey.

How the Government perceives the small business sector has a direct bearing on whether or not small firms fulfil their potential as the backbone of a sustainable economy, she said.

"Government has the ability to both reflect our thinking and to lead it. This thinking has the potential to influence the health of the small business infrastructure and the environment that makes sustainable business development possible."

"There is now a large evidence base that suggests three things about small firms. We know they have particular needs, they are resource constrained compared with larger firms and we know growth will occur more quickly when there is targeted intervention."

She says New Zealand needs to develop a new conceptual framework that moves beyond the one-dimensional approaches that were helpful a decade ago. On the way to developing what she calls a "SMEcosystem" achievable goals need to be identified and worked on collectively.

"We have to stop griping about 'lifestyle business' and mom and pop firms as if they were a bad thing," Professor Massey said.

Market traders take more risks in afternoon sessions

Researchers in the field of behavioural finance have found that professional stock market traders' appetite for risk tends to increase in the afternoon if they have made losses that morning, leading to more aggressive trading and often bigger losses.

Massey Finance researcher Fei Wu has been making an ongoing study of the decision-making processes of professionals trading on the Nasdaq index, the world's largest electronic equity securities market.

To examine the effect of trading losses generated in the morning on trading decisions in the afternoon, the researchers analysed trading records for 150 traders working on behalf of a national securities dealer. The data was taken from a total of 1.3 million trades executed over the course of a year.

Posing the question of whether loss-making affects subsequent trading behaviour, the researchers also found that traders who were the most influenced by making losses were by far the worst performers in the subsequent afternoon session.

Dr Wu, in the Department of Economics and Finance, has been tracking the behaviour and decision-making patterns of traders with Dr Ryan Garvey of Duquesne University in Pittsburgh and Dr Anthony Murphy at University College in Dublin. Their findings

were published under the heading *Do Losses Linger?* in the United States *Journal of Portfolio Management*.

"When it comes to money and investing, we are not always as rational as we think we are," Dr Wu says.

"Although economic theory is based on the belief that individuals behave in a rational manner, and that all existing information is embedded in the investment process, behavioural finance researchers are now questioning that assumption."

"The findings provide strong evidence that professional traders who make losses in the morning sessions will take more risks during the afternoon, most likely because they are trying to recover their losses and they are mentally closing out their daily accounts in the black," Dr Wu says.

Dr Wu and his associates also found that in general traders closed out positions taken in the morning before taking a lunch break, started again with new positions in the afternoon and would close out those positions before the end of the trading day.

They say the pattern of reactions or financial behaviour tended to be asymmetrical, with morning losses having a more pronounced effect than morning gains on how a trader would operate in the afternoon.



Karen Stockin with one of Massey's two dolphin research vessels.

Award for Animal Science professor

Professor Steve Morris is this year's recipient of the Sir Arthur Ward award for application of research to animal production.

Professor Morris has worked in sheep and beef cattle production for more than 20 years. After completing a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in agricultural science, he undertook a PhD in sheep production, all at Massey.

His research interests include sheep production and international agriculture development, while his expertise extends to farming and food production systems, farm management, grassland farming and beef production.

Professor Tom Barry, also of the University's Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences in Palmerston North, says a key feature of Professor Morris' work is its industry relevance.

"Examples of successful research programmes include beef production from Jersey cross Friesian steers, effects of early pregnancy nutrition on calf birth weight and calving difficulty in heifers, hogget management to maximise reproductive performance, management of triplet-bearing ewes and mid-pregnancy shearing of ewes," Professor Barry says.

"Steve has always been a practical and hands-on researcher, still known for appearing in overalls and gumboots and participating in research alongside students. He has also been a key communicator, both with industry leaders and to individual farmers and students.

He has made a considerable contribution to pastoral livestock by serving on many boards and training bodies, including the training of future agricultural scientists, and at Massey has been a member of the animal ethics committee since 1994.

"For all these reasons he is a very appropriate recipient of the Sir Arthur Ward award."

Professor Morris received the award at the recent joint conference of the New Zealand and Australian Societies of Animal Production in Brisbane. The trophy was donated by Sir Arthur Ward to encourage communication of agricultural and horticultural science. It is to provide recognition to a member of the New Zealand Institute of Agricultural and Horticultural Science who has, through writing, public speaking, radio, television or practical demonstration, made a significant contribution to the extension and adoption of agricultural or horticultural science.



Professor Steve Morris.

Dolphin researcher in running for Unesco fellowship

Research on the New Zealand common dolphin has earned Massey marine biology researcher Karen Stockin the sole New Zealand nomination for a 2009 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) fellowship for women in science.

It is the second time Ms Stockin has been selected as the New Zealand nominee for the prestigious Unesco-L'Oreal co-sponsored fellowship for young women in science. Fifteen fellowships are awarded every year, each worth \$52,000 over two years.

Recipients will be announced this September.

Ms Stockin says if she succeeds in gaining a fellowship, the funds will assist with her postdoctoral research on the common dolphin in New Zealand and Australia, and its significance as a biological marker of changes in the marine environment.

Currently a research officer and lecturer in the Coastal Marine Research Group at the Institute of Natural Resources in Auckland, Ms Stockin's just-completed doctoral research on

the New Zealand common dolphin provides the first substantial scientific data on the species.

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

Her zoology doctoral thesis, *The New Zealand Common Dolphin – Identity, Ecology and Conservation*, provides an understanding of the biology and status of the dolphin and investigates the impact of tourism, commercial fishing and marine pollution on the species.

Ms Stockin, who has recently been mentoring dolphin researchers at Flinders University in Adelaide, is also to develop New Zealand's first common dolphin management plan for the Department of Conservation.

New Zealand's National Commission for Unesco describes Ms Stockin in its statement of recommendation for the fellowship as "an outstanding role model for young women in science".

Writer's final work released

It was written in a race against time but Bronwyn Tate's last novel *Adam's Ale* is one of her best works, according to friend and editor Rae McGregor.

The novelist, who lectured in creative writing at the School of English and Media Studies, died of cancer as the book was completed in 2005. The novel, her fifth, was released in Palmerston North last month.

The book tells the story of a group of students who spend a summer holiday restoring an old homestead.

It is being released through Brava publications.

Ms McGregor says time spent with her friend and colleague as she struggled to finish the novel was invaluable when it came time to edit it.

"We were with Bronwyn when she was very sick and trying to finish the novel. We came down to Palmerston North and helped her complete it. It was a race against time and she was very determined to get it done."

The manuscript sat with a publishing company for several years before Ms McGregor and another friend, Valda Paddison, got it back and edited it themselves.

The task was difficult, but the job was made easier because of the long relationship they enjoyed with the writer, Ms McGregor says.

"Bronwyn, Valda and I used to have writing weekends in Auckland together, where we'd congregate at my house and just write. That meant we knew her style and understood how she wanted the book to be."

Ms McGregor says parts of the book were hard to read because they related her friend's illness.

"One character is dying of cancer and talks of losing words from her vocabulary such as 'tomorrow' and 'next year'.

"I knew that was related to Bronwyn's experience. But she would never actually talk about being sick. The last weeks of her life were spent just working very hard to complete the book."

Dr Lisa Emerson lectured with Tate at the School of English and Media Studies and says she was a wonderful teacher.

"Bronwyn taught from the perspective of a craft-person and the students valued that. She was an endlessly patient teacher and amazingly supportive."

Adam's Ale was released at Bruce McKenzie Booksellers.

Methamphetamine use stable but causing more problems

New research suggests methamphetamine use has stabilised over the past three years, but frequent users are experiencing more health and legal problems.

Massey's Centre for Social and Health Outcomes Research and Evaluation has released the 2007 Illicit Drug Monitoring System, which offers a snapshot of trends in drug use and drug related harm in New Zealand.

Lead researcher Dr Chris Wilkins says frequent users of methamphetamine were more likely to have needed an ambulance, accident and emergency department, drug and alcohol worker, counsellor or GP in relation to their drug use last year compared to the previous two years.

"Overall levels of methamphetamine use appear to be fairly stable but this research indicates there is a growing population of heavy users experiencing health and legal problems," Dr Wilkins says.

Frequent methamphetamine users are also more likely to have committed violent or property crime last year compared to the 2005 findings.

