

Victorious

MAGAZINE FOR FRIENDS AND ALUMNI OF VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

SPRING 2004

Turbo power
Design turns heads

Teaching excellence
Top teachers at Vic

Strategic thinking
Victoria looks to the future

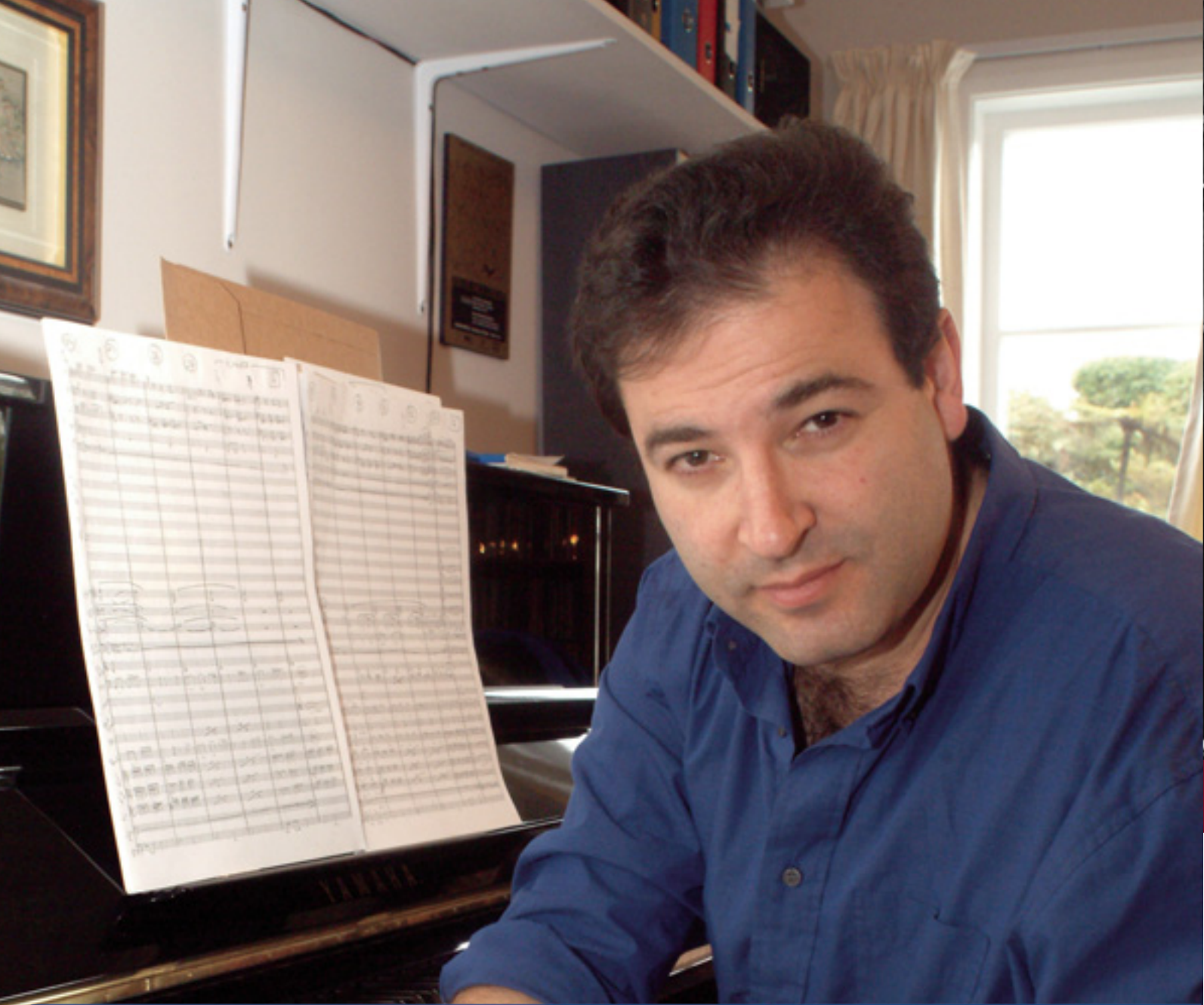
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Victoria
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*Te Whare Wānanga
o te Ūpoko o te Ika a Māui*



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Music to watch Olympics by

It's any composer's dream—to have their music heard simultaneously by billions of people around the world. Victoria University Senior Lecturer John Psathas lived that dream at the Athens Olympics in August.

John, who teaches composition, orchestration and musicianship in the School of Music, was chosen from more than 600 composers to write and arrange 13 pieces of music for the Olympics, including the official fanfares and much of the ceremonial music used at the opening ceremony. It took seven months and four trips to Greece to complete the project, which involved creating music for up to 250 musicians to record.

John says winning the commission was an incredible honour. "It's the biggest scale event that I'm ever likely to work on, with an audience of more than three billion people. I was lucky enough to be there in person and it was truly an amazing experience."

When first approached to compose the music John thought it was because of his Greek heritage. He was born in Wellington to Greek immigrants but his parents and sister have since returned to their home village in Greece.

"In fact, the musical director had heard the *Fanfare* I wrote in 1997 for the opening of the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, and was taken by my composing style."

John believes his achievement proves there are "no limits" in pursuing major global endeavours while being based in New Zealand.

"During the composing process I would upload samples of my music onto a secure website. My Greek counterparts would then give me immediate feedback. Geography wasn't a problem."

And he says the experience of composing the Olympic pieces will have real benefits for Victoria students. "I now have considerable new found knowledge and experience, particularly in music production and technology, all of which I can pass on."

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From the Vice-Chancellor



This is my last column in *Victorious* because I will complete my term as Vice-Chancellor in December. It is therefore an appropriate time to reflect on the position of our University and where it might go in the future.

The last four years have been a time of very dramatic, but positive, change. We have attained a degree of financial stability, and have seen a rapid increase in demand for access to our teaching and research from the domestic and international communities. While this has placed pressure on our infrastructure, there are worse problems to have than an excess of demand!

We have also established some important partnerships, such as with the Malaghan Institute of Medical Research, the Wellington College of Education, and the Australia and New Zealand School of Government, and the number of students from under-represented groups are increasing. The Performance-Based Research Fund has shown that we are in the top group of New Zealand's research universities.

