

29 September 2014

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Victoria News is produced every week by Communications.

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## Local and international engagement

This week's column is from Professor Neil Quigley.

*Aku awekōtuku ki te ao, nō maniniroa, nō maninitua:  
Ko mātau, ko manaaki, ko māia te pito mata o te tangata.  
Wisdom, compassion, and courage are the three universally  
recognised moral qualities of people.*

Confucius

At universities around the world, I have observed that there is a direct relationship between the visibility of voluntary work supporting the university and the wider community, and the sense of pride in their university and the leadership role that it plays in the wider community. A wide range of activities around Victoria are driven by volunteers, including programmes that provide support for disabled students, learning support, clubs and societies, and mentoring and 'buddy' programmes.

Last Thursday evening I attended a function to recognise the work of Vic Volunteers—the volunteers who complement our Disability Services team in maximising Victoria's accessibility to students who have learning or physical disabilities. The stories that I heard were truly inspiring, and provide a wonderful illustration of how much impact voluntary contributions from students have on the Victoria University community. It is also a great illustration of how compassion and respect for others forms part of our sense of community at Victoria. Many of the Vic Volunteers are serial supporters of causes that help others, and their leadership in making this contribution to the University community is an inspiration to all students and staff.

Victoria is also an internationally engaged university that provides national leadership relevant to some of New Zealand's most important international trading and cultural relationships. Our traditional strengths in languages and cultures, politics, international relations, history, business and law have provided a platform for a number of recent initiatives that have placed Victoria at the forefront of national engagement with important overseas partners. The New Zealand India Research Institute, Centre for Strategic Studies, Centre for International Economic Law and Chair in Business in Asia are examples of the way in which Victoria has responded to the national need for expert commentary and access to the best international scholars working on the leading global issues of the day.

China plays an increasingly important role in international political and economic affairs, and flows of traded goods, investment and people between New Zealand and China have increased very rapidly since the signing of the free trade agreement between our two countries. In this context, it is critical for New Zealand's interests that expert analysis of contemporary China is promoted and disseminated to those in business and those developing public policy. The New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre, hosted by Victoria with engagement from most of the other New Zealand universities, has been successful in cementing Victoria's leadership in this field.

Our role in helping New Zealanders understand China is also advanced by our Confucius Institute. The Confucius Institute also plays an important role in raising Victoria's profile. In addition to organising a wide range of cultural events, the Institute this year has 21 Mandarin Language Assistants from China deployed in schools in Wellington,

Wanganui, the Waiarapa and the Bay of Plenty, as well as at Victoria University and International Pacific College in Palmerston North.

On Saturday, 400 Confucius Institutes in 120 countries around the world marked the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the programme under which the Chinese Government has supported the teaching of Chinese language and culture. At a sunrise ceremony to kick off a day of Institute activities, and to ensure that we were the first Confucius Institute in the world to mark the event, I was joined by Pita and June Jackson and Mark Ormsby (Port Nicholson Trust), Chinese Ambassador His Excellency Wang Lutong and Mayor Celia Wade-Brown, together with Deborah Willis and Rāwinia Higgins from Victoria and colleagues from our Confucius Institute and Chinese programme (including Tony Browne, Hui Luo, Wen Powles, Yiyan Wang and Xiaoqing Yang). It was a cool and breezy morning on the waterfront at 6am, but the integration of Māori, Pākehā and Chinese tikanga captured a significant slot for Victoria in CNTV's coverage of the worldwide Confucius Institutes' celebration.

Speaking at the ceremony on Saturday morning I used a second saying of Confucius:

*Ko tā te tino kaiako whakamau i a tuarangi e mārama ai a nāianei.  
A true teacher is one who, keeping the past alive,  
is also able to understand the present.<sup>1</sup>*

This saying not only captures the core values of our Confucius Institute and its role in making traditional Chinese knowledge relevant in contemporary New Zealand, but it also resonates with a very wide range of scholarship in our social science and humanities disciplines.

### Neil Quigley



*Pictured (L-R): Chinese Ambassador His Excellency Wang Lutong, Professor Neil Quigley and Pita Jackson.*

<sup>1</sup> Thanks to Te Ripowai Higgins and Rāwinia Higgins for the translations into te reo.

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### Victoria University welcomes new senior appointment

Professor Jennifer Windsor from the University of Minnesota has been appointed to lead the faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences and Education at Victoria University.

“We are delighted to have someone of Professor Windsor’s calibre to lead these faculties and join the senior leadership team at Victoria,” says Vice-Chancellor Professor Grant Guilford.

“I am confident Professor Windsor will continue the excellent work undertaken by Professor Deborah Willis in her 10 year tenure, during which there has been considerable success. The most recent was the 2014 QS World University Rankings where Victoria’s arts and humanities faculty ranked amongst the top 60 in the world.

“These areas are central to what is distinctive about Victoria. As a global-civic university based in a capital city, we are passionate about our support for the cultivation of creative capital and the opportunities this brings.”

Professor Windsor is currently the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programmes and a member of the senior leadership team in the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Minnesota, a position she has held for the past six years. In this role, she oversees all aspects of undergraduate education for this College, which has 14,000 undergraduate students. A professor of speech-language-hearing sciences, she studied a Bachelor of Applied Science at Cumberland College of Health Sciences in Australia before embarking on a Master’s and then PhD study at Purdue University in the US.

“I am extremely pleased to be taking up this role at an institution with such an excellent global reputation. I am very impressed at both the community of scholars I will be joining and the creative and intellectual opportunities offered by such a vibrant city,” says Professor Windsor.

Professor Windsor will take up the role of Pro-Vice Chancellor and Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences and Pro Vice-Chancellor of Education on 20 January 2015.

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### Tackling global challenges

Victoria University is reaffirming its commitment to helping tackle key global challenges says Vice-Chancellor Professor Grant Guilford. He and his wife Pauline joined the estimated 400,000 people on the ‘People’s Climate March’ in New York, which was held ahead of this week’s United Nations climate summit.

Professor Guilford, who was attending alumni functions and meetings with key university supporters in New York, said the diversity of groups represented on the march—from scientists, green technology

groups, conservationists and medical professionals to interfaith groups, top business leaders, political activists, mainstream politicians and the Secretary General of the United Nations—was testament to the depth of concern about climate change.

“Victoria is home to the New Zealand Climate Change Research Institute and we have among our staff some of the scientists at the forefront of helping the world to understand the processes and consequences of the changing climate.”

During his trip, Professor Guilford has been meeting with ex-pat kiwis in the United States and Europe and says climate change and sustainability are top of mind issues for a lot of New Zealanders overseas.

The events in New York had around 60 attendees and almost 130 people attended the one in London.



*Pictured: Professor Guilford with his wife, Pauline.*

In addition, says Professor Guilford, Victoria has recently appointed New Zealand’s first Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Sustainability), Professor Charles Daugherty, to strengthen the University’s contribution to a wide range of environmental issues.

Professor Daugherty says many Victoria staff and students are deeply engaged in leading environmental work. “My role is to work across the organisation to not only raise the profile of the work in this area but, more importantly, to allow us to perform at a higher level in advancing environmental research and advancing our environmental performance as a large institution.”

Victoria University is New Zealand’s only signatory of the Talloires Declaration, a declaration of sustainability signed by more than 400 universities and colleges around the world.

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## **New Zealand’s energy landscape in 2050**

A group of Victoria University students will spend the summer developing an interactive website that will allow the public and government organisations to see how the energy choices we make today will impact New Zealand in 2050.

The venture is a partnership between Victoria and the National Energy Research Institute (NERI), with support from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, youth-led climate change organisation Generation Zero, the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA), the British High Commission, and the Department of Energy and Climate Change in the United Kingdom.

The project will see students adapt the United Kingdom’s 2050 Pathways Calculator website (<http://2050-calculator-tool.decc.gov.uk>) and user-friendly simulation tool (<http://my2050.decc.gov.uk/>), to the New Zealand context, with advice from industry experts and policy makers.

The goal of the project is to identify a range of realistic energy futures for New Zealand and communicate them to the public in a way that encourages open and transparent debate on the topic.

Dr Rebecca Ford, from Victoria’s School of Engineering and Computer Science, says the result will be a powerful tool anyone can access to explore the options we have for energy supply and demand, and the implications of the choices we might make.

“We’re so excited about this project, as it provides a real chance to engage New Zealanders, from school children right through to policy makers, in thinking and talking about our energy future,” she says.

Paul Atkins, Chief Executive of NERI, adds that the tool that will empower people to contribute to an informed dialogue about New Zealand’s energy choices. “Taking the pop-up shop concept and forming what may be New Zealand’s first pop-up lab at Victoria for a three-month period over the summer, we are providing opportunity through the process of building the model, as well as through the end product itself,” he says.

“Our lives and our economy revolve around energy,” says Paul Young, from Generation Zero. “With climate change and other challenges to our current energy systems, New Zealand has some important choices to make.”

