

V.ALUM 2024

Law Alumni Digital Magazine

Awards, honours, and appointments

Congratulations to all those in our community—students, staff, and alumni—who have been recognised with awards, honours, and appointments this year.

Alumni

Wendy Aldred (LLB 1994) was appointed to the rank of King's Council.

Katherine Anderson (LLB 1994) was appointed to the rank of King's Council.

Claire Baylis (LLM 1991) was awarded the Ngaio Marsh Best First Novel Award for her novel *Dice*. [Read more.](#)

Honourable Justice David Collins KC (LLM 1977) was appointed as an acting judge of the Court of Appeal.

Honourable Judge Francis Cooke (LLB(Hons) 1989) was appointed as a judge of the Court of Appeal.

Sarah Croskery-Hewitt (LLB/BA 2015) was awarded the Borrin Foundation Te Pae Tawhiti Postgraduate Scholarship to support her in completing the final year of her PhD in Law at the University of Wollongong.

Honourable Justice Rebecca Jane Ellis (LLB 1987) was appointed as a judge of the Court of Appeal.

Honourable Justice Sally Fitzgerald (LLB 1992) was appointed as a judge of the High Court.

Theresa Gattung (LLB 1987) was made a [Dame Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit](#) for her services to women, governance, and philanthropy in the King's Birthday Honours 2024.

Sally Gepp (LLM 2019) was appointed to the rank of King's Council.

Honourable Justice Karen Grau (LLB(Hons) 2002) was appointed as a judge of the High Court.

Wiliame Gucake (LLM 2020) was awarded the Borrin Foundation Te Pae Tawhiti Postgraduate Scholarship to pursue an LLM at Harvard Law School.

Daniel Kalderimis (LLB(Hons) 2000) was appointed to the rank of King's Council.

Stefan McClean (LLB/BA 2021) was awarded the [2024 Diploma of the Hague Academy of International Law](#).

Pete McKenzie (LLB(Hons)/BA 2021) was awarded the prestigious 2025 Sir Harry Evans Global Fellowship in Investigative Journalism. [Read more.](#)

Rebecca McMenamin (LLB(Hons)/BA 2018) was awarded the Borrin Foundation Te Pae Tawhiti Postgraduate Scholarship to undertake a PhD research stay at a university in the United Kingdom.

Madeleine Nash (LLB 2018) was awarded a 2024 William Georgetti Scholarship, one of New Zealand's most prestigious graduate awards. Madeleine also received the Frank Knox Fellowship from Harvard University, and the [New Zealand Law Foundation Ethel Benjamin Scholarship for Women in Law](#).

Honourable Justice Matthew Palmer (LLB(Hons) 1987) was appointed as a judge of the Court of Appeal.

Kelly Quinn (LLB/BCA 1996) was appointed to the rank of King's Council.

Pita Roycroft (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Ngāti Hāmoa—Moata'a) (LLB(Hons)/BA 2018) was awarded the Borrin Foundation Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga Postgraduate Scholarship to pursue an LLM in the USA.

Todd Simmonds (LLB 1990) was appointed to the rank of King's Council.

Timothy Stephens (LLB 1995) was appointed to the rank of King's Council.

Toilolo Leilani Taula (LLB(Hons)/BA 2020) was awarded the Borrin Foundation Te Pae Tawhiti Postgraduate Scholarship to pursue an LLM in the USA.

Samuel Wimsett (LLB 2003) was appointed to the rank of King's Council.

Faculty

Professor Graeme Austin was awarded a prestigious Advance Higher Education Academy Senior Fellowship through the University's professional recognition programme, Te Arawai Ako. The panellists were impressed by his excellent portfolio and with his example of linking human rights and intellectual property to stimulate both research and teaching.

Associate Professor Mark Bennett was appointed to the position of Associate Dean Students.