We are now considering a new Strategic Plan that aims to cement Victoria's place among the best universities in New Zealand, and to build its research capability and international linkages as the Capital City University. If the University Council chooses to pursue this path, it will be demanding and require the ongoing efforts of all the University's members and friends—not least because of New Zealand's very low level of investment in universities by international standards. But it will also be a path that promises tremendous success for Victoria University.

I have greatly appreciated the support you have given to me over the last four years, and trust that you will similarly support my successor in leading this very fine institution.



Stuart N McCutcheon

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Cover image: Industrial design students in Victoria's School of Design have created an alternative wind turbine. Pictured with the model at the Te Aro Campus were, from left, Matt Backler, Lauren Van Uden, Leslie Leung, Renee Marcelis, Jo Lewis and Tim Drake.

Image: Paul Hillier, Schools of Architecture and Design.

Reader Survey

The *Victorious* editorial team is constantly looking for ways to make the magazine enjoyable to read. Either complete the questionnaire online at www.vuw.ac.nz/victorious-survey or fill in and return the form with this edition of *Victorious* (New Zealand residents only).

Complete and return the survey by 19 November 2004 and you'll go in the draw for one of ten \$30 book or CD vouchers.

Victoria's academic staff are leaders in their fields of research expertise. If you have a project that requires the skills and knowledge of our staff, contact Mike Doig at VicLink. Email: Mike.Doig@vuw.ac.nz Tel: +64-4-463 5072

Scientist scoops European prize

One of the world's top scientific prizes has, for the first time, been awarded to a scientist from outside of Europe—Victoria University Professor Paul Callaghan.



The Ampere Prize, awarded every two years to a scientist who makes notable strides forward in magnetic resonance, was presented to Paul at the Ampere Congress in Lille, France, in September.

Paul, who is the Alan MacDiarmid Professor of Physical Sciences and Director of the MacDiarmid Institute for Advanced Materials & Nanotechnology, won the prize for his work on developing nuclear magnetic

resonance methods to study complex fluids. Paul uses the tiny atomic nucleus to 'spy' on the way molecules within fluids organise, orient and move.

His advances have found widespread international use in the science of materials such as plastics, liquid crystals, detergents and even food products, and have strongly influenced developments in medical magnetic resonance imaging.

Paul is delighted to receive the award and says it is as much an honour for the students and young scientists in his group, as for himself.

"It's also great that the quality of scientific research done here in New Zealand is recognised as being up with the best in Europe," he says.

Paul is hoping to make more advances in this field. His research team is making strong progress in understanding the dynamics of a special kind of soft material known as "wormlike micelles", fluids that mimic rudimentary biological properties.

The Ampere Prize was created in 1990 in honour of French physicist and mathematician Andre Marie Ampere (1775-1836). Its inaugural winner, Richard R. Ernst, went on to win the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1991.

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Emerging award winner

Victoria Management School lecturer Dr Sally Riad has been awarded one of the top prizes in international management studies for her research on merger integration.

Sally won the Best Dissertation Award in the Critical Management Studies interest group from the Academy of Management in the United States in August. It is rare for non-American researchers to feature and almost unheard of for a New Zealand researcher to win an award.

Sally took a different approach in her study of the merger of the Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry. For eight months she worked like an anthropologist, attending meetings of both agencies and interviewing and chatting with staff members.

Using an approach that places language as central to understanding relationships, her research challenged the expectation many people had that managers could 'look into a crystal ball' when planning for an organisation's future. It also challenged all the hype around organisational culture when integrating a merger.

"On the planning for the merger, people who were not involved wanted to be involved while those who were involved confronted unrealistic expectations. And when it came to 'culture', there were suspicions that some people were using the idea politically to gain some ground in the merged organisation."

Managers had to deal with a merger that was justified by politicians in the language of efficiency, but whose drivers were primarily political, she says.

Sally graduated with a PhD in May—but it is not the first time she has been a 'doctor' having completed a medical degree at Cairo University. However, she decided she didn't want to work in medicine and worked as a project manager in Egypt before she and her husband moved to New Zealand in 1996.

Sally is now examining how people can incorporate children into their professional identities in a project called *Under the Desk*.



▲ Sally with images for the working parents study.

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Turbo power

Senior Lecturer in Industrial Design, Ross Stevens, likes to present his students with assignments he describes as “slightly unreasonable”.

Students could have been forgiven for thinking just that when Ross presented them with the task of producing a nine metre tall wind turbine in just over four weeks.

The 38 students were divided into areas of expertise and responsibility, including aerodynamics, structure, environment, landscape, culture, publicity and sponsorship. The students were encouraged to seek technical, material and financial support from local industry to help construct the model.

Almost all of New Zealand’s windmills are produced in Europe, requiring an immense amount of overseas capital and offering very little local design flexibility.

“This design is based around world leading technology that already exists within New Zealand,” says Ross.

“The generator system is derived from the smart drive motor developed by Fisher & Paykel and the turbine blades are rotationally moulded using the technology that produces large plastic water tanks.”

The students wanted to produce a design they had more visual control over, so they could tailor the look to a specific site. Instead of making a large expensive product, the team has developed a smaller, cheaper design that could be produced efficiently on a large scale.

“We also analysed the complete environmental impact of the product including the production, use and eventual disposal of the turbine. Because most designs are based on high-tech composites, they’re almost impossible to recycle, whereas our design is made using polyethylene and can be re-melted and re-used.”

The “unreasonable” task appears to have caught the attention of some of the large energy companies as well, with the team keen to promote their ideas on turbine design as far as the winds will take them.

◀ With the turbine model in Victoria’s Te Aro Campus are, from left, Matt Backler, Lauren Van Uden, Leslie Leung, Renee Marcellis, Jo Lewis and Tim Drake.

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Māori business on show

The strength of Victoria's Māori Business Programme will be on show early next year at a major Māori economic development conference, Hui Taumata.

The Māori Business Programme in the Victoria Management School has hosted the project team responsible for organising the hui.

Professor Ngatata Love, deputy convenor of the steering committee, says the gathering will be held at the Museum of New Zealand, Te Papa Tongarewa, in March 2005.