"Users are under increasing financial pressure, however only minorities of frequent users reported paying for their drug use with money from property crime and even smaller minorities committed violent crime."

There has been some decline in the availability of crystal methamphetamine (ice), the research shows.

"This is likely to reflect the impact of some very large seizures of crystal methamphetamine



Dr Chris Wilkins.

made by police and customs in 2006 and 2007," Dr Wilkins says.

Frequent drug users, interviewed as part of the ongoing research, stated that more people they knew were using ecstasy last year compared to 2006.

"The situation with ecstasy is somewhat confused by the previous ready availability of BZP party pills [now outlawed], which are sometimes fraudulently sold by drug dealers as ecstasy. Increasing use of ecstasy may also reflect the declining reputation of methamphetamine, which is increasingly associated with serious psychological problems and addiction."

New book explores sustainable coastal management

An ecological approach to managing coastlines and oceans is required to ensure their resources are sustained, according to a book released this week.

Ecological Economics of the Oceans and Coasts is edited by Associate Professor Bruce Glavovic, from the School of People, Environment and Planning, and Professor Murray Patterson, from the New Zealand Centre for Ecological Economics.

Dr Glavovic says the book explores fresh ways of managing oceans and coasts.

"Oceans are the last frontier on Earth but we're currently exploiting them like they're a limitless resource. Marine ecosystems are under huge pressure and it's not sustainable."

He says ecological economics approaches coastal management with a fresh perspective.

"We've tended to use an economic model that ignores nature's limits as we have exploited marine resources in the past, but here we are bringing ecology and economics

together in an integrated approach to ocean and coastal management. The focus is on sustainability."

The book addresses key issues relevant to the New Zealand context, but contributors include scholars and practitioners from across the world, Dr Glavovic says.

The book is a product of the New Zealand Centre for Ecological Economics, a partnership between the University and Landcare Research.

Dr Glavovic is also an editor of another book about to be released. *Integrated Coastal Zone Management* also looks at real-world experience and innovative ways of managing coastal zones, presenting case studies from around the world including many Asian countries, Africa, North and South America, Europe, the Middle East and island nations.

Ecological Economics of the Oceans and Coasts will be officially launched at Landcare Research at 4pm tomorrow.



Professor John Raine with four of the award recipients, from left: Kataraina Hohua, Chris Rodley, Kenneth Taiapa and Kaleb Leeming.

Contribution to Māori development recognised

Twelve Māori students received awards from the Auckland campus last month in recognition of their contribution to the University, leadership and Māori development.

Four undergraduate students received bursaries worth a total of \$12,000, sponsored by the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Auckland and International) Professor John Raine.

The bursars were chosen for their academic performance and contribution to Māori development on and off campus.

Recipients were:

- Kenneth Taiapa, (Ngāti Porou, Rongowhakaata), who is studying a Bachelor of Arts with a major in sociology and Māori studies. Mr Taiapa was also awarded a Te Pūtake Mentor Award in recognition of his leadership among the student community.
- Nadita Beauchamp, (Tuhoe) is studying for a Bachelor of Arts with a major in social policy.
- Kataraina Hohua, (Tuhoe), who is studying for a Bachelor of Business Studies majoring in accountancy.

- Kaleb Leeming (Ngāti Whātua), who is studying a Bachelor of Business Studies majoring in sport business management.

Six postgraduate students received Purehuroa Awards sponsored by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Māori), Professor Mason Durie.

These recognise academic performance and students must have a minimum B+ average. The awards are valued at between \$2000 and \$4000 each.

Cultural identity and links for better mental health

A Harvard University medical student has suggested ways in which links might be identified between Māori cultural identity and better mental health.

Stephen Pomedli, who spent time at Massey University's academy for Māori research and scholarship, Te Mata o Te Tau, last year as part of an exchange programme, had an article called *Cultural Identity and Mental Health* published last month.

He says the exchange programme, funded by Harvard Medical School, was a valuable opportunity to learn, compare, and contrast the experiences of different cultures and consider the similarities as well as differences between indigenous peoples.

"Te reo Māori, for example, is unique to, and distinct, within the Māori world, and thus may be especially useful in evaluating certain aspects of cultural identity," Mr Pomedli says.

"A possible option would be to look at the relationship of an individual's ability in te reo, their satisfaction with this level of ability and participation, and the mental health of those individuals that self-identify as Māori.

"This analysis would offer a unique opportunity to examine a variable of cultural interest such as te reo, and to consider what possible relationships to mental health, if any, exist.

"Overall, I was interested in exploring some of the methods and identity scales currently being used to assess cultural identity and ways in which these scales might be modified to better capture the experiential identity



Harvard medical student Stephen Pomedli.

of indigenous peoples in the 21st century. I was interested in how these scales might subsequently be used to make associations between cultural participation, experience and identity, and mental health.

"In terms of the Māori language, I proposed that it may be interesting to quantify language ability in te reo Māori and see how this correlates with subjective experience in terms of individual satisfaction with one's participation with the Māori cultural world, ultimately to see if this putative correlation

impacts mental health indicators.

"One of the most interesting things that I learned from my time at Massey relates to the dynamism of the Māori culture, and the way in which Māori culture has adapted and continues to adapt to the multitude of forces from without and within. It was fascinating to hear about, read about, and consider how these forces have shaped the culture in the past, and how Māori continue to reassert their core values in new ways within the 21st century context, and still retain tangible ties to the values of the ancestral culture."

Mr Pomedli is 24 years old and is in his second to last year of medical school at Harvard in Boston, Massachusetts. He is currently completing a psychiatry clerkship at Mclean Hospital in Belmont, Massachusetts.

Te Mata o Te Tau director Dr Te Kani Kingi says he was impressed with the depth of Mr Pomedli's analysis of cultural identity and how this could be measured.

"Te Mata o Te Tau aims to provide a forum for fostering Māori academic advancement and creating new knowledge. As an international scholar, Mr Pomedli's paper is making a contribution to Māori development," Dr Kingi says.

"While his paper stopped short of establishing a link between culture and positive mental health he did raise a number of important points for consideration and highlighted the complexities involved with measuring identity in a contemporary context."

Noise-induced hearing loss on the rise

A study into the prevention of noise-induced hearing loss will be undertaken by a multidisciplinary team led by the Centre for Ergonomics, Occupational Safety and Health at the College of Business.

A \$500,000 contract has been awarded under the Occupational Health and Safety Research Portfolio, an initiative funded by the Accident Compensation Commission, the Department of Labour and the Health Research Council. The study is part of a programme focused on noise-induced hearing loss.

The ACC reports a steady increase in the number of claims for noise-induced hearing loss, a permanent loss caused by exposure to intense sound.

The latest statistics from ACC for the 2004-2005 financial year show that rehabilitation costs directly related to noise-induced hearing loss totalled almost \$43 million.

The ACC reports that despite knowledge of effective controls and guidelines the prevalence shows no sign of decreasing. A steady increase in claims over the decade to 2005 with 11 New Zealanders successfully claiming compensation for a new case each day.

The organisations working to combat the problem anticipate that the cost to ACC will continue to escalate dramatically unless there is a big shift in the effectiveness of current interventions.

Dr Ian Laird is leading the project and is now fine-tuning the research strategy.

"It certainly seems that the current controls and preventive programmes don't appear to be working," he says. "It also seems that some sectors that were not considered to be noisy workplaces are in fact more harmful than thought. The world is becoming a noisier and noisier place."

"Although excessive exposure to loud noise over a period of time is known to be the cause, why this is occurring in large numbers in certain industry sectors isn't as clear, as permanent loss usually takes some time to develop."

Dr Laird says the project will evaluate existing work-related interventions to reduce noise-induced hearing loss in New Zealand, it will identify critical factors in the development and implementation of strategies and it will propose strategies/interventions where current interventions are considered ineffective.

The researchers want to identify any barriers to implementing current strategies and will examine aspects of workplace culture that affect decision-making around the issues of noise prevention.

Dr Laird's team includes researchers on all three campuses and from Otago University, Canterbury University and the University of South Australia.



Dr Ian Laird.

Study to shed light on anxiety in elderly

Health workers dealing with older people will soon have a new tool to assess anxiety and its causes in older adults.