There are 10 summer scholarships available for students interested in working on the project between November 2014 and February 2015. For more information visit [www.victoria.ac.nz](http://www.victoria.ac.nz) and search ‘2050 ecs scholarship’. Applications close on 1 October 2014.

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## **Partnership will strengthen Māori innovation and capability**

A memorandum of understanding was signed in Whanganui on Thursday September 24 2014, between The MacDiarmid Institute for Advanced Materials and Nanotechnology and Ngā Hononga Marae (Charitable) Trust.

Together, the two organisations will undertake community-based science programmes to develop learning opportunities for young Māori, while also identifying and supporting science and innovation opportunities for businesses in the Whanganui region.

“Ngā Hononga Marae (Charitable) Trust welcomes this exciting opportunity to collaborate with an organisation of excellence such as the MacDiarmid Institute and can envisage the extraordinary benefits to accessing and adding science, innovation and research integrity to our business arms and the applied educational opportunities for our stakeholdership,” said Trust Manager, Nihī Houia.

The MacDiarmid Institute’s Director Professor Kathryn McGrath added: “Working in a partnership with people who share your vision, while bringing a perspective that strengthens and broadens you own, is a powerful base from which to grow great things for the future in education, science research and Māori Business development. Together we can work to create opportunities that change people’s lives.”

By working together the MacDiarmid Institute and NHMT aim to:

- Create an environment that is mutually respectful of our peoples’ histories and traditions (Māori and scientists alike)
- Support an environment that facilitates and engenders the participation of Māori in life-long learning
- Engender a passion for science and innovation across society, and a culture of engagement in community-centred and community-initiated scientific opportunities
- Set up a cohort of Māori who have the capacity to inspire and be inspired with regard to science learning, resulting in the number of Māori students entering and successfully completing tertiary level STEM degrees increasing
- Realise the full potential of Māori and Māori businesses
- Create an environment where scientists seek Māori participation

### **About the Ngā Hononga Marae (Charitable) Trust**

Ngā Hononga Marae (Charitable) Trust works in Whanganui to make real and significant changes through creating and implementing new models of structural frameworks and decision-making processes that open doorways to iwi, hapū and whānau-owned development. They aim to find self-sustaining community and regionally-developed enterprises that will provide employment opportunities and a localised wealth economy whether rural or urban, which will in turn enable transformational change from the flax roots up.

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## **Three Minute Thesis final**

An Italian PhD student is the winner of this year’s Three Minute Thesis competition, held in the Hunter Council Chamber last Friday.

Michele Fontana, from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (FHSS), took top honours and prize money of \$3,000 from a field of nine finalists.

Organised by the Postgraduate Student Association, the event challenged master’s and PhD candidates to boil down years of work into a three-minute presentation, which would be understood by a lay audience.

Michele, a School of English, Film, Theatre and Media Studies student delivered a presentation on the science museum he has created inside a pizza box. He says his career goal is to put the results of his research into practice by developing effective programmes for museum visitors.

In addition to the cash prize, Michele will represent Victoria at the Trans-Tasman Final at the University of Western Australia in Perth on 3 November.

There were 96 entrants in the event this year, a record high for Victoria since the competition began in 2010. The contestants, from across faculties, presented talks on everything from collaborative teaching styles to trying to pin down the causes of autism.

Second prize of \$1,000 was awarded to another FHSS student Melanie Revis, who also won the People's Choice trophy. Third place was shared, with a cash prize of \$250 each, between science PhD students Wilfred Kittler and Ryan Kyle.

Information Management student Fahimi Md Ali won the \$250 International Award, sponsored by Victoria International. Chemical and Physical Sciences student Ruth Corkill won the Honours Award presented during the faculty rounds.

Photos of the event can be viewed online: [http://www.victoria.ac.nz/its/image-services/VUW\\_image\\_library/28044\\_3MT\\_Public/](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/its/image-services/VUW_image_library/28044_3MT_Public/). A video of the finalist presentations will be available soon.



Winners (left to right): Wilfred Kittler, Fahimi Md Ali, Ryan Kyle, Melanie Revis and Michele Fontana. [\(Back to index\)](#)

## Quality of undergraduate research recognised

Research by three Victoria University undergraduate students has been published in *Biotechnology Letters*, a highly ranked international peer-reviewed journal.

As part of a supervised programme of study, Madeleine Parker, Kate Walmsley and Jack Sissons, each in the final year of a Bachelor of Science majoring in biotechnology, worked to develop an efficient system to help scientists artificially evolve enzymes in the lab.

“Directed evolution is a method of enzyme improvement in which a gene is randomly mutated and a large number of gene variants are produced,” says Madeleine. “Testing the slightly different enzymes encoded by these variants requires cloning them into bacterial cells and screening for the desired activity.”

Kate adds that many directed evolution studies expend unnecessary effort testing cells that have not received a gene variant at all. “Our system allows us to produce bacteria where 100 percent of cells contain the gene of interest,” she says.

Jack explains that this allows the team to test the activity of each slightly different enzyme in the most efficient manner possible. “Achieving this is of great value because we don’t want to waste time and resources screening bacteria that aren’t doing what we want them to.”

The original idea for this work was developed by Victoria PhD graduate Dr Gareth Prosser. Jack, Madeleine and Kate performed the key proof-of-concept experiments to validate Dr Prosser’s idea under the supervision of Dr David Ackerley, Biotechnology Programme Director, and Dr Elsie Williams, a postdoctoral fellow in the School of Biological Sciences.



Pictured: Madeleine, Jack and Kate

“It is rare for undergraduate research to be published at all, let alone in a well-regarded journal like *Biotechnology Letters*,” says Dr Ackerley. “Kate, Jack and Madeleine worked hard and intelligently on this project, and really deserve their success.”

The paper can be viewed online here: <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10529-014-1673-4>  
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## A quote for life

A Victoria student has ensured that she will never forget a quote she learned during her studies.

Italian-born Francesca Ancillotti, who moved to New Zealand when she was 10, recently commissioned a tattoo of a quote from Dante’s *Inferno*, which she studied in a third-year Italian paper last year.

The words “fatti non foste a viver come bruti”—“you were not made to live like brutes”, are etched on her upper right arm. These are the words Ulysses uses to convince his companions to sail on into the open Atlantic, beyond what was considered the edge of the world. He says, “Consider your seed [the race you spring from]: you were not made to live like brutes, but to follow virtue and knowledge”.

“The theme of following knowledge to go beyond your boundaries struck a chord with me—that’s the way I want to live,” says Francesca.



“This is a line that everyone knows in Italy, and I know that when I’m next sitting in a bar in Italy and the locals see my tattoo they will instantly recognise it.”

Francesca was able to do the third-year paper in her first year at Victoria because of her fluency in Italian. She says she loved studying *Inferno*, gaining an A+ for her research on the section where her favourite quote appears. “As a first-year student this was a great boost for the start of my studies. When I finished the paper I really felt like I needed to get a tattoo. I left it for almost a year to be absolutely sure, but finally decided I just had to do it.”

Francesca says she chose to take the *Inferno* paper as a way of embracing her Italian heritage.

“It’s a classic Italian text that most of my friends in Italy, and my parents, studied during high school and I missed out on that. It’s such an important text for learning about the way society was back then, and for learning more about Greek and Roman mythology.”

Francesca’s former lecturer Dr Sally Hill, Italian Programme Director at the School of Languages and Cultures, says she was delighted when Francesca showed her the tattoo.

“Her tattoo made my day! There is nothing like seeing students respond to Dante’s work. I think it’s the greatest poem ever written—as vivid now as it was 700 years ago. To me the quote Francesca chose is what the humanities are all about—the idea that wanting to make sense of the world and push ourselves beyond what is in front of us is fundamental to what makes us human. So it was moving to know that reading Dante meant so much to her that she wanted his words to be a physical part of her.”

Francesca already has three other tattoos, and says that her parents were apprehensive when she mentioned getting another one. However, they are happy with the final result.

“They thought it was really nice, because it’s written in a serious font to reflect a serious quote.”

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## Simon Denny recreates Kim Dotcom’s personal effects at the Adam Art Gallery

Who owns what? How has the internet changed our relation to the world? These are two of the many questions Simon Denny raises in the latest exhibition at the Adam Art Gallery, opening on Saturday 4 October.

*The Personal Effects of Kim Dotcom* is the first museum-scale solo exhibition in New Zealand by the New Zealand-born, Berlin-based artist Simon Denny. Taking over all three floors of the Adam Art Gallery, Denny’s exhibition recreates the entire inventory of confiscated items taken by New Zealand police during a dramatic raid on the home of German internet entrepreneur, Kim Dotcom, in January 2012.

First presented at mumok (Museum moderner Kunst Shiftung Ludwig Wien) in Vienna, Austria, in July 2013, and then restaged at Firstsite in Colchester, England, Denny’s show has been completely rethought for the Adam Art Gallery spaces.

The artist, who is to represent New Zealand at the Venice Biennale in 2015, has set himself and the gallery the challenge of reimagining material belongings such as luxury cars, art works, flatscreens, and computer equipment—as well as less tangible property, including bank accounts and domain names.