"The concept follows on from the 20-year experience that evolved from decisions made at the first Hui Taumata in 1984. It will bring together key sectors in the Māori and wider community to examine pathways needed to ensure

Māori economic and social development are examined and strategies developed for the next 20 years."

The Māori Business Programme has helped develop the initial concepts for the conference and is playing a full role in undertaking research and working with both public and private sector entities contributing to the project. The Hui Taumata secretariat is based in the School's home in Rutherford House on the Pipitea Campus.

Programme researchers are working on a variety of projects including examining appropriate governance structures for Māori, given that assets are usually communally owned.

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Butter Chicken anyone?

You might not think an earth sciences student would be all that interested in finding out more about vindaloo and madras curries, but Rebecca Williams has done just that to obtain her MSc.

Rebecca has used different theories of globalisation to explore links between food and cultural identity. She found that Indian food in Wellington restaurants does not necessarily reflect the cultural identity of its producers but tends to reflect what Wellington consumers want to eat.

"Popular Indian dishes like Butter Chicken and Chicken Tikka Masala are Anglo-Indian in origin—Chicken Tikka Masala was actually developed in England in the 1960s to respond to the fact that the English like gravy with their meat."

The popularity of Chicken Tikka Masala has helped make 'curry and chips' the English national dish, and there are now six Indian restaurants to every McDonalds in Britain.



▲ Rebecca samples some popular curry from a Wellington restaurant.

Rebecca says some Indian restaurateurs in Wellington would prefer to serve food that is more reflective of their cultural and regional identities but most still have a few of the popular Anglo-Indian dishes on their menus.

"Indian restaurants offering specific regional cuisine—like Kashmiri or South Indian food—are an emerging phenomenon in Wellington but these dishes are frequently ignored by customers, who query their authenticity as Indian food.

"Some restaurateurs are passionate about adhering to old family recipes for dishes on the menu. Others enjoy cooking in New Zealand where they are free from the constraints of commercial kitchens in India. They can exercise greater personal control and create dishes that combine New Zealand ingredients with Indian cooking principles.

"Others have a more conventional business perspective; they provide for the customer, even if those dishes reflect the legacy of colonial relationships rather than their personal cultural identities."

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Legal fiction

Once Were Warriors has more in common with the work of Shakespeare than you might think, says School of Law Lecturer Dr Grant Morris, who is researching how the law is portrayed in New Zealand fiction.

Grant, who is the first to conduct a comprehensive survey of New Zealand law in literature, says many literary works, such as Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice* and Dickens' *Bleak House*, revolve around the legal system—a source of conflict and intriguing relationships.

He's looking at New Zealand literature, such as Alan Duff's *Once Were Warriors* and Maurice Shadbolt's *Season of the Jew*, to gauge how New Zealand authors depict our legal system.

His results, so far, show that Kiwi fiction makes use of many global legal themes such as injustice, mercy and revenge, but Grant says he's already noticing some unique differences.

"The way the law has affected Māori over the past 164 years is a recurring theme that's unique to New Zealand. I also noticed that New Zealand authors tend to portray lawyers in a more low-key way compared to Britain, and definitely the United States.

"Overseas law professionals are often portrayed as a bit 'flashy' whereas their New Zealand counterparts come across as being more down-to-earth."

Grant says uncovering these perceptions is important to the law profession and his research will give lawyers an "insight into a facet of their public image".

The law and literature movement has already achieved a high profile in the US and Australia but, to date, has had only a limited influence in New Zealand.



The work carried out by Grant and researcher Kathryn Helms, produced by trawling through the annals of New Zealand plays, poetry and prose, will form a literature database for academics to use in future research.

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Mercenary men

What began as a childhood interest in military warfare and 'Boys' Own' type adventures has developed into a newly completed book about mercenaries and their role in Ancient Greek society.

Dr Matthew Trundle, Senior Lecturer in Classics in the School of Art History, Classics & Religious Studies, has completed a project he began 10 years ago as a graduate student at McMaster University in Ontario, Canada.

Growing up in the late 1970s in England, Matthew says he was surrounded by stories of mercenaries such as 'Mad' Mike Hoare, who mounted an aborted coup attempt in the Seychelles in 1981.

Greek Mercenaries from the Late Archaic Period to Alexander explores the role of the mercenary in Greek history and shows that they played a central role in society, because of the societal obligation to take part in warfare. The mercenary also challenged the community values of ancient Greek society because he had no stake in the societies for which he fought.

This is the first book written on the subject since 1933 and Matthew says it was important to look at the mercenary in ideological, social, economic and political contexts, given that attitudes surrounding national sentiment, nationhood and ideology have changed so dramatically.

"Far from being the ancient equivalents of today's mercenaries, ancient mercenaries never extracted themselves from the embedded society and economy of the ancient world. Money and greed were not the driving forces of Greek mercenary service, but family and political associations led men to fight for others outside their home communities.

"The Greeks had no concept of nationalism, and there is no specific word which translates as 'mercenary' in ancient texts and sources."

His research draws on current events as well as ancient, and provides a number of interesting comparisons and examples of how modern mercenaries, often under the guise of a dedicated organisation, act in various conflicts today.



▲ Matthew with an illustration from his book and a Black Figure vase depicting Achilles fighting an Amazon from 550 BCE. (Dot Ivy Group)

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At the chalkface

A Victoria academic is playing an integral role in improving the troubled education system of Vanuatu by focusing on the grass roots—teachers and the families of school-aged children.

Dr Kabini Sanga, Senior Lecturer in the School of Education, has been helping Vanuatu's Government come up with a new vision for its schooling and, together with his research team, has published a book, *Re-thinking Vanuatu Education Together*.

The book provides a platform for teachers to take the lead in exploring education from an indigenous perspective and is part of a larger Pacific-wide education initiative managed by Kabini and supported by NZAID.

"Most of the issues affecting the standard of education in Vanuatu come down to the lack of relationship between schools and families in the community. Language is a real barrier—with schools teaching solely in French or English, when the Ni-Vanuatu (people of Vanuatu) speak about 112 indigenous languages.

"Parents often find it hard to support their children at school when they may not have

attended school themselves and don't speak the language their children are being taught. *Re-thinking Vanuatu Education Together* encourages teachers to shape the system to make it relevant and fulfilling for future generations."