Margaret Sandham, a clinical psychology PhD student at the school of psychology in Auckland, is looking for people aged between 60 and 75 to respond to a questionnaire on their experiences of worry. The information from the study will be used to construct an age-appropriate questionnaire she hopes will be used by doctors, psychologists and other health workers to help them assess anxiety and its causes.

Ms Sandham says because most research has been done on young to middle-aged people, the important differences in life experiences of older adults are likely to be overlooked.

"Younger people may be more concerned about work-related issues, while older people may worry about their health – a reflection of natural developmental changes that come with ageing", she says.

Often the willingness to acknowledge or discuss anxiety is difficult for the older generation who grew up before psychology and its jargon entered mainstream life and who are perhaps afraid and suspicious of language related to mental health, she says.

"But if anxiety about doing day-to-day

activities becomes habitual and inhibits people from socialising and living normally, it is important they can get help," Ms Sandham says.

"What people need to realise is that feelings of anxiety are normal for all of us, and that anxiety is so treatable."

By constructing a questionnaire specifically addressing older people's needs in language they can relate to, health practitioners will be better placed to recognise anxiety symptoms and help their clients.

"It is important that psychologists understand all levels of worry, so that they can identify when it becomes problematic," says Ms Sandham. "My research seeks participants who may not see themselves as being anxious, but might have some concerns from time to time."

The first stage of the study will see 200 people questioned about their experiences and how they perceive anxiety in their friends and acquaintances.

Experiences as a registered nurse at Mercy, Greenlane, and Auckland hospitals brought Ms Sandham into contact with elderly patients.

She says her conversations sparked her interest in the mental well-being of older people whose needs and experiences are, at times, ignored or misunderstood.



Margaret Sandham wants find out how older people experience anxiety.



College of Creative Arts, Associate Professor Ross Hemera beside the waharoa at Puketeraki Marae in Karitane.

Dawn dedication for new marae entranceway

A new waharoa (entranceway) at Puketeraki Marae in the Otago town of Karitane received the blessing of the Karitane community at dawn on Sunday.

The waharoa project was completed after a two-year collaboration, between the marae community, and two Ngāi Tahu artists, Ross Hemera in Wellington and James York in Dunedin.

Associate Professor Ross Hemera, from the College of Creative Arts, says the project was an opportunity for him to reconnect with his Ngāi Tahu whānau. His mother told him some time ago that according to oral history his paternal grandfather was buried near the marae,

Mr Hemera says both he and Mr York are very happy with how the waharoa came together. "It met our expectations and we have received positive feedback from both the marae whānau and the wider community."

Mr Hemera says his personal connection to the area made it feel like he was following in the footsteps of his ancestors. He says the connection was as strong as the one he feels between himself and the rock drawings left by his forefathers that are a distinctive feature in his work.

"It has been rewarding on so many levels connecting with the Huirapa whānau, least of which is the opportunity to collaborate with other Ngāi Tahu artists," Mr Hemera says.

"For me working with Māori communities, especially my own iwi, validates what I do as an artist." On the waharoa project, he has collaborated with carver James York. While Mr Hemera has been sculpting the totara and aluminium posts (amo) of the gateway from his Wellington studio, Mr York has been working on the (maihi) barge boards from his studio in Dunedin and the two compare notes and collaborate most often by phone, email and occasionally in person.

"Working with other artists, and the community, is an essential part of Māori creative practice," Mr Hemera says. "As Māori and as Ngāi Tahu I enjoy the opportunity to contribute to the collective aspirations of the community. When working with our art forms the concept of taonga tuku iho is the pervading kaupapa – the knowledge that comes from the atua [gods], and ancestors – this is treasured, added to and developed and then passed on to others. These concepts also underpin my teaching practice."

"As with the rock drawings, with this project I felt that my forefathers were telling me how to make forms, so essentially whānau, or the concept of taonga tuku iho, is at the heart of all my work."

The waharoa conforms to a traditional amo and maihi convention, with two side posts and gabled bargeboards. "It is made from totara the customary timber for such structures. The

carved elements and surface patterns are reduced to a bare minimum. However, some contemporary elements have been introduced through the use of aluminium components. At its widest the gateway spans about 6m and is about 3m high at the apex."

Mr Hemera has worked at Massey for 14 years in a variety of teaching and researching roles. "Part of my work as an academic at Massey involves creative practice in the visual arts. Another expectation is connecting and working with communities. I feel fortunate that I have been able to undertake both of these aspects within the context of my whānau and iwi."

Puketeraki Marae manager Suzanne Ellison says the collaboration presented challenges that required negotiation. "The challenge for the hapū was to find the whakaaro (concept) behind the waharoa and the challenge for the artists was to bring this out in the work... the artists can't do their own thing, they have to work with the community and can take it only as far as people want it to go."

"The gateway is based on the whakatauki [proverb], 'Ki uta, ki tai' – from the mountains to the coast, and reflects the stories about the local area and whānau."

Mr Hemera and Mr York are also part of an exhibition of the works of six Ngāi Tahu artists that opened at Gallery Thirty Three in Wanaka last week and runs until 15 August.

'Spider web' dress nets Hokonui fashion award



The award-winning dress.

A crochet dress that took more than 20 hours to complete won Alanah Gibson the \$1000 knitted category award at the Peugeot Hokonui Fashion Design Awards in Gore on 25 July.

Miss Gibson's dress was made by crocheting strips of wool tulle fabric together and has a leather neckband.

The fourth-year Bachelor of Design student says the spider web look is designed to reflect wanting something you cannot have or cannot get to.

"It was all about reinventing something vintage. I wanted to bring crochet back and reinvent it so it was cool."

Another of Miss Gibson's designs was highly commended, also in the knitted category of the awards.

Other students or recent graduates also had garments named runner-up in the awards: Sarah Dally (menswear), Wenting Zhu (nightlife); or highly commended: Remy Sung (menswear), Sarah Dally (menswear), Bonnie Stevenson-Wright (Kiwiana), and Wenting Zhu (nightlife).

The achievements continue a run of success for Massey Wellington students and alumni at the awards, which have been held for the past 20 years.

Fashion lecturer Nina Weaver says entering awards is always a worthwhile goal.

"It gives the students something high to aim for and achieve, rather than just the academic side," Mrs Weaver says.

She says entries by the University's students were easy to pick out. "When Massey University garments came out on the stage you could see the quality and intellect in the garment."

Current or former Massey students took out four merit awards. They are Anna von Hartitzsch and Amy van Luijk, who are still studying at the Wellington campus, and recent graduates Remy Sung and Samantha Croft.

Exhibition highlights old and new printing methods

Whitebait, kiwifruit, and other distinctively New Zealand delights were celebrated in print recently in *Nostalgia, Memory and Food*, an exhibition of typography work by graphic design honours students on the Wellington campus.

Typography subject director Annette O'Sullivan says the first semester's work by 24 students reflected experimentation with both digital and hand-printing methods.

The typography paper, called contemporary letterpress, explores the use of nostalgia in design and how this can be utilised in a modern context, as well as the cultural, historical and social aspects of New Zealand food.

Miss O'Sullivan says some students loved using old methods of printing like stencils and wooden and metal type. "

The ones who loved it, loved it. It is challenging; it's not easy."

The exhibition was held in the Great Hall of the University Museum Building, Tokomaru, last week



Kate Arnott works on a poster promotion of her chosen New Zealand food, hangi.



From left: Auckland School of Design's new Integrated Design Centre draws on international expertise with new staff arrivals (from left); Dong-Yen Ryu (Korea) with regional director Azhar Mohamed, Jacob Risteau (United States), Erdem Selek (Turkey), Erik Champion (New Zealand) and Oliver Neuland (Germany).

Dimensions merge in new Integrated Design Centre

Blending good looks with functionality in design is the aim of a new research centre launched at the Auckland campus this month.

The Integrated Design Centre reflects a global trend towards an increasingly holistic approach to product development whereby designers are expected to be well-versed in visual design, branding and marketing as well as the technical, functional and sustainable features.

Auckland School of Design regional director Azhar Mohamed says the new centre will undertake research and teaching, aiming to equip students with the skills to create products that are aesthetically pleasing as well as practical and pleasurable to use.

The Integrated Design Centre will encourage research in design, as well as fostering design consultancy projects and work experience initiatives with industry, Mr Mohamed says. Lecture, study and research exchanges with international design institutions are planned.