The exhibition will feature a new suite of 110 printed canvases designed and produced by the artist in conversation with designer David Bennewith, together with an array of products, art works, parts, models and samples that have been sourced from private collectors, public repositories and commercial providers, or adapted and remade for the occasion.

The collaborative nature of the undertaking is highlighted by the involvement of graffiti artists Cut Collective—Ed Bats and Sean Duffell—who have been invited by Denny to recreate elements of their mural commissioned by Dotcom for the gaming room of his Auckland mansion.

“Simon Denny is interested in rethinking the role Kim Dotcom has increasingly played as a larger-than-life character who is dominating New Zealand’s media landscape. He uses Dotcom’s case to ask questions about the evolving status of information, property rights and privacy,” says Adam Art Gallery Director, Christina Barton.



*Pictured: Predator sculpture, Skin-graft, Rotorua, photograph by Tracey Robinson*



“When we invited Simon to undertake a show at the Adam Art Gallery back in 2012 we had no idea just how culturally impacting the Dotcom story would become. But the real purpose of Denny’s exhibition is not to delve into the private life of this prominent German-born businessman. Instead, his aim is to test and question how we engage with things in an era defined by a changing awareness of the impact of global networked communication facilitated by the internet, and the political and philosophical consequences of this.

“Simon is fascinated by what happens when a logic that functions on the internet is sourced and applied to exhibition making. The exhibition becomes a dynamic context where information, images and objects intermingle. Here, distinctions between image and function, original and copy, scale and material are open to renegotiation.”

Simon Denny is fast emerging as a leading contemporary artist. As well as being selected to represent New Zealand at the 2015 Venice Biennale, he is also a finalist for the Auckland Art Gallery’s 2014 Walters Prize for his artwork *All You Need is Data—The DLD 2012 Conference REDUX*.

### Details

What: Simon Denny, *The Personal Effects of Kim Dotcom*

Where: Adam Art Gallery, Victoria University of Wellington, Gate 3, Kelburn Parade

When: 4 October–19 December

Tuesday–Sunday, 11am–5pm (closed on Monday)

Free entry

### Special events:

The exhibition will be launched by Heather Galbraith, New Zealand Commissioner for the 2015 Venice Biennale, at 6pm on Friday 3 October. Media are welcome to attend.

On Saturday 4 October at 11am, the Adam Art Gallery will host a free public conversation between Simon Denny and the investigative writer Nicky Hager in the context of Denny’s exhibition.

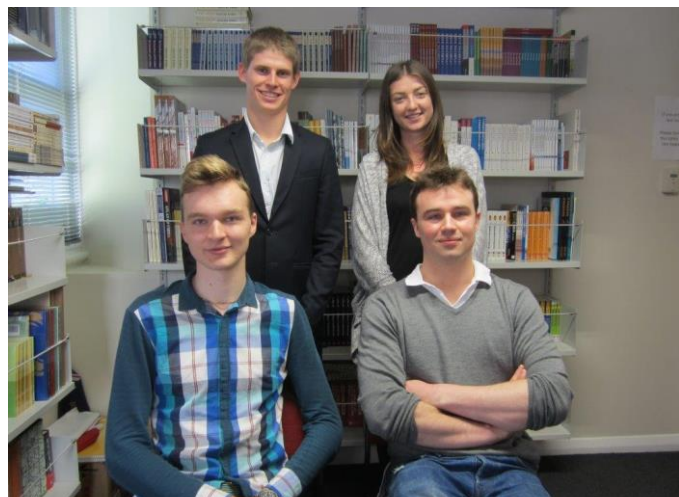
Further information can be found at [www.adamartgallery.org.nz](http://www.adamartgallery.org.nz).

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## Award-winning students bound for China

Victoria University students have won four out of 10 awards provided by the New Zealand-China Scholarship this year.

Michael O’Neill (currently completing a Bachelor of Arts in Chinese and Political Science), Luke Gilkison (currently doing a Graduate Diploma of Arts, majoring in Chinese), Isabella Bennich-Wolter (currently completing a Bachelor of Commerce) and Ethan Jones (currently completing a Bachelor of Arts in Chinese and modern languages) will each immerse themselves in the Chinese language at universities in China next year.



*Pictured (L-R): Michael O’Neill, Ethan Jones, Isabella Bennich-Wolter and Luke Gilkison.*

The scholarship covers their tuition fees, shared accommodation and medical care for the year, as well as a monthly stipend that contributes to meals and study materials.

“The goal of these scholarships is to increase the numbers of New Zealanders who are familiar with China and fluent in the Chinese language,” says Tony Browne, Chair of the Confucius Institute and Contemporary China Research Centre at Victoria. “I am delighted to see Victoria students so well represented this year.”

The New Zealand-China Scholarship was introduced in 1974 and was the first scholarship awarded to New Zealand students to study in China after the establishment of diplomatic relations at the end of 1972. This year marks the 40th anniversary of New Zealand students taking up places in Chinese universities under the scholarship, which is administered through the Confucius Institute.

Ten awards are made each year to graduates of New Zealand universities, or to students completing their degrees in the current academic year. The scholarships are open to students in any discipline who wish to gain fluency in Chinese to assist in their career plans. There is no requirement to have previously studied Chinese.

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## **Christchurch quake indicates need for workplace flexibility**

Although it is good practice for organisations to have a business continuity plan, workplace flexibility is what really counts in a disaster, Victoria University research has found.

Dr Noelle Donnelly and Dr Sarah Proctor-Thomson, researchers at the Centre for Labour, Employment and Work at Victoria's School of Management, were commissioned by the Public Service Association (PSA) and Inland Revenue to research the experiences of employees who worked from home following the February 2011 earthquakes in Christchurch.

This is the first study of its kind examining the experiences of flexible work arrangements in a post-disaster environment.

At the time of the February earthquake, Inland Revenue had just one central office of over 800 staff members in the centre of town.

“When the earthquake hit Christchurch at 12.51pm on Tuesday 22 February 2011, Inland Revenue immediately lost access to its main workplace in the CBD,” says Dr Donnelly. “In response, available senior managers met and began the work of assigning new roles and tasks to staff. One of their immediate challenges was making contact with their people to ensure that they were all safe.”

Some jobs were relocated to Wellington and Auckland, and many staff were assigned to different teams in various locations, but one of the key ways of getting everyone back to work was teleworking.

“Some of the best laid emergency plans simply won't work in a real life situation, so a flexible workforce is essential,” says Dr Proctor-Thomson.

“Prior to the earthquake, Inland Revenue had no formal programme of flexible work, so everything had to be developed immediately. This introduced a range of challenges, from getting the right hardware, working out how to manage and monitor people from a distance, and defining what kinds of tasks could be done at home. Policies and processes had to be developed quickly, often with limited lead-in time.”

The researchers found that team leaders played a vital role in influencing and shaping outcomes for workers and the organisation.

“Team leaders had to find new ways of communicating with dispersed workers, and keep things running despite their own individual circumstances,” says Dr Donnelly. “Interestingly, although many team leaders were reasonably positive about their own experience of teleworking after the earthquakes, their attitudes towards future use of telework was more measured.”

Trust was a critical part of managing these teleworkers. “For some team leaders they had to find new ways of managing their teams not based on visibility or presence in a central workplace.”

Not surprisingly, isolation and reduced information sharing were issues encountered by many of the staff the researchers talked to. Dr Donnelly says that while some staff were able to have better control, independence and flexibility of their “disrupted lives” while working from home, they also missed the social interaction of the workplace.

Although there was a high level of interest in accessing flexible work arrangements in the future, employees unanimously said they would prefer a hybrid arrangement that involved a certain amount of face-to-face time in the office.

The researchers recommend that workplaces make flexible work options readily available in a ‘business as usual’ context.

“For organisations like Inland Revenue that offer an essential service to the New Zealand government, continuity of operations following a natural disaster is critical. Having flexible work practices and policies in place will more easily ensure business continuity in a time of crisis.”

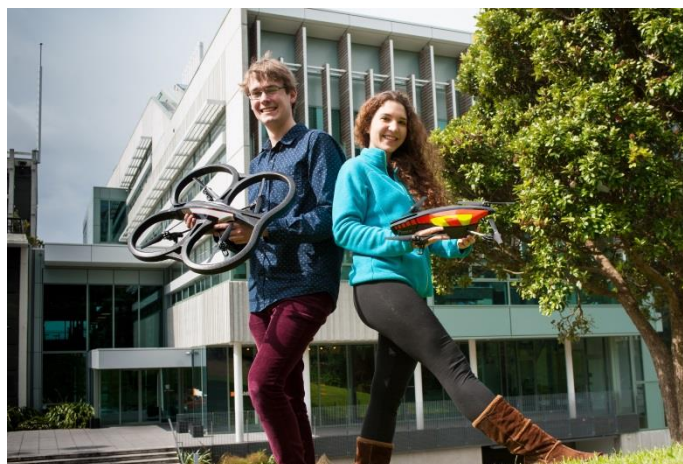
## Victoria students help public keep an eye on our water

Victoria University engineering students are continuing to push the frontiers of pollution monitoring in New Zealand's waterways through an innovative collaboration known as RiverWatch.