The book will work as a model for other Pacific educators and communities, says Kabini. Already it has been a catalyst for other 'rethinking initiatives'—a similar exercise and education conference is due to take place in the Marshall Islands this month.

Kabini, who advises governments around the Pacific on educational matters, started his career as a secondary school teacher in the Solomon Islands. Since then he has worked as a school principal, Chief Education Officer of the Solomon Islands, Chief Executive of the Solomon Islands College of Higher Education, and completed an MEd and PhD in Education from Canadian universities.



▲ Kabini with his new book

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Stepping into families

The traditional family group of mum, dad and their biological children is a concept that doesn't resonate with many contemporary New Zealand families, with more children being raised in step-families.

Leading the way in understanding this phenomenon is Victoria's Roy McKenzie Centre for the Study of Families. It has completed a major research project on step-families for the Ministry of Social Development, and hosted a conference on the issue at the University's Pipitea Campus in August.

Centre researchers interviewed 100 step-families with children between the ages of nine and 13 to explore how relationships within step-families affect the well-being of the children.

Centre Director, Associate Professor Jan Pryor, says the research found step-parents and non-resident parents play just as an important role in the behaviour and well-being of their children as the parent they live with.

"We found that children's relationships with their parents and step-parents are interrelated. If a child feels close to their non-

resident parent, then they are likely to feel close to their resident parent and their step-parent as well.

"This suggests step-parents and non-resident parents need not feel in competition with each other. If a child has a good relationship with one adult then they are likely to have good relationships with all three."

Jan says the research found children have a more accurate understanding of family interactions than previously thought and their assessment of these relationships is more strongly linked to their own well-being and that of their family than the assessment of adults.

The step-families conference attracted important keynote speakers, including Dr Gordon Harold from the University of Cardiff in Wales, Auckland family therapist Jan Rodwell, Dr Claire Cartwright from the University of Auckland, and Associate Professor Bill Aitkin and Dr Jeremy Robertson from Victoria.

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Ageing concerns

Looking after elderly parents while holding down a job and the housing needs of senior citizens are the subjects of two recent reports completed by Victoria's New Zealand Institute for Research on Ageing.

The Institute's work is particularly timely because by 2051, 1.1 million New Zealanders—a quarter of the population—will be aged 65 years or older, an increase of 165 percent on the year 2000.

Centre Director, Associate Professor Judith Davey, says the two research projects were conducted for the Department of Labour and the Centre for Housing Research Aotearoa/New Zealand.

"Discussion about 'family-friendly workplaces' tends to focus on working parents with young children while those who work and also care for and support older people receive little recognition.

"But this concern will grow as the population ages and labour shortages encourage middle-aged people to be fully involved in the workforce. As life expectancy increases many working people have parents in their eighties and nineties, often in need of

care and support. How do they balance work and eldercare responsibilities?

"Working carers need better access to information about eldercare services and options. For the employers' part, policies on eldercare responsibilities among their staff should be seen as an emerging priority."

The housing study showed the need for a national strategy and that the housing needs of older people cannot be separated from their care and support, she says.

"We need to be planning now to ensure that adequate and appropriate housing is available as the population ages. This will entail maintaining and upgrading the living conditions of older people in mainstream housing and developing a range of alternative housing options to meet special needs. These measures should target older people who lack the personal and financial resources to ensure adequate and appropriate housing without external help."

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Survival of the fittest

The future survival of a species of green and brown frogs high in the Coromandel Ranges is not looking so bleak, thanks to the continued and persistent efforts of researcher Dr Ben Bell, a Senior Lecturer in the School of Biological Sciences.

For the last 20 years, Ben has been looking out for Archey's frogs, one of the world's most ancient frogs. The Coromandel was once a stronghold for these frogs, with annual estimates of more than 400 frogs in the 100m² site Ben has maintained since 1983.

When Ben returned to the site in 1996, however, he tracked rapid population declines that have since been linked to a fungus that may have spread from introduced Australian frogs. Between 1996 and 2003, he could only find an average of 53 frogs in the same area.

Threatened with extinction, Ben has been instrumental in advising the Department of Conservation on suitable approaches to protect and save the species, given that the fungus could be responsible for up to 85 percent of the population disappearing in the last eight years.

Conservation staff have worked closely with Ben and his students, two of whom have

been able to use research grants to assist Ben with his work, to improve the chances that the remaining frogs have of survival.

"We've moved frogs from the Coromandel to Maud Island to protect them and investigated impacts of mammal control—things that would normally have been done to try and manage a threatened species."

Ben's early detection, combined with increased conservation management and awareness, has hopefully provided Archey's frogs with a better chance of survival. Ben pioneered breeding native frogs in captivity and breeding schemes are now underway in Auckland and Christchurch to give these little frogs a helping hand.

Ben with a Maud Island frog, a native ► frog that shares its home with relocated Archey's frogs.

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Grim tales

They may seem a little grimmer than the versions we're used to, but James McNamara and Anke Szcypanski's reworked versions of *Cinderella* and *Hansel and Gretel* prove that these stories have more than enough bite to attract adult audiences.

With the help of more than 30 cast and crew, James, a second year student studying German, Greek and Latin, and Anke, a German programme tutor, worked from the original Grimm brothers' fairytales to come up with their own interpretations of the stories.

"We've taken *Cinderella* back to its original storyline which is a lot darker than anything Disney have produced," says James.

"*Hansel and Gretel* has been transposed into a modern setting where the forest is represented by an urban jungle," says Anke.

"Hansel and Gretel's parents are not poor but have no time for them, and they soon find themselves exploring the hidden

▼ Keith Conway and Natalie Prescott in character for *Ein Bett, ein Sessel und eine Badewanne* in 2002.

enticements of the city which include a dubious 'gingerbread house'."

Performed at the Gryphon Theatre in September, Anke and James directed *A Little Grimm: die mit dem Wolf tanzen* with the help of William Connor, who wrote and directed the German Club's 2002 and 2003 productions.

Associate Professor Peter Russell, of the School of Asian & European Languages & Cultures, says the tradition of performing plays in German at Victoria goes back nearly 50 years.