Mr Mohamed says students trained in integrated design will be better prepared to meet the needs of the New Zealand market, where manufacturing and design companies are small and tend to overlap.

"In a small economy like New Zealand's, design graduates need to be very versatile," he says.

Integrated design links disciplines rather than requiring students to choose between them, from the marketing, advertising and brand-building visual side to the technical areas of engineering and production.

"Consumers are more sophisticated. Increased competition means that products have to be high-performance and a pleasure to look at and to use."

Although design students already undertake courses from two-dimensional and three-dimensional design areas before specialising, the Integrated design programme – to be offered from 2010 as a new major within the

Bachelor of Design (Honours) – will formalise this integration with additions to the existing curriculum. The opening of the centre coincided with the recent arrival of four new lecturers to the school, bringing expertise from academia and industry to a range of disciplines.

Associate Professor Erik Champion is a new media specialist. Originally from New Zealand, he has been based in Australia where he worked at University of Queensland and Sydney's University of New South Wales. Jacob Risteau is a typographer and visual communications expert from Los Angeles.

Erdem Selek, a Turkish industrial designer, and Dong-Yen Ryu, an automotive design specialist from Korea who has worked as a designer for Toyota in Japan, are also joining the school.

Oliver Neuland, a design consultant and senior industrial and transport design lecturer from Germany, joined the University last year.

Researcher's passion for Kiribati rewarded

Lecturer Tony Whincup has received the Kiribati Order of Merit. The award was made in recognition of his 30-year labour of love researching and communicating the importance of a wide range of Kiribati practices and artefacts.

Associate Professor Whincup is Head of the School of Visual and Material Culture at the College of Creative Arts in Wellington, arrives back in New Zealand this week.

"This is a wonderful endorsement of my work over the last 30 years," Mr Whincup says.

In 2002 Mr Whincup and his wife Joan wrote *Akekeia! – Traditional Dance in Kiribati*, which won the Montana Book Awards illustrative category.

Mr Whincup will give the first lecture in the Wellington campus public lecture series at 6pm on 7 August in the Massey University Museum Building Tokomaru theatre. He will speak on *The Threat of Climate Change to Indigenous Knowledge – A Case Study on Notiruru, Kiribati*.



President Anote Tong awards Associate Professor Tony Whincup the Kiribati Order of Merit.

Top scholarships for pair tackling infectious disease

Two Massey scientists working on new ways to control infectious diseases have been awarded prestigious postdoctoral scholarships worth more than \$500,000.

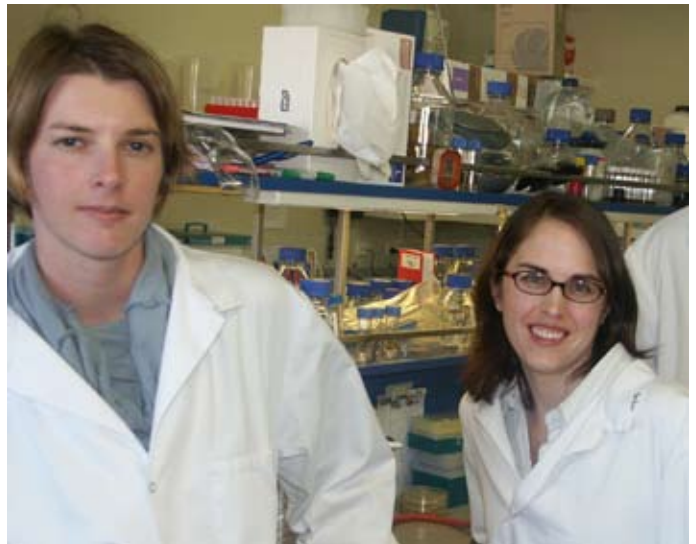
Dr Gayle Ferguson and Dr Monica Gerth, both researchers at the University's new Institute for Advanced Study in Auckland, were named yesterday as recipients of the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology Postdoctoral Fellowships. Each recipient is eligible for a stipend of up to \$58,000 a year for three years, plus an allowance for research costs and ongoing skills development, to a total of \$264,000 over three years.

Dr Ferguson's fellowship will support research into the fundamentals of bacterial evolution, a study with potential to deliver new knowledge about infectious diseases together with novel treatment strategies. She is based at the University's Institute for Advanced Study in Auckland, and will investigate the way organisms mutate and evolve to better understand pathogenicity in bacteria.

As well as improved infectious disease control, Dr Ferguson's research into how controlled molecular switches are constructed has potential to produce knowledge of interest to mathematicians and nanotechnologists. Possible applications in these areas are biosensors, artificial cells for enhanced pharmaceutical biosynthesis and light detectors for advanced image processing. Dr Ferguson has recently returned from the United Kingdom.

Dr Gerth's fellowship will support research into new treatments to control infectious diseases, significant in New Zealand because around 7 per cent of deaths result from bacterial infection and antibiotic resistance is a growing problem.

Her novel strategy is to use the cell's own metabolism to poison itself. The research will initially seek to understand how a common bacterial protein called HutD works, and then to develop drug-like inhibitors of it. The work will result in new scientific knowledge useful to the drug development and infectious disease control industries. Dr Gerth also aims to develop patentable intellectual property for developing new



Dr Gayle Ferguson and Dr Monica Gerth.

drugs based on HutD. She will be working with staff at the New Zealand Institute for Advanced Study and the Institute of Molecular Biosciences at Massey University's Auckland campus.

NZIAS chairman board Professor Grant Guilford says it is particularly pleasing to see two young scientists among the 14 acknowledged as the country's brightest and best.

"A key focus in developing our Institute for Advanced Study was to provide an environment where fundamental scholarship can thrive, enabling the kind of original thinking that produces major advances in knowledge.

"NZIAS provides an excellent multidisciplinary environment for the mentoring of these young scholars by its professoriate," Professor Guilford says.

Partnership boosts halls connectivity

A new student commons at Massey's Atawhai Village in Palmerston North was officially opened last month and marks the completion of a campus-wide systems upgrade for the residential halls.

About 950 students live on campus and a collaboration between the University and local internet provider Inspire.net has seen extensive networking undertaken to provide students with access to University services such as online learning and library services, and faster broadband speeds from the comfort of their rooms.

Students can connect via computers in student commons located within each halls cluster, from their rooms on their own computers or wirelessly at various locations around campus.

Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Palmerston North) Dr Sandi Shillington says the project's completion is good news for Massey and for Student City.

"The provision of a fast and reliable connection to the internet is an important tool for study, and a big draw-card for students looking to live on campus," Dr Shillington says.

"We are thrilled that our partnership with Inspire.net has allowed us to achieve this important milestone for students."



Elaine Reilly from Vision Manawatu cuts the ribbon at the opening of the Atawhai common room.

Inspire.net general manager Keith Linforth says the project is a culmination of three years' effort and the result is both exciting and rewarding.

"Palmerston North is one of New Zealand's better connected cities, and the good working relationship that we've built with Massey has contributed to this. Students can now enjoy some of the fastest speeds the city has to offer."

The closing date for students seeking a place in the halls of residence next year is 1 October.

There has already been a strong expression of interest for accommodation and this is expected to increase following the Open Days on Wednesday and Saturday.

Review of Wellington support structures

A review of Wellington campus support and services staff structures has been released for consultation.

The review, which proposes a reduction in full-time equivalent staff from 75 to 67.5, is the first to cover all campus support services and structures, since the amalgamation with Wellington Polytechnic in 1999.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Wellington) Professor Andrea McIlroy held meetings with staff last week.

She says the campus has changed considerably, both in the programmes it offers and staff and student numbers, and it is appropriate to now consider optimising the services and support staff structures.

Staff involved were invited to consider the report and make submissions by 27 August. No decisions will be made about change until staff views have been considered, Professor McIlroys says.

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Helping footballers prepare for the Olympics

Body cooling gel, gas masks, ice baths, compression stockings and a tonne of nutritional snacks will all be in the luggage of sport scientist Dr Andrew Fosskett as he accompanies the New Zealand men's football squad, the Oly-Whites, to the 2008 Olympic Games in China.

Dr Fosskett says being appointed as sport scientist for the first New Zealand football squad to go to the Olympics is "a dream role", which allows him to combine his academic knowledge with a passion for football at the ultimate sporting event.