The next phase of the RiverWatch venture, which involves the School of Engineering and Computer Science and the Water Action Initiative New Zealand (WaiNZ), will be launched this week.

It challenges third-year engineering students at Victoria to develop an integrated data collection system made up of phone apps, water quality testing devices, unmanned aerial vehicles and a website for reporting.

The goal is to empower public to take direct action, using the phone apps, when they suspect pollution in their water.



This is the third year that Victoria students have worked on the RiverWatch project as part of their course work and Lawrence Collingbourne, a Teaching Fellow at Victoria and the business owner on behalf of the University, says this year, things are taking off.

“Each team of students that works on this project is pushing the frontiers even further,” Mr Collingbourne says, “This year we have teams developing water testing devices, using quadcopters to gather information in real time and launching apps to cover a wider range of smartphone platforms including Windows phones.”

The project enables information to be crowdsourced as people to use the app on their phone to photograph water pollution—the photo, and the GPS coordinates are then uploaded and once verified, will appear on the RiverWatch website. If the photo shows something of concern, an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) may be sent out to the location to gather further evidence.

The introduction of quadcopters to work alongside the existing small aeroplanes means the footage can be seen and captured in real time while the introduction of a water quality testing device allows more conclusive evidence of pollution to be gathered.

Engineering students Daniel Yeoh and Hamish Colenso and their teams have been working on two different water testing prototypes that do not require any specialist knowledge or skills to operate.

Both devices measure the temperature and conductivity of the water—which increase when there is pollution—and have a bluetooth sensor to communicate directly with the RiverWatch app to report any issues that are identified.

Hamish's prototype is built for durability and could be left in the water to monitor pollution levels over time or, with minor modifications, be taken out by a UAV and dunked in the water for an immediate test. Daniel's prototype runs off AA batteries, rather than a lithium ion battery, making it an affordable option for the general public.

Hamish says creating the devices has been hard work and stressful at times but working with a real client has also been an excellent learning opportunity.

To date, over 70 photographs of water pollution have been published on the WaiNZ website and Mr Collingbourne hopes this number will continue to grow with the project.

“More than half of New Zealanders now have smartphones. By extending the platforms the app covers, we hope to empower more New Zealanders to participate and become kaitiaki for their local rivers and streams.”

The RiverWatch update event takes place on Monday 29 September, 4.30–7pm, room 103 Alan MacDiarmid Building, Kelburn Campus, Victoria University.

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## World wars inspire student to be creative

A Victoria University of Wellington student has used a family connection as inspiration for an entry in this year's World of Wearable (WoW) Arts show.

In what started as a family project using his great-grandfather's tools, Troy Stade has created, alongside his parents Martin de Ruyter and Karen Stade, a Bizarre Bra entry.

"My great-grandfather made trench art after World War II, which ignited a bit of a passion for my family.

"It's been great to see our piece come together."

The garment is made up of shells from spent bullets which are split in half and then welded and filed to create a petal.

"The petals are shaped like a poppy, which brings in a New Zealand connection," says Troy, who is studying Law, Japanese and International Relations.



*Pictured: Troy with a poppy, made from a spent bullet shell, which is part of his family's entry in this year's World of Wearable Arts show.*

When creating the garment over the last summer break, a neighbour commented on the sounds coming from the Stade's property.

"They said it sounded like we were fighting a war, with all the noise we were making—hammering and filing."

Troy's family, who are from Nelson, are long-standing supporters of WOW, having been to every show since the event began, and have tried to use this experience to help them put together an award-winning garment.

"We're aiming to be the first Supreme winner of the Bizarre Bra section," says Troy.

Although the former Nelson College student has been told he has "artists' hands", he doesn't see himself as a particularly creative person.

“Like every boy growing up I enjoyed playing with Lego, but other than some after-school art classes I haven’t done much.”

But he can see how important it is for students to have a creative outlet, especially those studying law.

“Having this creative outlet is cathartic for me.”

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## **New Zealanders warming to solar power**

A report released this week shows more and more New Zealanders, unhappy with their power providers, are turning to solar energy.

Dr Rebecca Ford, a lecturer at Victoria University of Wellington’s School of Engineering and Computer Science, is the lead researcher on the report which looks into the uptake of Photovoltaic (PV) to generate electricity in New Zealand.

Dr Ford says the report showed that of the participants surveyed only 30 percent were happy with getting electricity from their power company, and almost 60 percent would like to generate some or all of their own electricity and would be willing to purchase PV in the future.

It also identifies that greater numbers of Kiwi’s are already putting their money where their mouth is and investing in PV, with the number of grid-connected small-scale systems having grown by 330 percent in the last two years.

Dr Ford says while the numbers are still relatively low compared to other countries, the growth trend has potential to have a substantial impact in the future.

The report is part of the GREEN Grid project, funded by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment which Dr Ford is working on along with researchers from Otago, Canterbury and Auckland universities.

The project is a wide-ranging investigation into how New Zealanders use power, how the demand can best be met using renewable sources, and how the national grid can be made smarter and more efficient.

The report also investigates what is stopping more New Zealanders getting on board with solar power in their homes and businesses.

“The biggest barrier for people,” Dr Ford says, “seems to be the upfront cost. While there are substantial benefits to installing a Photovoltaic system in your home it’s the high start-up costs and the lack of current financial incentives that put people off.”

Currently there is no support from the Government to encourage a greater uptake but, the report says, there are new types of business models being trialled by companies such as Vector.

Vector’s model allows customers to lease a PV system, making it possible for people to choose solar energy generation even if they don’t have the money to invest in a system or do not own their own home.

“It’s early days,” says Dr Ford, “but the results of our surveys were very promising. It showed us that New Zealanders do want to take personal responsibility for producing clean energy—we just need to find achievable ways to help make that happen.”

The report is available online at <http://hdl.handle.net/10523/4992>

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## **Managing land into the future**

Food production is the backbone of New Zealand’s economy—and a computer modelling programme designed by a Victoria University academic is helping ensure that farming practices here and overseas are as sustainable and environmentally friendly as possible.

Dr Bethanna Jackson from Victoria’s School of Geography, Environment and Earth Sciences has developed a land management decision support framework and software package called LUCI. It analyses impacts of changes in the way land is used across a range of ecosystems, and identifies where trade-offs or co-benefits might exist.

“LUCI looks at the way land management can affect a variety of things such as water quality, flood risk, agricultural productivity, greenhouse gas emissions, erosion, or sediment,” says Dr Jackson. “It looks at everything in a holistic manner—the impact of all those cumulative changes in the way land is managed on a whole variety of different environmental, social and economic functions.

“It helps you plan the way you manage the landscape and can isolate areas where you might, for example, be able to plant trees to improve your environmental function while maintaining a reasonable level of production.”

In New Zealand a number of regional councils are using LUCI, and it is also being used by the Welsh government to monitor the success of its agricultural subsidy programme. “They’re paying farmers to make various interventions, so they’re using LUCI to see whether the scheme is helping with things like reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving water quality, or reducing flooding.”

“We’ve got a bit of money from Victoria’s University Research Fund to extend our work to Samoa and Australia, and we’ve previously worked in Greece and Ghana too,” says Dr Jackson.

The potential scope of LUCI is vast, according to Dr Jackson. “Land management is a huge issue—we rely on it for food production and water quality. But to keep that sustainable and to keep waterways clean it needs to be managed properly, and that’s what LUCI is about.”

To find out more about LUCI, visit [www.lucitools.org](http://www.lucitools.org)

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## People at Victoria

*This week People at Victoria introduces Anna Lowe, Project Manager, Campus Services.*

### 1. What's your role at Victoria?

I'm a Project Manager in the Campus Development team, part of Campus Services. We manage construction-based projects for the University, large and small.

### 2. When did you join the University, and why did you come here?

I've worn a few different (hard) hats since joining the University in late 2011. From being an architectural consultant, I covered maternity leave for our Space Planner, then became a permanent part of the team as a Project Manager. I jumped at the chance to work with this diverse portfolio of complex buildings, and the neat bunch of people that make up the Campus Services team. It is a privilege to work with many experts in their fields, both internal and external.

### 3. What do you most enjoy about working here?

Diversity. We get to interact with so many facets of the place. On one day I remember in particular, I bounced from meetings with the Classics Department on the intricacies of mounting antiquities, to another on School of Chemical and Physical Sciences electron microscope installations, to Early Childhood playground design and then started planning for carving restoration at the Marae!



My favourite thing about our clients at Victoria is that they are natural educators and passionate about their fields. This is extended to their interactions with us over the course of a project—so thank you for all the patient explanations and the knowledge you share! I have also found a genuine willingness to help across the service/support parts of the University, which is critical to the success of our endeavours.