"They've included masterworks by such dramatists as Goethe and Brecht. In recent years the students have taken on the role of adapting or writing their own German language plays. Increasingly, the students look after all the elements of the production—my chief role is to apply for funding from the German Embassy."

This year, the students obtained more than just funding from the Embassy—they managed to convince the Ambassador, His Excellency Erich Riedler, to take on a role as narrator in the production.

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Frozen food

The future of Antarctica's penguins, seals and whales could come down to the tiny bacteria living in sea ice, according to biology student Andrew Martin.

Andrew, who has won a \$10,000 Antarctica New Zealand scholarship, is investigating how global warming will affect the bacteria living in sea ice, which act as a food source for small creatures like krill.

"Bacteria seem quite happy to live within ice for long periods of time before forming 'blooms' in the sea when the ice melts and becoming food for species like krill, who, in turn, are food for mammals such as penguins, seals and whales.

"What we want to find out is whether the Earth's warming temperatures, which may cause more of Antarctica's sea ice to melt, will impact on the lifecycle of bacteria. If the bacteria don't adapt well to the changing





Teaching for excellence

They may come from diametrically different disciplines, but Professor John Davidson and Associate Professor Judy Brown share a common love for teaching that saw them each receive one of New Zealand’s highest tertiary teaching accolades.

John, from the School of Art History, Classics & Religious Studies, and Judy, from the School of Accounting & Commercial Law, both received Sustained Excellence Awards worth \$20,000 in the National Tertiary Teaching Awards announced in Parliament in June. It is the third year in a row that Victoria has featured, following Dr Sydney Shep’s win in 2003 and Nick Ashill’s award in 2002.

John, who has a PhD from the University of London and specialises in teaching ancient Greek drama as well as Greek and Latin, has taught at Victoria for 35 years.

“Part of it is my sense of humour and the tricks I play on students. I teach drama so I’ll dress up or wear Greek theatrical masks made some years ago by a technician from the School of Architecture.

“I also try to show the relevance of Classics to the modern world and that most of the concerns of the ancients are the same ones we’re struggling with today. The ancient world seems to be of particular interest at the moment with the release of the movie *Troy* and movies on Alexander the Great in production.”

Judy, who has a PhD from Victoria, specialises in financial accounting and the social and political aspects of accounting and corporate governance. She challenges students who choose to study accountancy simply because they see it as a “meal ticket”.

“I encourage my students to look beyond the ledger to the values that underpin accounting. It can be a real shock to students who come with a view of accounting as ‘number crunching’ because I’m more interested in helping them understand the concepts that underlie the techniques they use.”

Both John and Judy try to get to know their students, even in their larger classes. They’re both strong researchers and known for thoroughly preparing for their lectures.

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▲ Andrew meets some Antarctic wildlife.

climate then there could be implications for Antarctica’s entire marine ecosystem.”

Under the supervision of Dr Ken Ryan, a School of Biological Sciences Research Fellow, Andrew has been using state-of-the-art laser technology to study the bacteria he collected during his 2003 field trip.

In November, he will travel back to Antarctica with a larger team of Victoria scientists, in the hope of collecting more samples and making some exciting breakthroughs to incorporate into his PhD research.

Andrew is thrilled to have the chance to return to Antarctica. “It is an incredibly haunting, restless, yet beautiful, place. Everywhere you look is postcard perfect—sensory overload is how I would describe it. Having the opportunity to go there as a scientist and do something to help safeguard Antarctica’s future is a real privilege.”

John and Judy examine the Greek masks he uses in his teaching.



Who's new?

Annemarie de Castro

Annemarie de Castro has been appointed as Director of Human Resources and a member of Victoria's Senior Management Team. Annemarie joined Victoria from Massey University in Palmerston North where she had been Director of Human Resources since 1997, having joined the University two years earlier as a Human Resources Adviser. Previously she worked as a human resources manager and consultant in the private sector. Annemarie has a BA in Psychology from Massey and is a Fellow of the Human Resources Institute of New Zealand.



Tom Angelo

Professor Tom Angelo is the new Director of the University Teaching Development Centre and Professor of Higher Education. Tom comes to Victoria from the University of Akron (Ohio), where he was Associate Provost for Teaching, Learning and Faculty Development, founding director of its Institute for Teaching and Learning and Professor of Education and Statistics. Prior to Akron, he had worked at the University of Miami, the American Association for Higher Education, Boston College, the University of California at Berkeley and Harvard University. His research focuses on evaluation and improvement of university teaching and learning. Tom has a Doctorate in Education from Harvard, Master degrees in Education and Political Science from Boston University and a Baccalaureate in Government, with Honors, from California State University-Sacramento.



Jenny Neale

Dr Jenny Neale has been appointed as the new Head of the School of Social & Cultural Studies. Jenny has worked at Victoria since 1987, transferring from the private sector where she worked as a research consultant. Since 1992, she has held the position of Programme Director of the MA (Applied) in Social Science Research and has also worked as the Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences since July 2001. A former schoolteacher and graduate of both Massey and Victoria universities, Jenny completed her PhD in 1997 at Deakin University in Australia. She specialises in equity and social issues with specific interests in gender and disability issues.



New programmes

New programmes are regularly provided by Victoria University to meet the demands of employers, students and developing disciplines. A selection available from 2005 includes:

Bachelor and Master of Arts

The Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences is offering several new subjects and majors in the BA, BA(Hons) and the MA programmes from 2005. For the BA, a new major in second language education has been added, while for the BA(Hons), students can now major in Pacific Studies, building on the existing undergraduate major. As well, Pacific Studies, Chinese, Spanish, New Zealand Literature (subject to approval) and Media Studies will be available as new subjects for MA by thesis.

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Bachelor of Science in Biotechnology

Building on the strengths of the Schools of Biological Sciences and Chemical & Physical Sciences, the Faculty of Science is offering Biotechnology as a new major in the BSc. The programme recognises that the traditional boundaries between biology and chemistry are disappearing with biochemistry, microbial and molecular biology, bio-organic and protein chemistry at the new interface. The new major encompasses these disciplines and the programme aims to produce graduates with skills and knowledge of biotechnology who can use their expertise in the biotechnology research and industrial environments, both in New Zealand and internationally.