Dr Marnie Lloyd was appointed Visiting Research Fellow at the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, Research Consultant for the Norwegian Red Cross, Researcher at Deakin University's Centre for Law as Protection, Co-Director of VUW's New Zealand Centre for Public International Law, and was a Visiting Fellow at Melbourne Law School's Peter McMullin Centre on Statelessness.

Professor Nicole Moreham was awarded a Marsden Grant in the latest round of Te Pūtea Rangahau a Marsden, the Marsden Fund, for her project entitled 'Death's impact on privacy, reputation, and mana—a comparative exploration of Pākehā law and tikanga Māori'. [Read more.](#)

Teaching Fellow Steven Price won a silver medal at the [New York Festival Radio Awards](#) for his true crime podcast [Mr Lyttle Meets Mr Big](#).

Dr Mele Tupou-Vaitohi was awarded a Borrin Foundation Travel and Learning Award to travel to Penn State Dickinson Law to learn its whole-of-organisation approaches, including the critical race theory and the system design approach that it uses to disrupt systemic racial and intersectional inequities.

Prize winners for 2023

A H Johnstone Scholarship in Law—**Claire Graham**

A L Hollings Trust Award—**Grace Cartman**

Archibald Francis McCallum Scholarship in Law—**Florence Ruth Oakley**

Bell Gully Junior Mooting Competition (Winners)—**Fergus Wood** and **Laura Mooney**

Bell Gully Senior Mooting Competition (Winners)—**Thomas Pope-Kerr** and **George Curzon-Hobson**

Bernard Randall Prize in Family Law—**Alexandra Nicoloff**

Buddle Findlay Senior Negotiation Competition (Winners)—**Tess Mortimer** and **Manon Wolfgramm-Jones**

Chapman Tripp Junior Negotiation Competition (Winners)—**Summer Ioane** and **Kezra Gonzalez**

Chapman Tripp Prize—**Alexandra Briscoe**

Chris Highfield Memorial Prize in Public Law—**George Curzon-Hobson**

Coleman-Brown Memorial Award—**Alice Mander** and **Antonia Smith**

Colin Patterson Memorial Prize—**Sam Baker**

Flacks & Wong Prize in Company Law—**Rebecca Michael**

Gordon Orr Prize—**Amiria Tikao**

I.L.M Richardson Prize in Private Law—**Florence Ruth Oakley** and **Emerald Bendall**

International Client Consultation Competition New Zealand Nationals (Winners)—**Isla Clarkson** and **Jimmy Fiso**

IPLS Senior Client Interviewing Competition (Winners)—**George Curzon-Hobson** and **Helena Palmer**

Jacob Joseph Award—**Alexandra Briscoe**

Kāhui Legal Māori Mooting Competition (Winning Team)—**Ella Young, Israel Elkington,** and **Katie Wells**

Kāhui Legal Māori Negotiation Competition (Winning Team)—**Hēmi Daly, Christie Wallace,** and **Lauren Tidswell**

Kāhui Legal Māori Negotiation Competition (Runner-up Team)—**Metiria Doyle, Aria Ngarimu,** and **Phoebe Sullivan**

Kāhui Legal Māori Mooting Competition (Best Speaker)—**Kaea Hudson**

Kāhui Legal Māori Negotiation Competition (Best Speaker)—**Hēmi Daly**

LexisNexis Senior Paper Presentation Competition (Winner)—**Helena Palmer**

Lord Cooke of Thorndon Prize—**Claire Graham**

Mayne Wetherell Prize (100 Level Law)—**Ana Marshall**

Mayne Wetherell Prize (Contract Law)—**Joshua Kemp Whimp**

Minter Ellison Rudd Watts Junior Witness Examination Competition (Winner)—**Jamie Yee**

Minter Ellison Rudd Watts Senior Witness Examination Competition (Winner)—**Samantha Romijn**

Negotiation Nationals (Winners)—**Tess Mortimer** and **Manon Wolfgramm-Jones**

New Zealand Council for Civil Liberties Essay Prize—**Anna Smart**

Pasifika Law Students' Society Bell Gully Mooting Competition (Winners)—**Dimitris Potusa, Evo Malifa,** and **Hatamara Titifanue Shaw**