The biggest challenge for athletes going to China will be adapting to the heat of 30 to 35deg, and humidity of 90 to 95 per cent, as well as China's much-publicised air pollution, he says. Normal summer humidity in Auckland is in the high 70s.

Dr Fosskett, a lecturer at the Exercise and Sports Division of the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health in Auckland, says although the media has focused on the air pollution he is also mindful of the effects of heat and humidity.

"Athletes are more susceptible to catching bugs when they're at peak fitness," Dr Fosskett says.

During games, players will wear special vests soaked in a cooling gel originally formulated for racehorses to delay the onset of fatigue caused by overheating.

"Fluid loss in football is normally between one and three litres per hour.

"But with the challenging environmental conditions and intense physical activity, the



Dr Andrew Fosskett.

players are potentially going to be at the upper end of fluid losses – possibly in excess of four-and-a-half litres per match," says Dr Fosskett, a former semi-professional footballer in Britain who has also played in the National League in New Zealand.

The 25-strong squad, including 18 players, played several practice games in Australia, followed by two weeks of acclimatisation in Indonesia, where the climate is similar to that of China.

The squad arrived in China a week before the first games in Shenyang against China on Thursday and Brazil on Sunday. The team then faces Belgium in Shanghai on 13 August.

Like all other New Zealand athletes attending the games, football team members are being urged to wear protective masks while travelling to prevent them catching flu or other bugs, and to wear carbon filter masks in China to reduce the harmful effects of air pollution.

Dr Fosskett will also provide coaching support with post-match recovery logistics and technical analysis of player performance using specially developed computer software.

He is "very excited" about the forthcoming trip. "It's the pinnacle of sport. For the players, it will be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity because it's an under-23 tournament."

The under-23 age restriction is to avoid too many professional players being involved because it runs counter to the amateur concept of the Olympics, he says.

Olympic football teams are, however, allowed to include three over-23 players, and the Oly-Whites are pleased they will have elite New Zealand footballer Ryan Nelsen, currently star central defender for the English Blackburn Rovers club, for the first two of their three games in China.

Dr Fosskett says the Olympics are a "huge shop window" for international football scouts seeking new talent for what is one of the world's most lucrative sports. The team qualified in Fiji to represent Oceania, and is one of 16 teams in the competition.

Olympian shares story with primary school pupils

Olympic-bound shooter Rob Eastham spoke with pupils at College Street Normal School about his path to Beijing. He will compete in the 50m prone event at the Olympics.

Mr Eastham is studying towards a Bachelor of Science at the Palmerston North campus and is also a member of the University's Academy of Sport. He was invited to speak at the school as part of its focus on the Olympics.

The captivated audience of 8 to 10-year-olds asked him about the equipment he would be using and what training was needed to become an Olympic athlete.

Mr Eastham also spoke about the conditions in Beijing that could affect his event. He said the smog and humid weather would make it difficult to focus on the targets placed 50m away.

Pupils were also keen to have Mr Eastham's email address so they could send him messages of encouragement while he was in Beijing. He leaves for the Olympics on Wednesday.



Rob Eastham, wearing his competition equipment, answers questions from pupils at College Street Normal School.

Entries sought for Massey Blues

Nomination for the 2008 Sporting Blues Awards close next Friday.

The annual awards dinner to recognise students sporting success will be held on 7 October at the Palmerston North Convention Centre.

The function includes the naming of the campus sportsman and sportswoman of the year and the presentation of awards for most outstanding men's and women's team.

Outstanding contribution awards for both sport and campus life will also be presented.

Application forms for sporting blues, team awards and outstanding contribution awards are available from the students' association, the Recreation Centre, and campus information services reception in the Registry.

Students can be nominated or self-nominate.

Farmers' input sought for Dairy3 conference

Dairy3, the annual dairy conference involving North Island farmers, DairyNZ and Massey University, has a new chairman and new focus – and the organisers want to hear from farmers on the topics that they would like to see covered.

The new chairman is Keith Riley, a dairy farmer from Woodville.

"We're in the most exciting, dynamic part of the dairy industry – we are producing quality milk from contented cows, in an increasingly sustainable manner, in a great environment," Mr Riley says.

"Working together, we can ensure New Zealand is a leader in dairying. Dairy3 is part of that, and farmer ideas are vital."

The two-day conference has been an annual event since 2003. Under topics such as *What's hot*, *What matters most*, *Smart and sharp*, and *Milking the extremes*, the conference has offered information, networking and entertainment in direct response to farmer needs.

There are seven farmers on the conference organising committee to ensure that the programme meets real on-farm requirements.

Three representatives each from DairyNZ and the University are also on the committee, ensuring access to the latest research.

Next year the form of Dairy3 is likely to change. "We recognise that farmers are increasingly busy and increasingly in need of information targeted at their farms," Mr Riley says.

"We hope to have one-day events in at least three places across the country."

The programme involves latest research, best practice workshops and motivational talks. The committee is now working on ensuring that hot topics are covered – containing costs and emissions trading are high on the list.

Farmers are already being consulted on what they would like to see on the programme, and are invited to send their ideas to enquiry@dairy3.org.nz.

"There are many challenges ahead for dairying," Mr Riley says, "but with research we are making advances – and that is part of what makes it exciting. It beats sitting in an office and pushing paper any day."

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New records manager appointed

The University has appointed a records manager to lead the development and implementation of a records management programme.

University Registrar Stuart Morriss says the records management project is an important initiative.

One objective is to ensure that records are well-managed and corporate memory is well-preserved in order to facilitate quick and easy access to information stored in a secure and appropriate manner.

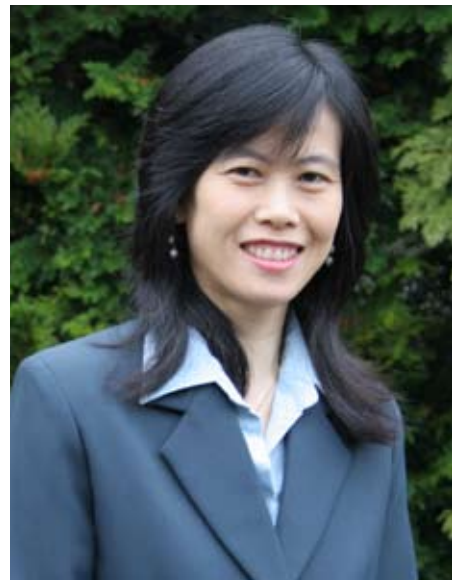
"Records are critical intellectual assets for the University that contribute to our research, teaching and administrative goals," Mr Morris says.

Former Crop & Food Research information and records manager Cecily Fung has been appointed to the role. At Crop & Food Ms Fung's main responsibility was leading the development of an information management strategy that had particular emphasis on developing and implementing a records management programme in response to the Public Records Act 2005.

"We are very fortunate to have a records manager with Cecily's experience leading us in this important project," Mr Morris says.

Ms Fung believes that the value of effective records management is far beyond legislative compliance.

"One of my first jobs here is to meet with staff so I can understand how records are currently managed at Massey and what the



Cecily Fung.

records requirements are so that I can plan how to improve our systems, set priorities for the records management project and identify the best ways to manage our records into the future," she says.

"I am looking forward to meeting and working with everyone to ensure that the programme meets the University's needs and helps to organise and manage different types of records held at the University in a more efficient and effective way."

Ms Fung will meet with college, campus and service managers over the next month.

Canada lecture invitation for Riddet Institute co-director

Professor Paul Moughan has been invited to present the 2008 JM Bell Distinguished Lecture in Canada next month.

Professor Moughan, a co-director of the Riddet Institute, will present the lecture, titled *The functional foods revolution – opportunities for agriculture*, in both Saskatoon (in Saskatchewan) and in Edmonton (Alberta).

The lectureship is awarded annually to an individual who has achieved international prominence in nutritional sciences and recognises Professor Moughan's leading contribution to animal growth biology, mammalian and human amino acid metabolism and food chemistry.

"My address will highlight the need for new scientific alignments in food and agricultural research and the strategic importance to New Zealand of recent cross-disciplinary initiatives such as the Riddet Institute and Massey's Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health," Professor Moughan says.

He has a longstanding association with Canadian researchers and is an Honorary Fellow of the University of Guelph's Centre for Nutrition Modelling and a member of the College of Reviewers for the prestigious Canadian Research Chairs. He also serves



Professor Paul Moughan.

as a scientific adviser on a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada research project.