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Postgraduate Certificate and Diploma in Meteorology

The certificate and diploma replace the meteorology speciality in the Graduate Diploma in Science after consultation with the New Zealand Meteorological Service, with which Victoria has a Memorandum of Understanding. The certificate programme aims to provide a postgraduate programme with a focus on modern meteorological methods and technologies to prepare a graduate for entry into a career as a professional meteorologist. The diploma programme provides ideal entry into a career as a meteorologist and a transition programme for those interested in advancing to graduate research from a background other than geophysics.

Email: Jim.McGregor@vuw.ac.nz

Tel: +64-4-463 5278

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Email: Course-Advice@vuw.ac.nz

www.vuw.ac.nz

Tel: 0800 VIC UNI



Facing the real world

Architecture students had the chance to interact with real clients and situations when they took part in two architectural projects co-ordinated by Associate Professor John Storey.

In March, students were asked to redevelop the existing offices of the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand, situated in a 1930s building.

“It was an opportunity for students to interact with the community and give them a chance to work with real clients to listen to their needs and requirements in a simulated situation,” says Shenuka de Sylva, a tutor involved with the project.

The top eight designs were judged by John, Head of School Professor Gordon Holden, and Forest and Bird general manager, Niki Francis. The winner was Jesse Matthews, whose design was described as both practical and creative.

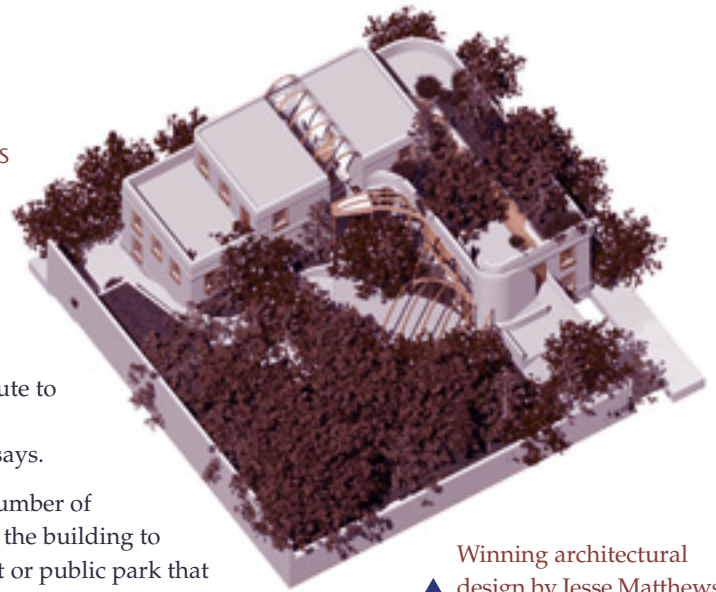
“I kept the art deco exterior of the building intact but condensed the office space into the western side of the building to allow the other half of the building to be rented out,

which would contribute to the financial viability of the society,” Jesse says.

He also designed a number of terraces to the rear of the building to support a small forest or public park that would be used to alleviate the surrounding concrete of the city.

Cultural and identity issues were explored in a further assignment in May, when students were asked to contribute to a building project in Porirua that explored the development of a Pacific cultural and community centre.

Students incorporated building designs from seven Pacific nations and had to come up with ways to adapt the designs to the



▲ Winning architectural design by Jesse Matthews.

temperate climate of New Zealand, while finding ways to make the designs service a community rather than individuals. Drawings and models were presented to the Porirua Pacific Islands Forum.

www.vuw.ac.nz/architecture

Psychological health

Postgraduate psychology students, researchers and the wider Wellington community will all benefit from the new Victoria Psychology Clinic.

The Clinic was officially opened in September by Capital & Coast District Health Board Chairman Bob Henare at the centre's premises in downtown Wellington.

Head of the School of Psychology, Professor Susan Schenk, says the Clinic provides wider training options for clinical psychology students, who are required to complete internships with registered mental health providers; while also providing another option for people seeking psychological help.

“This clinic provides a much-needed community resource by offering care for those who do not qualify for publicly-funded assistance but who cannot afford the full cost of private therapy. It also provides another option for GPs who shoulder a heavy burden in caring for people with mental health problems.”

The Clinic will add to Victoria’s research strength in psychology, as highlighted by the Government’s Performance-Based Research Fund exercise earlier this year in which the University came a close second for research quality in the psychology subject area.

“The Clinic will provide an excellent venue for a host of research possibilities while allowing postgraduate students to directly apply the theories and education they receive in lectures.”

All students training in the Clinic work under the supervision of registered clinical psychologists. To be registered as a clinical psychologist, students have to complete 1,500 hours of supervised clinical work and public hospitals have struggled to provide sufficient placements.

Clinic Director, Dr Mary Miller, a registered clinical psychologist with a PhD from the University of Waterloo in Ontario, has extensive experience in establishing psychological services, doctoral training programmes and private practice in New Zealand and North America.

In 2003, the number of students studying psychology at all levels at Victoria rose 16 percent to 1,644 compared to the year before, while the number of postgraduate students rose 16 percent to 151.

Email: Mary.Miller@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: +64-4-463 6400



▲ Sonja (left), Alysha (right) and Pia (seated) have won Tūāpapa Pūtaiao Māori Fellowships.

Successful science sisters

Three female Victoria students have won prestigious Māori science fellowships from the Foundation for Research, Science & Technology.

Sonja Miller, Pia Holland and Alysha Nickerson have been awarded Tūāpapa Pūtaiao Māori Fellowships to support their postgraduate research.

All three students are mentors in Te Rōpu Āwhina Pūtaiao, the whānau support system for Māori and Pacific students in the Faculty of Science.

Liz Richardson, Deputy Dean of Science (Equity), is delighted with the success of the young scientists.

“These young women are strong, positive role models for Māori and Pacific peoples. By acting as mentors to students and gaining profiles as emerging scientists, they’re encouraging Māori and Pacific students to succeed in all science areas, especially those where women are under-represented.”

Sonja (Te Atiawa) received \$75,000 to complete her three-year PhD. She will quantitatively evaluate traditional Polynesian fisheries management practices.

Pia (Waikato Maniapoto, Ngai Tahu, Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa) has just completed a BSc(Hons) degree and has received \$20,000 towards her MSc thesis in Computer Science. Pia’s research area is software engineering.