### 4. Tell us about something interesting you do in your non-work life.

I'm a theatre production geek. That keeps me busy with design, construction, and crewing. Some highlights of 2014 have been creating the set for Summer Shakespeare's Macbeth, being a very small cog in the big WOW machine, and our production of a Samuel Beckett mime picking up the design/technical award at the national finals of the Theatrefest Competition. My number one sidekick is a green battery powered skillsaw dubbed Mr Chompy.

Being stuck side-stage wearing black I get costume envy quite badly, so in November I'll be taking to the stage in a rock 'n' roll musical to see what all the fuss is about. It has just been revealed that we need to dance in high heels but it's too late to pull out...

### 5. If you could trade places with any other person for a week, who would it be, and why?

I'd trade places with one of those craftsmen (or craftswomen) who create boutique rustic treehouses on commission. In my imagination, that means a summer's week suspended in a shady treetop, slowly piecing it together. I admire the way those people can see possibility in natural timber shapes and have the skill to knit what they find into a shelter that's pleasing, quirky and strong. I'd need the week to end before it had to be handed over to the client... Otherwise they may have some trouble evicting me from my creation!

*If you know someone who you think should be profiled here, or if you're keen yourself, please email [vicnews@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:vicnews@vuw.ac.nz).*

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### **What's out for consultation?**

University consultation documents are available online at <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/staff/consultation/>

There are no documents out for consultation this week.

### **Policy perspectives**

Victoria University staff and students are expected to comply with University statutes, policies, procedures and guidelines (policy documents).

The official version of all these documents can be found on the Policy Website <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy>. Information is also available on this site about how Victoria reviews and develops its policy documents with templates to help with the development process.

For further information about policy matters, please contact [policy-help@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:policy-help@vuw.ac.nz).



### **Hunter Council Chamber closes for next stage of refurbishment**

From Thursday 2 October 2014 to Monday 4 May 2015 the Hunter Council Chamber will be closed for the refurbishment of the memorial and west windows and their surrounding stonework. Alternative arrangements have been made for meetings and events that would normally be held in the Chamber.

Scaffolding will be erected on the interior of the Chamber and on the exterior of the memorial and west windows. Road access along the north side of the building will not be disrupted.

We apologise for any inconvenience this work may cause.

If you would like more information please contact John Burrell, Project Manager, on extn 9594, mobile 021 277 7740, or email [john.burrell@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:john.burrell@vuw.ac.nz)

### **Rutherford House Fuji Xerox print room relocating to Kelburn Campus**

Fuji Xerox is relocating the Rutherford House print room in MZ09 to the Kelburn Campus, Cotton Building—room 120. The last day of business for the Rutherford House facility will be Friday 17 October 2014.

Fuji Xerox and Victoria University have made arrangements to ensure all Fuji Xerox print room services will continue to be provided. This includes an email service and a drop off/collection service at Rutherford House.

To use the email service:

Attach and email all files required to complete your job (PDF files preferred) to [fujixerox@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:fujixerox@vuw.ac.nz)

To send hard copy materials:

Please address the materials to Fuji Xerox Print room, Cotton Building Room 120, Kelburn Campus and place in the Fuji Xerox Mailbox, located in the Mailroom on the ground floor of Rutherford House. Campus Care mail services town run (Pipitea, Te Aro and Karori ) departs from Kelburn daily at 11am—your job will be returned in this run or, if you indicate it is urgent, it will be couriered to you.

For further details please visit <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/campuservices/services/mail-services>

If you would like more information please contact Fuji Xerox Printroom extn 9482 or extn 9531 or Richard Ulberg on 027 2410 370, (04) 476 9530 or email [richard.ulberg@nzl.fujixerox.com](mailto:richard.ulberg@nzl.fujixerox.com).

Thank you for your patience during this transition phase.

### **Road works on Kelburn Parade start this week**

From Tuesday 30 September to Wednesday 8 October trenching will be taking place across Kelburn Parade between KP46 and the Easterfield Building.

There will be pedestrian redirections, temporary bus stops and lane management in place. Some public car parking on Kelburn Parade may be impacted at times.

Noise and dust will be generated by the road works.

We apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause.

If you would like further information, please contact the Project Manager, Anna Lowe on [anna.lowe@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:anna.lowe@vuw.ac.nz).

## Planned water outage at the Kelburn Campus on Saturday 4 October

From 10am–2pm on Saturday 4 October there will be a water shutdown across parts of the eastern side of Kelburn Campus which may result in a fluctuating water supply in some buildings.

Staff in the buildings below should plan for a water outage:

- Hunter
- Robert Stout
- Kirk, Kirk Wing and Old Kirk
- Easterfield
- Rankine Brown
- Adam Art Gallery
- Student Union Building

The sprinkler systems in the following buildings will be out of action during this period:

- Easterfield
- Rankine Brown
- Adam Art Gallery
- Student Union Building

Although there will be no sprinkler system for extinguishing of fire, the automatic detection of fire provided by smoke alarms and thermal detectors will still be operational. The manual audible fire alarm system (red break glass switches on wall) will also still be operational.

With the reduced level of fire protection everyone working in the affected areas should be extra vigilant; in all cases normal fire evacuation procedures and Fire Warden duties apply.

We apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause.

If you would like further information, please contact the Project Manager, Anna Lowe on [anna.lowe@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:anna.lowe@vuw.ac.nz).

## Sir Ronald Syme Memorial Lecture

*Cynthia's Bones: Authorship and Personhood in Classical Rome*

In this lecture, Professor Thomas N. Habinek reconsiders assumptions about what constitutes a 'person' in Roman culture by looking more closely at what constitutes an 'author'. He integrates Roman material into recent anthropological and archaeological discussions of the varieties of personhood found in different cultural contexts, while also making specific points about the diverse types of authorship in Roman antiquity.

Speaker: Professor Thomas N. Habinek is Professor of Classics at the University of Southern California.

Refreshments will be served from 5pm in the Maclaurin foyer.

### Details

When: Wednesday 8 October, 6pm

Where: Maclaurin Lecture Theatre 101, Kelburn Campus

RSVP by Friday 3 October. Phone (04) 463 5319 or email [hannah.tokona@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:hannah.tokona@vuw.ac.nz) with 'Syme' in the subject line.

## Victoria Ancient Theatre Society

Victoria Ancient Theatre Society (VATS) is a new student group that was launched earlier this year with the support of the Classics Programme, the Wellington Classical Association, and the Theatre Programme.

The inaugural production of Sophocles' *Antigone*, featuring a new translation from the Greek by Dr. Simon Perris, will take place in Studio 77, Fairlie Terrace, on 16, 17 and 18 October.

For tickets, please email: [antigonebookings@gmail.com](mailto:antigonebookings@gmail.com).

## **Council Elections–Friday 14 November 2014**

Nominations for the election of members of the University Council closed on Wednesday 17 September 2014 at 5pm. Five nominations were received for the two four year Court of Convocation vacancies (from 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2018) and one nomination for the remaining term for the late Rosemary Barrington (from 1 December 2014 to 31 December 2016).

The election will be held on Friday 14 November 2014, with the polls closing at 5pm.

### **Election of two Members of Council by the Court of Convocation**

The candidates for this election are:

- Brian McCulloch
- Stephen McGill
- Matthew Palmer
- Helen Sutch
- Rachel Taulelei

The election will be conducted by postal and electronic vote, and the candidates will be elected according to the votes cast by the single transferable vote system. All persons currently enrolled or entitled to be enrolled on the Court of Convocation Register are eligible to vote in the election. Voting documents will be sent in mid-October to every member of the Court of Convocation whose name is enrolled on the active part of the Register and for whom a current postal or email address is held. The voting information will include the profiles of the candidates and full instructions for voting by post or via the internet.

The Register of the Court of Convocation will close at 5pm on Thursday 16 October 2014.

To notify a change of address or request a transfer to the active part of the Register, members should contact the Returning Officer, Victoria University of Wellington, PO Box 600, Wellington or email [caroline.ward@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:caroline.ward@vuw.ac.nz) before the closing of the Register.

### **Declaration of Result**

One nomination was received for the remaining term for the late Rosemary Barrington from 1 December 2014 to 31 December 2016

Ian McKinnon

I therefore declare Ian McKinnon re-elected unopposed.

Caroline Ward, Secretary to Council and Returning Officer

## **Christmas/New Year Closedown 2014/2015**

This year the University will close for the Christmas closedown at 5pm on Friday 19 December 2014 and will re-open on Monday 5 January 2015. Information has been sent to all staff about the various leave requirements and exceptions.

If you have a current annual leave entitlement, two days will be deducted automatically from your actual leave balance. If you do not have a current annual leave entitlement you will be asked to agree to anticipated leave being deducted from your pro-rata balance. If you have a negative annual leave balance (i.e. a negative total balance) Monday 22 December 2014 and Tuesday 23 December 2014 must be taken as leave without pay.