The JM Bell Lectureship was established by the University of Saskatchewan to honour the scientist, JM Bell FRSC.

The Riddet Institute was successful last year in its bid to become one of New Zealand's Centres of Research Excellence (CoREs). Based at the Palmerston North campus, the institute's CoRE partners are Crop & Food Research, the University of Otago, AgResearch and the University of Auckland.

11 July

www.voxy.co.nz: Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor **Ian Warrington** says the University's sports related academic programmes in the Colleges of Business, Sciences and Education are attracting increasing numbers of students.

12 July

www.kiwiblog.co.nz: Professor **Sally Caswell**, from the Social and Health Outcome Research and Evaluation Centre, says that advertising programmes alone simply do not change bad behaviours in relation to alcohol harm in youth.

13 July

Radio New Zealand: **Doug Ashwell**, from the Department of Communication, Journalism and Marketing, has commented on the recent opening of the Government-funded science media centre in Wellington, which aims to aid the media in their reporting of scientific events and issues.

tvnz.co.nz, nzherald.co.nz; The Daily Post (14 July): **David Skiffington**, who has a major in animal science has won the Young Farmer of the Year title.

14 July

The Dominion Post, The Press, Marlborough Express/NZPA, Nelson Mail, Manawatu Standard, Taranaki Daily News, Timaru Herald, Ashburton Guardian, Bay of Plenty Times/NZPA, Gisborne Herald, Newstalk ZB, Radio New Zealand, Radio Live, 3news.co.nz, nzherald.co.nz, stuff.co.nz, radionz.co.nz, clearnet.co.nz, sobersources.blogspot.com, mildgreens.blogspot.com; The New Zealand Herald/NZPA, Gisborne Herald, Hawkes Bay Today/NZPA, Breakfast TV One (15 July): Dr **Chris Wilkins**, from the Social and Health Outcome Research and Evaluation Centre, has lead a study showing the number of methamphetamine users has stabilised in the past three years, and says there is a growing population of heavy users experiencing health and legal problems.

Radio New Zealand; Manawatu Standard (15 July): Professor **Vince Neall**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, has commented on the growing erosion on Mt Taranaki and the risk to the public from lahars and landslides.

Manawatu Standard, stuff.co.nz; stuff.co.nz (15 July): Vice-Chancellor Designate **Steve Maharey** is delivering a series of lunchtime talks at Palmerston North's City Library, the first being about his 18 years in Parliament.

Campbell Live TV3: Professor **Charles Brennan**, from the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health, says that if Massey can manufacture and promote foods that are healthy, we are

saving the New Zealand economy in terms of the financial commitment for chronic diseases.

3news.co.nz: **Simon Thomas**, a fourth-year student is working on a product for Marlborough's king salmon company, creating six sauces for a ready-to-go meal as one of the many innovations the university is working on in the interests of improving our food.

Wairarapa Times-Age: **Antonia Anisy**, an economics extramural student, has scored third place in the under-21 category speech writing competition including the idea Hold Your Breath from David Lange's famous 1985 Oxford speech.

15 July

Manawatu Standard; www.redorbit.com (16 July): **Yvonne Stillwell** and **Deborah Davies**, both from the Information Technology Services, say that working with undergraduates will help boost students' understanding of community-based nursing, and the two are helping teach second year papers in health promotion, public health and health policy in primary health care.

Rodney Times: Dr **Attilio Pigneri**, from the Institute of Technology and Engineering, says that although he is excited about the possibilities surrounding biochar, he cautions that some land management practices may need to be changed to keep it in the soil.

scoop.co.nz; Radio New Zealand, radionz.co.nz (16 July); scoop.co.nz (17 July): Dr **Te Kani Kingi**, from the Research Centre for Māori Health and Development, says as far as he is aware, the new web portal to support Māori PhD students is the first virtual community of its type for PhD study. Dr **Rangi Mataamua**, from the School of Māori Studies, has also commented on the new online community.

www.pia.gov.ph: Dr **Jill Bevan-Brown**, from the School of Curriculum and Pedagogy, is a keynote speaker at the 5th International Conference on Teacher Education, speaking on the topic of Culturally Appropriate Provisions for Children with Special Needs from Ethnic Minority Groups.

Hawkes Bay Today: **Neck Gledhill** and **Andrew Kersly**, design students and business partners at Axia 3D Design Group, have introduced new possibilities in the field of 3D design with their rapid prototyping machine which turns designs on the computer screen into actual physical objects.

16 July

bFM: Professor **Peter Lineham**, from the School of Social and Cultural Studies, says a lot of the people attending World Youth Day celebrations are not Catholic, but are attending the events for the entertainment factor.

Manawatu Standard, stuff.co.nz: **Fin Milne**, a business student, is in the New Zealand

Under-20 soccer squad and hopes to make the team for the World Cup in Egypt.

Manawatu Standard: Captain **Jane Derbyshire**, from the Centre for Defence Studies, has been chosen as one of 29 university teachers worldwide to attend an advanced training course in international humanitarian law in Switzerland, run by the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights.

www.nbr.co.nz, feeds.beehive.govt.nz, clearnet.co.nz; Otago Daily Times, The New Zealand Herald, The Dominion Post/NZPA, Manawatu Standard, nzherald.co.nz, scoop.co.nz, stuff.co.nz (17 July); The Dominion Post (23 July): Dr **Lisa Emerson**, from the School of English and Media Studies, is the recipient of the Prime Minister's Supreme Award of \$30,000 the first supreme award won by a Massey academic.

www.nbr.co.nz; Manawatu Standard, scoop.co.nz, stuff.co.nz, nzherald.co.nz (17 July); The Dominion Post (23 July): Dr **Hamish Anderson**, from the Department of Economics and Finance, has recently been awarded a national award for sustained excellence in teaching and \$20,000.

17 July

Radio New Zealand: Dr **Grant Duncan**, from the School of Social and Cultural Studies, says that students need to be properly supported by the Government, and if Labour introduced a universal student allowance then it will increase their public support, but is doubtful it will win them the election.

technology.newscientist.com; Manawatu Standard (21 July): **Matthew Brodie**, a Massey student from Wellington, has designed a way to capture the precise twists and turns of a skier's body during a downhill run by using motion-capturing sensors strapped to the skier's body

18 July

The Dominion Post: **Jaimee Claxton**, Black Sticks forward and human nutrition student, is appearing at the Beijing Olympic Games, which will be her second Olympic Games appearance.

nzherald.co.nz: Dr **Chris Messom**, from the Institute of Information and Mathematical Science, is working with specialists to decode the genome of the North Island brown kiwi, using the same software that searches for extraterrestrial life via the power of computers worldwide.

Manawatu Standard: Dr **Chris Rogers**, from the Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Science, is the initiator of the dressage forum, a joint venture between Dressage NZ and the University, which covers a range of topics in equine biomechanics relating to dressage performance, and training for dressage and eventing.

19 July

The Press, The Dominion Post, Ashburton Guardian, stuff.co.nz; Marlborough Express (21 July): Dr **David Tripe**, Director of the Centre for Banking Studies, says it is not efficient or sensible to treat credit cards for long-term financing and people should not be encouraged to do so.

Newstalk ZB; scoop.co.nz (22 July): Professor **Jacqueline Rowarth**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, is a contributor at this year's Seven for Seven event, where seven speakers discuss a chosen topic for seven minutes, with the theme of this series being how New Zealanders can transform into a premium, export focused economy.

20 July

Asia Down Under TV One: Captain **Ashok Poduval**, from the School of Aviation, has commented on the recent rise in the number of women training in the aviation industry, a sector which was previously dominated by men.

21 July

bFM, www.95bfm.com: Dr **Grant Duncan**, from the School of Social and Cultural Studies, discusses National's ACC policies, and states that their new attempts to privatise ACC should not come as a surprise, and privatisation will lead to a loss of accountability.

scoop.co.nz; Otago Daily Times (22 July): **Gayle Ferguson**, from the Institute of Molecular Bioscience, and **Monica Gerth**, are recipients of a \$264,000 Foundation for Research, Science and Technology postdoctoral fellowship, to go towards undertaking scientific research at the frontiers of new knowledge.