Alysha (Ngāti Porou) has also just completed a BSc(Hons) degree and has received \$20,000 for a Master thesis in Mathematics. Alysha will analyse the effects of solar heating on sea ice, particularly in the Antarctic region.

The students are the second trio of Victoria women to win Tūāpapa Pūtaiao Māori Fellowships. In 2002, Haley Ataera, Melanie Russell and Adele Whyte received fellowships.

Email: Liz.Richardson@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: +64-4-463 5748

VUP tops Montana awards

Victoria University Press is riding the crest of the wave, with its authors winning the top fiction prize at the Montana New Zealand Book Awards, taking out the biography category and being awarded the prize for best first book of poetry.

New Zealand’s supreme award for fiction, the Deutz Medal, was won by the elegant *Slow Water*, by Victoria alumna Dr Annamarie Jagose. It’s the third novel by Annamarie that VUP has published, following *In Translation* and *Lulu*. The judges called *Slow Water* “an unusual and unusually satisfying work of fiction” by one of “New Zealand’s best novelists”. *Slow Water* was also short-listed for Australia’s prestigious Miles Franklin Literary Award.



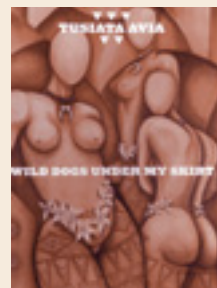
The biography category was keenly contested this year with short-listed titles including Emeritus Professor Vincent O’Sullivan’s biography of John Mulgan, *Long Journey to the Border*. The winner of the category was former J.D. Stout Fellow, Rachel Barrowman, with her critically acclaimed *Mason: The Life of R.A.K. Mason*, published by VUP in 2003.



Cliff Fell, MA in Creative Writing graduate and winner of the 2002 Adam Prize, was short-listed in the poetry category for his collection, *The Adulterer’s Bible*. Called “wildly entertaining” and “rich [in] sensual detail” by reviewers, *The Adulterer’s Bible* was also awarded the New Zealand Society of Authors’ Jessie Mackay Best First Book Award for Poetry.



Recent new releases from VUP include Tusiata Avia’s first collection of poetry, *Wild Dogs Under My Skirt* and *The Mediator: A Life of Richard Taylor 1805-1873* by John Owens. The critics have heralded *Wild Dogs Under My Skirt* as “an excellent debut” and “powerful and disturbing” while *The Mediator* is an exhaustively researched biography of a Yorkshire-born missionary and his life in 19th Century New Zealand.



Victoria University Press books are available from all good bookstores or by contacting:
Email: Victoria-Press@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: +64-4-463 6580

If you are interested in sharing your views or supporting Victoria on issues of tertiary education politics and policy, contact us. Email: Tertiary-Policy@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: +64-4-463 5301

Thinking strategically

By Professor Stuart McCutcheon
Vice-Chancellor

Thirty years ago, Victoria University convened a group to examine what sort of institution it should be in the future. Its plan would have seen Victoria stop growing at 7,500 students, and when student numbers were about 6,000, that seemed like a good plan. Today Victoria has close to 19,000 students, and we would have been disadvantaged if we were an institution of only 7,500. As Groucho Marx said: "Prediction is very difficult, particularly about the future!"

Four years ago, when the University adopted its current Strategic Plan, the environment was markedly different. Victoria was struggling financially, it was facing a decline in enrolments and its infrastructure was in need of considerable investment. Government funding, while it had marginally increased in real terms, was still low by international standards and continued to be dominated by a system that paid tertiary institutions largely on the basis of enrolments rather than quality.

Since that time, Victoria has regained its financial strength and invested heavily in its infrastructure, although much work remains to be done. The University took third place in the Performance-Based Research Fund (PBRF) quality category score and external research income has increased. We have also entered into major research collaborations, such as that with the Malaghan Institute of Medical Research. Enrolments have risen significantly, as have the number of international, Māori and Pacific students, while a merger is on the cards with the Wellington College of Education.

The external environment has also changed. The Government is placing greater emphasis on research and has begun to consider ways to differentiate between tertiary institutions, compared with the 1990s when the line between universities and other providers became increasingly blurred. The number of domestic school leavers is set to peak in 2008 and so, as that market reduces, institutions with surplus capacity will become increasingly competitive.

With this different environment in mind, the Senior Management Team, in consultation with the University Council, believed it was opportune to revise the Strategic Plan and consider how the University should position itself in the next decade.



The Plan envisages Victoria in the top echelon of New Zealand universities with enhanced research performance and revenue. The University will continue to build on its strong association with Wellington as New Zealand's creative centre and the Capital, as the home of Parliament, the Executive, the Judiciary and the diplomatic corps. The lessons of the 1990s have not been forgotten, and the Plan envisages the University continuing to diversify its revenue sources so it is less dependent on the Government, which has shown little interest in raising public investment in universities to anything near international standards.

Victoria should also be open to able students, regardless of their background. We have proposed that irrespective of their disciplines, Victoria graduates should be marked by three key attributes: creative and critical thinking; leadership; and communication skills. Those attributes will guide the University's student recruitment and academic programmes.

In particular, the Plan proposes a goal that by 2012, Victoria will move into the top two universities in terms of the PBRF assessment of academic quality. It also sets a target of \$40 million a year in external research income compared to the \$13 million achieved in 2003, and proposes raising the proportion of postgraduate students to 20 percent by 2015, compared with 15 percent last year.

We're now considering the submissions we've received and I would like to thank all those who took the time to put in submissions. The Council is likely to adopt a revised Plan later this year. The objectives it sets will be ambitious, but with the commitment of staff, alumni and friends, I'm confident they can be achieved.

If you are interested in joining the Alumni Association of Victoria University or the Wellington College of Education Email: alumni@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: +64-4-463 6700, www.vuw.ac.nz/alumni or www.wce.ac.nz/alumni



Victoria Events

Alumni and Friends of the University are warmly invited to the following events:

Asia Pacific Postgraduate Student Forum 18—20 October

The inaugural Asia Pacific Postgraduate Student Forum will take place at Te Herenga Waka Marae, Victoria University, Kelburn Parade. The conference theme is "Building an Asia Pacific Postgraduate Community".