There are two exceptions that may be approved:

1. If you are saving annual leave for a planned and pre-approved extended holiday in 2015, you can request approval from your Head of School or CSU Director to work on 22 and 23 December 2014. Heads of School and CSU Directors will notify HR Payroll about approvals in this category by not later than Friday 14 November 2014.
2. Some essential services and work will be required on 22 and 23 December 2014. Heads of School and CSU Directors will notify the relevant SLT member of any essential services and work that will require staff to work on these two days. Working under this category will require the approval of the relevant SLT member who will notify HR Payroll by not later than Friday 14 November 2014.

Any enquiries related to the Christmas/New Year closedown should be directed to your Manager in the first instance. Your Faculty HR Manager or Central Service Unit HR Advisor can also assist.

## **Water pipe installation on Maclaurin Building**

Until Friday 3 October, water pipes will be installed on the exterior of the Maclaurin Building, next to the Gate 6 carpark, and in the foyer area adjacent to Gate 6.

This work area will be cordoned off and it is likely to be noisy at times. On the weekend of the 27 to 28 September, the carparks immediately adjacent to the Maclaurin Building will be taken up by contractors.

We apologise for any inconvenience that this work may cause.

If you would like any further information please contact the Project Manager, Sebastian Stanczuk, on 021 277 1212.

## **Weight Watchers at Work**

Weight Watchers at Work and Victoria University want to help you achieve your weight loss goals through a successful health and wellbeing programme within the workplace. Weightwatchers is a liveable, flexible and sensible programme about food education.

Three programmes of Weight Watchers at Work have already taken place and a new programme will be running from Monday 13 October 2014 at the Kelburn Campus if the minimum number of participants is reached.

The programme offers:

- Group support
- Free E-tools (online tracking companion, including mobile phone app)
- Confidential weekly weigh in
- No joining fee—Just \$17.90 per week for an exclusive 13 week programme
- Free weekly mini-magazine and four educational booklets to assist with your journey
- Weight Watchers products exclusive to the meetings
- A motivational inspirational consultant
- A liveable, flexible and sensible programme that fits into your life, not the other way around!

A minimum of 12 participants is required to start an At Work meeting

To register to attend, contact Marlene Thomson, Occupational Nurse (Health & Wellness) on extn 6845 or email [marlene.thomson@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:marlene.thomson@vuw.ac.nz)

## **Diagnosis: 55-word short story contest**

Have you ever been sick? Did you get a diagnosis? Diagnosis is a powerful tool. While it may explain what ails us and provide a sense of direction, it can also terrify, stigmatise and disrupt. What is your story about diagnosis? Write it in 55 words (no more, no less).

No prior experience in the art of writing to a ridiculous word limit required. The theme is “diagnosis”—be creative!

- Stories will be judged by novelist Damien Wilkins and poet Harry Ricketts
- First prize: \$100
- Assorted other small prizes for placegetters
- Public reading of selected entries will be held on 21 November at the Critical Diagnosis Network seminar, 1 to 2PM, VZ801.

To enter:

- Submit your previously unpublished story of exactly 55 words by email to [mary-lou.harris@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:mary-lou.harris@vuw.ac.nz) before 31 October with the subject line ‘55 words’
- Provide your full name and contact phone number in the body of the email
- Enter as many times as you like

Victoria University’s Critical Diagnosis Network is dedicated to exploring social, cultural, creative and critical perspectives of diagnosis with a view to enhancing understanding of health and illness. It meets monthly. For more information, contact Annemarie Jutel on [annemarie.jutel@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:annemarie.jutel@vuw.ac.nz).

## **Academic programme reviews**

### **Film Programme**

The Film Programme will undergo an academic programme review from 21 to 23 October. All Victoria University staff and students are welcome to make a submission to the review panel.

Programme reviews have an explicit focus on the quality and design of the programme, its engagement in learning and teaching, the integration of research into the learning and teaching activities, and its links to relevant academic, social and professional communities.

Further information is available at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/academic-programme-reviews/feedback>. Submissions can be sent to [edward.schofield@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:edward.schofield@vuw.ac.nz) and should be sent by Tuesday 7 October.

### **Commercial Law Programme**

The Commercial Law Programme will undergo an academic programme review from 29 to 31 October inclusive. All Victoria University staff and students are welcome to make a submission to the review panel.

Programme reviews have an explicit focus on the quality and design of the programme, its engagement in learning and teaching, the integration of research into the learning and teaching activities, and its links to relevant academic, social and professional communities.

Further information is available at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/academic-programme-reviews/feedback>.

Submissions can be sent to [edward.schofield@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:edward.schofield@vuw.ac.nz) and should be sent by Tuesday 14 October.

## **2014 second room usage survey**

Campus Services will be conducting a second room usage survey for 2014 over the week beginning 13 October to complement the survey undertaken earlier in the trimester in assessing the utilisation of teaching, study and meeting facilities across the University. All lecture theatres, seminar rooms, postgraduate studies, the majority of meeting rooms plus other intermittently used rooms will be surveyed over a sample period of one week, with all campuses surveyed over the last week of teaching for the trimester.

As with the previous survey, our surveyors will visit each room once every hour between 8am and 6.30pm. They will assess the occupancy of the room by head count, or estimation for larger classes. Where possible, surveyors will view through windows to minimise disruption or quietly open the door if a window is not available.

Surveyors will be wearing identification and carrying a letter of introduction.

We appreciate your co-operation while the surveys are being undertaken. Please contact Winifred Long, mobile 021 476 977 or email [winifred.long@actrix.co.nz](mailto:winifred.long@actrix.co.nz) if you have any queries regarding the survey.

## **Ground investigative work at Rutherford House**

Until Thursday 16 October, ground investigative work, including boreholes and excavation, will be taking place in the Rutherford House eastern carpark.

The drilling and excavation will:

- Be noisy
- Affect some bookable car parks
- Not affect existing access areas—these will be kept clear at all times
- Be managed around the existing timetable to mitigate disruption
- Take place outside of any planned events at Rutherford House
- Be cordoned off

We apologise for any inconvenience this work may cause.

## **Māori Cultural Integrity versus Cultural Capitalism—Finding a Balance**

Hear from Hemi Rolleston, GM Māori Economy at Callaghan Innovation, Hone McGregor, Director, Wakatū Incorporation and Aroha Mead, Māori Business Programme, Victoria Business School.

### **Details**

When: Monday 6 October, 4.30–6pm

Where: Rutherford House Lecture Theatre 2 (RHLT2)

RSVP for catering purposes to [ina.yoo@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:ina.yoo@vuw.ac.nz).

## **2014 TERNZ Conference**

Since 2002, TERNZ (Tertiary Education Research New Zealand) has provided a forum for enquiry into learning and teaching in the New Zealand tertiary sector. It aims to support and develop a community who share a common interest in research.

At a time when universities and polytechnics are under considerable external pressure to change, it provides an opportunity to step back and examine the direction in which education is moving, and the means by which practitioners might influence that direction. A distinctive feature of the conference is the emphasis on creating time for discussion and space for reflection. We aim to continue a dialogue which transcends disciplinary boundaries, and to promote further exploration of a research approach to teaching and learning.

The conference is relatively non-traditional in that parallel sessions are not simply presentation oriented. Presenters talk about their research or ideas for research for a short time and then facilitate discussion or workshops for the remainder of the one hour session.

In the past, the most successful sessions have been those in which participants are challenged to explore their own ideas about a concept and where they extend their own thinking as well as that of the presenter.

### **Details**

When: 26–28 November 2014

Where: The University of Auckland, City Campus

Cost: \$200 (includes all catering, welcome reception and conference dinner)

Keynote speaker: Professor Helen Sword, The University of Auckland

Registrations are now open. The call for abstract submissions close on Wednesday 1 October.

For more information, contact Barbara Kensington-Miller on [b.kensington-miller@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:b.kensington-miller@auckland.ac.nz) or by visiting [www.herdsa.org.nz/ternz/2014](http://www.herdsa.org.nz/ternz/2014).

## **Footpath closures**

Until Friday 3 October the footpaths that link Glasgow Street to the Hugh Mackenzie, Von Zedlitz and Murphy Buildings will be closed while repairs are made to the Von Zedlitz Services Building.

We apologise for any inconvenience that these closures may cause.

If you would like any further information on this please contact Will Lamb, Project Manager, Campus Services, on extn 6605 or email [will.lamb@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:will.lamb@vuw.ac.nz)

## **Call for nominations for the Victoria General Staff Awards for Excellence 2014**

The General Staff Excellence Awards are part of Victoria University's commitment to rewarding general staff who have displayed outstanding performance.

### **Eligibility**

All members of general staff (not employed as academic, teaching or research staff) or a team of general staff are eligible to be nominated, including directors of Central Service Units. Performance in the preceding 12-18 months should be considered when making nominations.

### **Criteria**

Nominations need to meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Outstanding achievement that has added value to the area of work or the University in general
- Outstanding service to clients (internal or external)
- Outstanding or original initiative or project that has been successfully implemented
- Significant changes or improvements to work practices, policies or processes.

In addition to the criteria set out above, the selection committee will also take into account:

- The value of benefits to the University
- The degree of originality
- The impact on the wider university community
- Any obstacles or barriers that had to be overcome to implement the initiative.