22 July

clearnet.co.nz: Dr **Naomi Brewer**, from the Centre for Public Health Research, and colleagues have found elevated blood sugar in people without a prior diagnosis of diabetes raises the risk of premature death.

Manawatu Standard; Taranaki Daily News (24 July): **Amy Jerram**, an Epicentre masters student, is carrying out research with a questionnaire about the farming operation, experiences of the people and working dogs, the health of the dogs, and those dogs that have retired in the past year.

TV One News, TVNZ 7 News: **Susan Flinte-Hartle**, from the Department of Economics and Finance, says that New Zealand's love affair with property ownership looks set to continue, even though experts say renting is a much cheaper option.

stuff.co.nz: **Dugan O'Donnell**, an industrial automation engineering student, is a coder for Verusco, a company that turns All Black rugby

matches into data, which becomes digital information that is manipulated, analysed and teased to examine moves and techniques.

tvnz.co.nz: **Susan Flinte-Hartle**, from the Department of Economics and Finance, says it is the pride of ownership and being able to do things to the property to increase value that New Zealander's like.

Nightline TV3; The Dominion Post, stuff.co.nz (24 July): **Amster Reedy**, a student at Massey, has been inspired by the death of the Kahui twins to research and revive the ancient Māori tradition of oriori (lullaby), and is writing his doctoral thesis on oriori, which are recited at birth, during a child's upbringing or upon the death of a child.

Wanganui Chronicle: **Alan Samson**, from the Department of Communication, Journalism and Marketing, is working alongside aspiring journalism students gaining experience.

Radio New Zealand: Professor **Dennis Viehland**, from the Institute of Information and Mathematical Science, has commented on the topic of changing business models in online auctions and implications for *TradeMe*, as part of a discussion panel.

23 July

scoop.co.nz: **Ngataiharuru Taepa**, from the School of Māori Studies, is one of six artists to have their works on display at an exhibition titled *Post*, on the new Whanganui tertiary education campus.

The New Zealand Herald: Dr **Jonathan Matheny**, from the Department of Management and International Business, says too many management teams encase themselves in glass walls and fail to communicate sufficiently with employees.

The New Zealand Herald: Dr **David Tripe**, Director of the Centre for Banking Studies, says it is reasonable to assume bank earnings will fall given what is taking place in the global and local economies, yet indicators suggest the situation is less than disastrous.

24 July

The New Zealand Herald: **Azhar Mohamed**, from the College of Creative Arts, discusses the role of design in car manufacture, and notes that automotive design has come a long way, in much the same way computers have evolved from being utilitarian to high-performance and desirable.

Radio Live: Professor **Mike O'Brien**, from the School of Health and Social Services, notes that there is a strong feeling about safety in New Zealand, following a series of high profile events of crime, and arming police just turns dangerous situations into even more explosive situations.

stuff.co.nz; Manawatu Standard (25 July): **Mark Cleaver**, from Franchise Management Services, is the newly appointed director of Research Management Services, and says it's

a great job in terms of my background.

www.guide2.co.nz, clearnet.co.nz; Waikato Times/NZPA (26 July): Dr **Chris Malone**, from the Department of Economics and Finance, says it is a concern that the finance sector crisis has not been adequately addressed by the Government and the Reserve Bank, and any initiatives that help restore confidence in the financial system are worth being fast-tracked.

www.stuff.co.nz; Otago Daily Times/NZPA (26 July): Professor **Janet Hoek**, from the Department of Communication, Journalism and Marketing, says tobacco marketing is extremely sophisticated, and tobacco advertisers are trying to obtain maximum exposure for their product.

www.jatifurniture.com: Student **Carolina Pena Villarreal**, has won bronze at the 2008 Gold Industrial Design Excellence Awards, for her Close Up art lab table with built-in portable containers for gathering samples such as bugs and leaves.

25 July

The New Zealand Herald: **Paul Lyons**, from the Institute of Information and Mathematical Science, says tying software and hardware together in such a small device (the iPhone) is no easy task, but Apple is the acknowledged expert at it.

Newstalk ZB: Professor **Larry Rose**, Pro Vice-Chancellor for the College of Business, has commented on claims that there are warnings for investors to research finance companies and not be blinded by celebrity endorsements.

Sunrise TV3: Professor **Claire Massey**, from the College of Business, says that small businesses continue to be the backbone of the economy and there are not enough small businesses making the jump to larger businesses.

26 July

stuff.co.nz: Professor **Jacqueline Rowarth**, from the Institute of Natural Resources, says that South Canterbury farmers face a major challenge in attracting Generation Y to a career in agriculture, and they will need sophisticated employment packages and an understanding of this generation's mindset.

28 July

www.odt.co.nz: Professor **Ross Hemera**, from the School of Visual and Material Culture, is one of three Ngai Tahu artists that have helped build the new entranceway to Puketeraki Marae at Karetani, after years of planning.

Research funding news

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

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l.nelson@massey.ac.nz
ext. 81356 or 027 536 7677

Funding Opportunities:

Society of Toxicology
ColgatePalmolive Travelling Lectureship in
Alternative Methods in Toxicology
Closes: 9 October
Amount: US\$15,000

Road Safety Trust
Road Safety Initiatives
Closes: 20 October

University of Arizona
Ansel Adams Research Fellowship
[Photography]
Closes: 31 October
Amount: US\$2,500

Stapledon Memorial Trust
Travelling Fellowship
[Grassland and grass-related animal
production]
Closes: 31 October
Amount: Cost of travel + subsistence

Association for Canadian Studies in Australia
and New Zealand
Faculty Research Program in Australia and
New Zealand
Closes: 1 November
Amount: CA\$2,600 airfare + CA\$800 per week

Neurological Foundation of New Zealand
Travel Grants
Closes: 1 November, 1 March & 1 June
Amount: Up to \$4,200

Education New Zealand
New Zealand Postgraduate Study Abroad
Award
Closes: 1 November
Amount: Up to \$10,000

Fulbright New Zealand
Fulbright Travel Award
Closes: 1 November, 1 March & 1 July
Amount: Up to \$5,000

New Zealand Freshwater Sciences Society
SIL 1987 Trust Fund Travel Award
Closes: 1 November
Amount: Up to \$2,000

Creative New Zealand
Toi Sgwigwialtxw Residency, North America
Closes: 7 November
Association for Canadian Studies in Australia
and New Zealand (ACSANZ)
Canadian Studies Postdoctoral Fellowship
Closes: 24 November
Amount: Up to CA\$10,000

Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS)
TWAS/UNESCO Associateship Membership
Scheme at Centres of Excellences in the
South
Closes: 1 December
Amount: Travel costs + US\$300 /month

Royal Society of Chemistry
Bourke Lectureship
Closes: 1 January

Australian National University
Visiting Fellowship
Closes: 31 January
Amount: Varies

British Lichen Society
Overseas Members' Travel Fund
Closes: 28 February
Amount: £1,000

Royal Society of New Zealand
Bilateral Research Activities Programme
Involving Germany
Closes: 28 February

Health Research Council
Australasian Collaboration Award
Closes: 2 March
Amount: \$5,000

Wellington Medical Research Foundation
Grants in Aid of Travel
Closes: 19 March

Ergonomics Society
Stephen Pheasant Memorial Fund Award
Closes: 30 March
Amount: Up to £1,000

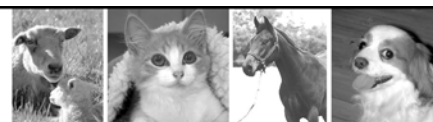
New Zealand Institute of Forestry Awards
NZIF John Balneaves Travel Award
NZIF Chavasse Travel Award
Closes: 31 March
Amount: \$5,000 & \$3,500

Architectural League of New York
Deborah J. Norden Fund
Closes: 31 March
Amount: Up to US\$5,000



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Massey University

Notices

Arthritis New Zealand
Wellington Regional Densitometry Trust
– Osteoporosis Fund
Closes: 31 March
Amount: \$200,000 available

Royal Society of New Zealand
Skinner Fund
[Māori & Pasifika]
Closes: 1 April
Amount: \$1,000

New Zealand Institute of Agricultural and
Horticultural Science
Science Award
Closes: 1 April
Amount: Up to \$1,000

Endocrine Society of Australia
Australian Women in Endocrinology Travel
Awards
Closes: 4 April

Royal Society of New Zealand
Bilateral Research Activities Programme
– ISAT Linkages
Closes: 18 April

Royal Society of New Zealand
Charles Fleming Fund Travel Award
Closes: 1 May
Amount: Up to \$6,000

International Council for Science
SCAR Fellowship Programme
[Antarctic travel]
Closes: 15 May
Amount: Up to US\$10,000

Royal Society of New Zealand
Julius von Haast Fellowship Award
Closes: 1 July
Amount: Stipend, travel and host institution
allowance

National Geographic Society
Expedition Grants
Closes: Continuous
Amount: US\$35,000

National Geographic Society
Young Explorers Grants
Closes: Continuous
Amount: Up to \$5,000 USD

International Council for Canadian Studies
Conference Travel Assistance
Closes: Continuous
Amount: Up to CA\$2,000 p.a.