Pasifika and Ngā Rangahautira Law Students' Society Luke Cunningham Clere Negotiation Competition (Winners)—**Shanay Talopau, Simran Bechan,** and **Dimitris Potusa**

Prebble Prize sponsored by Deloitte—**Ben Sears** and **Philia Yeo**

Quentin Baxter Prize in International Law—**Murray Neville Sim**

Quentin Baxter Prize in Public and International Law—**Ben Sears**

Robert Orr McGechan Memorial Prize—**Lydia Whyte**

Simpson Grierson Junior Client Interviewing Competition (Winners)—**Summer Ioane** and **Kezra Gonzalez**

Simpson Grierson Prize—**Carys Robson**

Sir John McGrath Prize in Public Law—**Alister Hughes**

Te Hunga Rōia Māori o Aotearoa National Māori Moot Competition (Winning Team)—**Kaea Hudson,** Isaiah Ong, and Theodore Baker-Jones

Te Hunga Rōia Māori o Aotearoa National Māori Negotiations Competition (Winning Team)—**Christie Wallace,** Celeste Rakena, and Keri Snodgrass

Te Hunga Rōia Māori o Aotearoa National Māori Negotiations Competition (Best Speaker)—**Christie Wallace**

Thomas Prize in Mooting (Winner)—**George Curzon-Hobson**

Dean's List 2023

Congratulations go to the following students, who are included on the Dean's List for academic excellence in 2023:

| | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Lucy Aitken | Michael Ferguson | Jessie MacEwan | Courtney Thomas |
| Matthew Allen | William Ferris | Jack McNeill | Dugal Thomson |
| Jack Apperley | Oscar Finnemore | James Macey | Olivia Thornton |
| Caitlin Ashby | Hunter Flanagan-Connors | Alice Mander | James Thyne |
| Sam Baker | Jack Fogarty | Sameer Mandhan | Amiria Tikao |
| Hannah Bautista | Alexander Gasson | Ana Marshall | Michael Turnbull |
| Emerald Bendall | Emilie Gerber | Matt Murray | April Vanner |
| William Berry | Hannah Giles | Hannah Nathan | Georgia Warwick |
| Tayla McKenzie Bethell | Xandi Gobbi | Florence Oakley | Jess Wenham |
| Hamish Bogard-Allan | Zinzan Goertzen | John O'Connor | Lydia Whyte |
| Olly Boyce | Jack Gormley | Liv Overfield | Robbie Woodward |
| Alexandra Briscoe | Claire Graham | Sinead Pacey | Holly Woolston |
| India Bulman | Emily Handyside | Helena Palmer | Philia Yeo |
| Sarah Burton | Amelia Harland | Thomas Pope-Kerr | Ben Young |
| Lara Cable | Alex Heine-Sheldrake | Ben Power | Hugo Young |
| Alex Cabraal-Schmidt | Holly Hoffman-Butcher | Ella Ricciardi | Lucia Young |
| Clair Caird | Lara Hopkinson | Ethan Rogacion | |
| Grace Cartman | Lia Horsley | Georgie Rolfe-Vyson | |
| Theo Castle-McLean | Hannah Houghton | Lulu Shepherd | |
| William Collins | Darcy Houston | Ella Shirtcliffe | |
| Sophie Crozier | Lucy Jessep | George Shirtcliffe | |
| Emma Cunningham | Tessa Keenan | Antonia Smith | |
| George Curzon-Hobson | Joshua Kemp Whimp | Catherine Sole | |
| Mine Davies | Georgia Key | Sophie Southgate | |
| Meg de Klerk | Rowan Kirker | Nick Stevens | |
| Anna Dombroski | Jess Knight | Ben Sturm | |
| Anya Donohue | Emma Lang | Ella Sutter | |