Detailed information about the nominations process and the nomination form are available on the staff intranet at: <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/staff/your-university/staff-excellence/general-awards>

All nominees will be advised in writing of the outcome of their nomination in December. The Vice-Chancellor will publicly announce the recipients of the awards in Victoria News.

Nominations open on Monday 18 August 2014 and must be sent to the Executive Assistant to the Director, HR by noon on Friday 3 October 2014, care of Hunter 408 (HU408) or emailed to [ContactHR@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:ContactHR@vuw.ac.nz).

## Equity and Diversity Awards

As part of its commitment to recognising the central role of staff achievements in institutional excellence, Victoria will make one or more awards to recognise exemplary commitment and distinctive contributions to the pursuit of the University's strategic goal in equity and diversity: 'provide an inclusive and representative environment for staff and students that is conducive to equity of opportunity for participation and success' (Strategic Plan).

Currently, the equity groups identified in Victoria's Equity and Diversity Strategy are:

- Māori and Pacific staff and students
- Students and staff members with disabilities
- Men or women in professions or disciplines where they are under-represented in a particular profession or area of study
- Students from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

It is expected that the contribution on which the application/nomination is based will relate to one or more of these groups, and/or to the broader goal of creating an inclusive and diverse community at Victoria.

The award will recognise either a sustained and distinctive contribution over the period of employment at Victoria or an excellent project or initiative that has had significant impact.

Assessment will be against the following criteria:

- Innovation or distinctiveness
- Effectiveness: demonstrated constructive impact or outcomes
- Potential to exercise sustained influence or effect long-term change.

The guidelines and criteria and application/nomination form can be found on the Learning and Teaching hub on the staff intranet at:

<https://www.victoria.ac.nz/staff/learning-teaching/equity-diversity/award>

Applications/nominations open on Monday 18 August 2014 and must be sent to Susan Davies, Academic Office by 5pm on Friday 31 October 2014, care of Hunter 208 (HU208) or emailed to [Susan.Davies@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Susan.Davies@vuw.ac.nz)

## Vice-Chancellor's Commendation for Excellence in Health and Safety 2014

Nominations are requested for the 2014 recipient(s) of the Vice-Chancellor's Commendation for Excellence in Health and Safety. This commendation will be awarded to staff who have demonstrated examples of significant contribution to Health and Safety at Victoria University.

The award for an individual or team will be for either sustained excellence or a one-off success or contribution to workplace health and safety.

The nomination needs to meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Identification and treatment of a previously unidentified significant hazard;
- Successful management of a situation with the potential to seriously impact on the health and safety performance of the University;
- Sustained excellence towards maintaining an outstanding level of health and safety performance in a faculty, school or unit;
- Significant changes or improvements to work practices that enhance health and safety practices in a faculty, school or unit.

Nomination forms can be obtained from Victoria's Health and Safety website (<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/healthandsafety/resources>) or you can request a copy of the nomination form by emailing [safety@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:safety@vuw.ac.nz).

All nominees will be advised in writing of the outcome of their nomination in December. The Vice-Chancellor will publicly announce the recipients of the Awards in Victoria News.

Nominations open Monday 18 August 2014. Please send in your completed nomination form to [safety@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:safety@vuw.ac.nz) by noon Friday 3 October 2014.

If you have any queries, please contact Ronnie Cowley, Senior Advisor–Health and Safety, Emergency Management, Business Continuity.

## Staff Research Excellence Awards

Applications/nominations are now open for the Research Excellence Awards. These awards recognise and reward special achievements in research and scholarship at Victoria.

### Research Excellence Awards and Early Career Research Awards

There are two criteria for the Research Excellence Awards, and awards may be made for achievements under either or both categories:

- Awards for commercial application of fundamental research, and for engaging parties outside the University with fundamental research being undertaken at the University.
- Awards for research leadership.

In addition, Early Career Research Awards will also be made under these two criteria to recognise and reward special achievements in research and scholarship at Victoria by academic staff at the beginning of their research careers. Applicants must be within the first five years of their first academic appointment at a research institution, with a minimum of two years' experience as a full-time academic staff member at Victoria at the time of application.

Detailed information about the applications/nominations process and the forms are available on the staff intranet at: <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/staff/research/resources-support/awards> or alternatively, request a form by emailing [catherine.galuszka@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:catherine.galuszka@vuw.ac.nz).

Please send your completed application forms in a single hard copy to Catherine Galuszka, Room 302, Hunter Building, Kelburn Parade by 5pm on Friday 10 October 2014.

## Continuing Education Courses

### Ethical issues of our time: computers, climate and conception

Without being heavily theoretical, this course looks at contemporary situations across several disciplines—from ecology to reproductive biology and from phone hacking to whistle blowing. The course provides an insight into why we should all become more ethically aware. Enrolment in individual sessions is available for this course.

#### Details

When: Wednesdays 1 October to 29 October (five sessions), 6pm–8pm

Victoria staff fee: \$112 incl GST, Individual Sessions \$30 incl GST

<http://cce.victoria.ac.nz/courses/277-ethical-issues-of-our-time-computers-climate-and-conception>

### Why a seven day week? Why a 24-hour day?

We take the seven-day week for granted, but what is a week and why seven days? Why not six days or eight or some other number? Why the 24-hour day? These are recent inventions, but who invented them, where, when and why? In this one-off lecture you will discover their surprising origins.



Peter Clemerson graduated BSc from Manchester University and worked in the information technology industry. He completed his MA in Psychology at Massey University, and expects to submit his PhD thesis in Evolutionary Psychology, also at Massey, in early 2015. He is a marriage celebrant, member of the Humanist Society of New Zealand and the New Zealand Skeptics.

### **Details**

Saturday 11 October, 10am–12.30pm

Victoria staff fee: \$30 incl GST

<http://cce.victoria.ac.nz/courses/269-why-a-seven-day-week-why-a-24hour-day>

## **ITS Matters**

### **Check before downloading software**

Often, criminals will take existing software and insert their own malicious software into it. Be careful where you download software from into your C:\ drive, making sure it is trustworthy software from a legitimate site. Sites such as Facebook are rife with malicious software downloads and links.

### **Desktop application installation**

Installing applications can increase the security risk to your desktop. For example, running applications as an administrator can be one of the biggest reasons for systems to get infected from malware.

Prior to installing software, seek advice from the ITS Service desk.

### **Report suspicious activity on your computer**

Contact the Help Desk and report if your computer has performance problems, unexpected pop-up windows, or new unknown programs installed.

## **Te Kupu o Te Wiki ki Wikitōria**

Each week in Victoria News a new te reo Māori word will be published giving you the opportunity to learn 50 kupu hou (new words). This initiative is in support of Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori—Māori Language Week.

This week's word is: rangatira (chief, noble, leader).

To hear the pronunciation of this word, head to the Māori at Victoria website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/maori-at-victoria/ako/te-kupu-o-te-wiki-ki-wikitōria>

## **Chamber of Commerce**

Victoria University is a corporate member of the Wellington Employers' Chamber of Commerce, which holds a number of events designed to help professionals in Wellington with a selection of training events and guest speakers. If you would like to take part in an event, you will be entitled to a discounted rate. Staff can also arrange to receive a copy of the weekly e-newsletter by emailing [info@wecc.org.nz](mailto:info@wecc.org.nz). For a calendar of upcoming events, visit [www.wecc.org.nz](http://www.wecc.org.nz).

## **Vacancies at Victoria**

Victoria University is an EEO employer and actively seeks to meet its obligations under the Treaty of Waitangi.

To view and apply for staff vacancies please login to your personal HR Kiosk:

[https://v12hr.vuw.ac.nz/v12vuw/WK8003\\$.startup](https://v12hr.vuw.ac.nz/v12vuw/WK8003$.startup)

In your HR Kiosk, you will need to select the following menu buttons:

About Me> My Recruitment > Current Vacancies.

### **Associate Dean (Students)—Victoria Business School (0.6FTE)**

Victoria Business School seeks to appoint an Associate Dean (Students). Applications are sought from experienced academics within Victoria University who are interested in contributing to the administration and continuous improvement of its academic programmes. The applicants will need to enjoy dealing with students from many walks of life, have an in-depth understanding of degree structures and regulations, have an interest in providing advice to colleagues on programmes and statutes, represent VBS on University committees, and be able to provide leadership as guardian of VBS academic programmes. The role is part time (0.6FTE) and fixed term (initially for three years).

Interested candidates are required to apply via HR Kiosk. For more information and to apply, log in to HR Kiosk and see vacancy #285. Applications should include: a curriculum vitae and a statement of why you are interested in this role. Applications close Sunday 5 October 2014

For further information please contact Karen McEwan, Human Resource Manager tel: 027 563 9560 or email: [karen.mcewan@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:karen.mcewan@vuw.ac.nz)

**Technical Asset Advisor, Facilities Management, Campus Services**

For more information including the Role Description see HR Kiosk, vacancy: 298

Internal applications are invited

Applications close on Friday 3 October 2014

If you would like a short term vacancy listed on the intranet, please send the relevant details to [vicnews@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:vicnews@vuw.ac.nz)

### Tuesday 30 September

#### Public lectures and seminars

##### [International Mediation and Conflict Management: Near a Tipping Point?](#)

Tuesday 30 September 2014 5.30pm

Location: Lecture Theatre 1 (GBLT1), Rear Courtyard, Old Government Buildings, 55 Lambton Quay, Wellington

2014 New Zealand Law Foundation International Dispute Resolution Lecture Presented by Professor Thomas Stipanowich.

Please email [law-events@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:law-events@vuw.ac.nz) to confirm your attendance.