Royal Society of Chemistry
Stop-Overs in Developing Countries
Corday-Morgan Memorial Fund
Closes: Continuous
Amount: Up to £500

Research and Education Advanced Network
New Zealand Ltd
(REANNZ)
KAREN Travel and Event Fund
Closes: Continuous
Amount: Up to £20,000

Royal Society of Chemistry
J.W.T. Jones Travelling Fellowship
Closes: Continuous
Amount: Up to £5,000

Agricultural and Marketing Research and
Development Trust (AGMARDT)
Conferences
Visiting Fellowship Programme
Closes: Continuous

Swedish Foundation for International
Cooperation in Research and Higher
Education
Short-Term Stipends
Closes: Continuous
Amount: Varies

Council for International Exchange of
Scholars
Fulbright New Century Scholars Program
Amount: Up to US\$37,000

Australasian Quaternary Association
Student Travel Support
Amount: Varies

Events

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

PN – Saturday 6 and 9 August 9.00am – 2.00pm

Palmerston North Open Days

Open Day will give you an insight into what
University is all about and show you what
Massey has to offer.

Family, friends and whanau are all welcome.
Pick up information, attend presentations, go
on a tour, talk to course & career advisors,
and catch the entertainment.

Contact: Lobke (Lobby) Eriha

Ph: (06) 350 5866

WN – Thursday 7 August

6.00pm – 8.00pm

Associate Professor Tony Whincup: The Threat Of Climate Change Upon Indigenous Knowledge

Building upon his recent exhibition, *Water
on Water - Kiribati in Crisis?* at Pataka
Museum, Porirua, Tony Whincup examines
the potential effects of changing climate upon
traditional knowledge systems in Kiribati.

The lecture considers the enormity of the
impact of even small changes to indigenous
practices that are intimately linked to a
specific land and sea and the subsequent
threats to the survival of the culture itself. The
isolated islet of Notiruru, in the central chain
of Kiribati atolls, will provide a case study as
illustration.

RSVP (Acceptances only)

By: Noon Monday 4 August 2008

To: The Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor
- Wellington

Email: with 'Associate Professor Whincup' in
the subject line

Venue: Theatre 10A02, Old Museum
Building, Entrance D off Buckle Street.

Contact: Serena Richards [s.richards@](mailto:s.richards@massey.ac.nz)

massey.ac.nz

Ph: (04) 8015799 ext 62300

Wharerata

venue • cuisine • events

Offal Night - Aug 28 6.30 for 7pm \$35.00 per person

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

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

PN – Friday 8 August

3.00pm – 4.00pm

School of History, Philosophy and Classics:
Seminar

Professor Kathleen Coleman, Department of
Classics, Harvard University

*The Virtues of Violence: Gladiators, Beasts,
and Public Executions in Ancient Rome.*

Venue: MB 2.01

Contact: Dr Gina Salapata Ph: ext 7273

AK – Wednesday 13 August

12.00pm – 1.00pm

Chancellor's Lecture Series

Michele Leggott, New Zealand Poet Laureate
Reading and talking about Poetry

Michele will read her poetry and talk about
her work as New Zealand Poet Laureate. The
biennial, government-funded Laureate award
was established to recognise writers who
have made an outstanding contribution to
New Zealand poetry.

Venue: Study Centre Staff Lounge, Massey
University, Gate 1, Albany Expressway, SH17,
Auckland.

Contact: Karen Triggs

Ph: 09 414 0800 ext 9555

WN – Thursday 14 August

6.00pm – 7.00pm

Professor Gurvinder Virk

*Climbing and walking robots: Our servants of
the future?*

The presentation will describe the current
evolution of the robotics sector and describe
the developments both from technical and non-
technical viewpoints. In addition, a number of
research projects aimed at developing novel
mobile robots for new applications will be
described.

RSVP (acceptances only)

By: Noon Monday, 11 August 2008

To: The Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor
– Wellington

Phone: (04) 801 5799 ext 62300

Venue: Theatre 10A02, Old Museum

Building, Entrance D, Buckle Street

Contact: Serena Richards

Ph: (04) 8015799 ext 62300

AK – Saturday 16 August

10.00am – 3.00pm

Open Day - Auckland Campus

Open Day will give you an insight into what
university is all about and show you what
Massey has to offer. Pick up information,
attend presentations and ask questions.
Course and Career Advisers will be available.
There will also be entertainment.

[http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/campus/
auckland/campus-events/open-day/open-
day.cfm](http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/campus/auckland/campus-events/open-day/open-day.cfm)

Venue: Gate 1, SH1 and Gate 4 Albany
Highway

Contact: Andrea Abbott

Ph: 09 414 0800 ext 9554

If you wish to register an event please use
the online events submission form at [http://
events.massey.ac.nz](http://events.massey.ac.nz).

Scholarships and Awards

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

A Snap-Shot of Scholarships Closing May
/June 2008: full information about these
scholarships and all others scholarships can
be found on <http://awards.massey.ac.nz/>

Undergraduate

NZ Refining Company Ltd Bursary – 14 August
2008

Asia:NZ Young Leaders Forum - 22 August
2008

Keystone New Zealand Property Education
Trust - 29 August 2008

Connell Wagner Scholarships - 31 August
2008

DaoMing Chinese Studies Scholarship - 31
August 2008

Macmillan Brown Prize for Writers - 31
August 2008

Mike Pero Mortgages Foundation
Scholarships - 31 August 2008

Sasakawa Scholarships for undergraduate
students of Japanese travelling to Japan - 31
August 2008

Postgraduate

Government of Mexico Scholarships for
Foreigners – 7 August 2008

Asia:NZ Young Leaders Forum - 22 August
2008

Keystone New Zealand Property Education
Trust - 29 August 2008

French Teaching Assistantships - 31 August
2008

Macmillan Brown Prize for Writers - 31
August 2008

New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women
- Susan Byrne Memorial Award - 31 August
2008

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

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Belle, played by Massey graduate Louise Flynn, with the cast in full swing - photograph Manawatu Standard.

Musical cast boasts strong Massey connections

Massey staff, students and graduates are treading the boards of the Regent on Broadway theatre in Palmerston North this month in the stage production of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*.

The production, a theatrical adaption of Disney's 1991 animated feature, stars a local cast and crew – many of whom have strong connections to the University across a range of disciplines. Massey graduate Louise Flynn plays the lead role of Belle, while senior lecturer in politics Dr Richard Shaw is the villain, Gaston.

Dr Shaw teaches in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and, in 2004, received a National Tertiary Teaching Excellence Award and a Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching.

College of Education graduate Barry Jones, a teacher at Tiritea School, is the show's musical director, with eight of 18 in the orchestra boasting Massey connections.

Director Dean McKerras runs his own dance school and is no stranger to Palmerston North musicals having directed and choreographed the popular productions of *The Rocky Horror Show*, and *Cats*. He is also an education graduate, completing a Bachelor of Education and Graduate diploma of teaching at the University.

All three were involved in the Abbey Musical Theatre's production of *Cats*, held at the Regent on Broadway last year.

Wellington-based Weta workshop, headed by graduate Richard Taylor, has provided key costumes. Disney has also collaborated with Weta for the production of the *Narnia* films.

Beauty and the Beast was the company's first stage musical to be drawn from a film – and features academy award-winning music and stunning costumes. The show opened on Friday.



Dr Richard Shaw has 'Beauty' in his sights as the villain Gaston - Photograph Manawatu Standard.