### Wednesday 1 October

#### Public lectures and seminars

##### [Public Lecture: Putting chattels into context](#)

Wednesday 1 October 2014 7pm

Location: Lecture Theatre 1, Faculty of Architecture and Design. 139 Vivian Street, Te Aro, Wellington.

While a piece of historic furniture might be easily placed into an historic house, should it be there?

Presented by: William Cottrell

#### Short courses and training: Continuing Education courses

##### [Ethical Issues of our Time: Computers, climate and conception](#)

Wednesday 1 October 2014 6pm

Location: Pipitea Campus

The course provides an insight into why we should all become more ethically aware.

Presented by: Tony Hooper; Rhian Salmon; Diane Ormsby

Fee: \$140 incl GST

For more information and to enrol visit <http://cce.victoria.ac.nz/courses/277-ethical-issues-of-our-time-computers-climate-and-conception>

#### Public lectures and seminars

##### [The Changing Face of James Hector](#)

Research Roundup Series

Wednesday 1 October 2014 4.10pm

Location: Stout Research Centre Seminar Room, 12 Waiteata Road, Kelburn

2015 will be the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hector's arrival in Wellington and the start of the Geological Survey and Colonial Museum.

Presented by: Simon Nathan

#### Public lectures and seminars

##### [William Cottrell: Putting chattels into context](#)

Wednesday 1 October 2014 6.30pm

Location: Vivian Street LT 1 (VS LT1) Faculty of Architecture and Design

While a piece of historic furniture might be easily placed into an historic house, should it be there?

Presented by: William Cottrell

#### Public lectures and seminars

##### ['That's the kind of world I signed up for': studying normalised extreme work in the New Zealand film industry](#)

SACS Seminar Series

Wednesday 1 October 2014 12pm

Location: Murphy 305 (MY305)

This seminar will discuss the work of film industry 'crew' in New Zealand as a form of normalised extreme work.

Presented by: Deborah Jones, School of Management

## Thursday 2 October

### Short courses and training: Continuing Education courses

#### [Evolutionary Psychology in Everyday Life](#)

Thursday 2 October 2014 6pm

Location: Pipitea Campus

This course examines humanity's evolutionary past and how it continues to shape our daily activities today.

Presented by: Peter Clemerson

Fee: \$200 incl GST

For more information and to enrol visit <http://cce.victoria.ac.nz/courses/268-evolutionary-psychology-in-everyday-life>

## Friday 3 October

### Cultural events: Concerts and recitals

#### [NZSM Lunchtime Concert – Cello Ensemble](#)

NZSM Friday Lunchtime series

Friday 3 October 2014 12.10pm

Location: Adam Concert Room, NZSM Kelburn Campus

The NZSM Cello Ensemble present a concert in the NZSM Friday Lunchtime series.

### Public lectures and seminars

#### [Family language policies of refugees in New Zealand](#)

LALS seminar

Friday 3 October 2014 4pm

Location: MY101

Are refugee parents successful in passing on their ethnic language to their children?

Presented by: Melanie Revis (LALS)

### Public lectures and seminars

#### [History Programme Seminar: The Transported Imagination: Magazines and the Geographical Imaginary in Interwar Australia](#)

Friday 3 October 2014 12.10pm

Location: Old Kirk 406 (F L Wood Seminar Room)

Susann Liebich examines representations of travel across the Pacific in popular Australian magazines from the 1920s and 1930s.

## Saturday 4 October

### Short courses and training: Continuing Education courses

#### [The Actor's Toolkit](#)

Saturday 4 October 2014 10am

Location: Pipitea Campus

This course is an excellent introduction for anyone interested in acting, regardless of age, background or gender.

Presented by: KC Kelly

Fee: \$280 incl GST

For more information and to enrol visit <http://cce.victoria.ac.nz/courses/189-the-actors-toolkit>

## Tuesday 7 October

### Short courses and training: Professional Development courses

#### [Market-Led Strategic Change](#)

Tuesday 7 October 2014 9am

Location: Pipitea Campus

This two-day intensive hands-on course is designed for senior leaders charged with developing effective and competitive organisations.

Presented by: Professor David Crick; Martyn Gosling

Fee: \$1,690 excl GST

For more information and to enrol visit <http://ped.victoria.ac.nz/courses/352-marketled-strategic-change>

## Wednesday 8 October

### Public lectures and seminars

["Something else is going on, an interaction, an exchange": Martin Edmond's Painted Lives](#)

Research Roundup Seminar Series

Wednesday 8 October 2014 4.10pm

Location: 12 Waiteata Road, Kelburn

We still often fail to consider nonfiction writing as art, or biographers as writers with a writing practice that develops over time.

Presented by: Ingrid Horrocks

**Note: Classifieds can only be added by Victoria staff with a Victoria contact email address and must be 30 words or fewer. Commercial advertising will not be accepted. Advertisements can only be accepted when submitted through the online form: <https://www.victoria.ac.nz/staff/news-events/classifieds>.**

### For Sale

Three bedroom home: cleverly renovated three double bedroom 1949 house in Totara Road Miramar. Weatherboard, open plan living, large kitchen, elevated west facing with great outdoor areas and native garden. Native timbers and newly painted. Two garages plus off street parking. Big sandpit! BEO: \$495,000. Contact: Chris Dean on [chris.dean@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:chris.dean@vuw.ac.nz) or 027 263 9455.

WOW tickets: two World of Wearable Art show tickets for Thursday 2 October at 8pm. Tickets are premium tickets (\$130 each) in Black 8, Row B. Also available is a prepurchased programme ticket for \$40. Contact: Val Hooper on [val.hooper@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:val.hooper@vuw.ac.nz) or (04) 463 5020.

### To Let

One bedroom flat in Lyall Bay: Sunny fully-furnished one bedroom flat in Lyall Bay available for sublet from 1 November to 31 December. Seconds away from the beach, #3 and #6 buses, ten minute walk to amenities (groceries, Warehouse, Kilbirnie buses). On-street parking available. Contact: Carine on [carine.stewart@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:carine.stewart@vuw.ac.nz) or 022 672 4535.

Melrose family home: Four bedrooms, two bathrooms, two living rooms and large study with flat, drive-on access. Glorious views out across Lyall Bay to the Orongorongos. On the 22 bus route (comes through Victoria Kelburn campus) and minutes walk to both Newtown and Island Bay. \$650 per week. Contact: James Meffan on [james.meffan@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:james.meffan@vuw.ac.nz) or (04) 383 6460.

Two bedroom flat, Kelburn: Located in Rawhiti Terrace, this house is cosy and sunny, has spacious rooms, and comes partly furnished with good storage. Ideal for visiting scholars or a sabbatical. Available from end of October. \$410 per week, no letting fees, three weeks bond. Contact: Vanessa Frangville on [vanessa.frangville@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:vanessa.frangville@vuw.ac.nz) or 022 370 6554.

Upper Hutt, Ebdentown: a three-bedroom house in modest condition at \$280 per week for a good, deserving family with strong references. Convenient location, adjacent to the Riverbank park, ample parking. Contact: Jebi Jayapalan on [Jebi.Jayapalan@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Jebi.Jayapalan@vuw.ac.nz) or (04) 463 6695.

Holiday home, Himatangi Beach: Molly's Beach Cottage—a very cool school holiday spot. Cosy, warm, sunny, pet friendly and close to the beach. The whitebait are running! For more information and booking, go to: <http://bit.ly/VKYRhF>. Contact: Averil Coxhead on [averil.coxhead@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:averil.coxhead@vuw.ac.nz) or (04) 463 5625.

Khandallah, house: Fully-furnished three bedroom house near train/bus stop. Nice yard, spacious internal-access garage, close to schools. Ideal for a family or professionals. Available late August. Contact: Douglas Meyer on [douglas.meyer@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:douglas.meyer@vuw.ac.nz).

### Wanted

Car: I'm looking for a car to rent until Jan/Feb 2015 or to buy (max. \$5,000). Most importantly, the car has to be reliable and hassle free and have a current Warrant of Fitness for at least six months. Registration until February 2015 is desirable. Contact: Andrea Kolb on [andrea.kolb@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:andrea.kolb@vuw.ac.nz).

Housesitting/short term lease sought in Wellington region: Couple with references available. Happy to look after pets and gardens. Available now for immediate start. If interested, please contact to discuss further. Contact: Chris Hancock on [christopher.hancock@outlook.com](mailto:christopher.hancock@outlook.com) or 027 257 9154.