For more information: Email: pjsa-ea@vuw.ac.nz
or Tel: +64-4-463 6973

The Great University Challenge Quiz Tuesday 19 October

Teams of six or more alumni and friends, staff and students are encouraged to put their names forward for the Alumni Association's Great University Challenge Quiz, Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus, 5.30-8.30pm.

For more information: Email: Alumni@vuw.ac.nz
or Tel: +64-4-463 6700.

School of Music: Victoria Academy End of Year Concert 23 October

A concert by young and gifted school-age musicians preparing for future study and careers in music at the Adam Concert Room, Gate 7, Kelburn Parade, 3pm. Free admission.

For more information: Email: Debbie.Rawnsley@vuw.ac.nz
or Tel: +64-4-463 6050.

British Alumni Reunion Function 4 November

Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon will provide an update on the latest news from Victoria at the House of Lords.

For more information: Email: Alumni@vuw.ac.nz
or Tel: +64-4-463 6700.

Māori Language Marae Stay 13—14 November

Get totally immersed in a te reo Māori environment with other learners staying at the University's Te Herenga Waka Marae. Pre-enrolments are required: \$180 for Victoria staff, students or Alumni Association subscription members and \$200 for the public. For beginners to intermediate learners.

For more information: Email: Conted@vuw.ac.nz
or Tel: +64 4 463 6556

Victoria CareerHub

Once graduation ceremonies and celebrations are over, graduates should not feel left in the dark. Career Development and Employment (Vic Careers) is available to support graduates at any time, providing advice and information about employment, training, and other opportunities.

The service also encourages links between the University and organisations seeking to employ students and graduates.

Each year, Vic Careers works closely with employers interested in recruiting final year students and recent graduates for full-time work. Vic Careers offers career fairs, employer information sessions, industry seminars, presentations on other career-related opportunities such as teaching English overseas, scholarship opportunities and working abroad, networking events and mock interviews and assessments.

Victoria CareerHub is home to the new state-of-the-art online database of information about a range of work opportunities for students and graduates. The online booking system makes it easy to reserve a place at University-based workshops and seminars throughout the year on topics such as CV writing and interview skills. Introduced earlier this year, more than 4,000 students and graduates and nearly 500 employers are using the system. Feedback from users has been very positive from both job seekers and employers.

Vic Careers Manager, Liz Medford, says graduates should be aware of this unique service provided at Victoria.

"Many universities close career centre doors to graduates after a certain time period, but we are here for the duration. Our new online database of jobs is also being celebrated by many who have found new jobs by using the new tool. Completing your personal profile when you first log onto CareerHub puts you in the driver's seat and customises your job seeking experience, with access to job search advice, career articles, and links to important resources."

Vic Careers, at 14 Kelburn Parade, Wellington, invites alumni who are employers to consider using CareerHub when they are looking for new employees. Vacancies can be full-time, part-time, fixed-term, casual or voluntary.

Go to www.vuw.ac.nz/events for a wide range of concerts, lectures, reunions and activities that are open to members of the University community.

Email: careers-service@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: +64-4-463 5393
www.careerhub.vuw.ac.nz/register_grad.asp

Great upheavals

When Dr Ursula Cochran, the winner of this year's Zonta Science Award, started studying at Victoria in 1992, she considered herself an arts student with a sideline interest in old rocks.

So with papers on history and literary studies, she also took papers on geology, harking back to an interest in the subject she had picked up from her grandfather who worked as a geologist.

"It was the field work that got me really hooked. It's just so different from the normal undergraduate classes but until I came to university I didn't see geology as a career."

That change of heart saw her complete both an Honours degree and a PhD in geology and embark on a career as a scientist with the Institute of Geological & Nuclear Sciences.

Zonta is an international organisation of business and professional women founded in 1919. The Zonta Science Award is presented biennially to a woman with a PhD who has excelled in science and carries a cash prize of \$5,000 and return airfares to Europe or North America.

Ursula specialises in the study of fossilised remains of diatoms, tiny microscopic algae that build glass shells, to understand the past occurrence of major earthquakes.



"Most algal remains would completely disappear but because these single-celled organisms have shells made from glass, they're perfectly preserved. Core samples from the Wellington coast show how the ground was suddenly raised up in an earthquake as the marine diatoms disappear and are replaced by freshwater fossils."

Ursula's current research focus is examining the fault line that runs through New Zealand where the Australian and Pacific plates meet, to find evidence of "great earthquakes" (a magnitude of more than eight) and she'll be using the prize to travel to the United States later this year to meet specialists in this field.

Email: U.Cochran@gns.cri.nz

World-wide reunions

Victoria alumni from all over the world have been catching up with news and views from the University during the past year. Members of the Senior Management Team have visited local and international neighbourhoods to catch up on old times with graduates.

Alumni Relations Manager, Vicky Young, says time is taken each year to visit towns and cities in New Zealand as part of the University's student recruitment drive and this year the opportunity was taken to catch up with graduates on the same day. Alumni reunions have been held in Christchurch, Auckland, Palmerston North and Dunedin and new areas will be visited next year.

Shelley Morgan, who attended the reunion reception in Dunedin, says she really enjoyed chatting with fellow graduates from different courses and years.

"I particularly enjoyed reminiscing during the presentation which showed great photos of how the University looks today. I'm looking forward to the next time Vic is in town."

As well, more than 50 graduates gathered at Kuching, Malaysia, during July, as part of the inaugural New Zealand Alumni

Convention. Vicky says this international convention will be held in Wellington during 2006.

"The University recognises that graduates can be our greatest advocates. Reunion functions such as these help to foster a valued relationship for both the University and graduates," she says.

Final reunion destinations in 2004 for Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon will be a visit to the United States followed by a gathering in Britain at the House of Lords, London, on 4 November. During December, Pro Vice-Chancellor (International), Professor Neil Quigley, will be encouraging graduates in the People's Republic of China to get together.

Further reunions will take place during 2005. To register interest in one of these events, or to suggest an area for a gathering, email alumni@vuw.ac.nz or telephone +64-4-463 6700.



Life after Vic

Thanks to the graduates and members of the University community who have sent in their news. Don't forget to log onto www.vuw.ac.nz/alumni and access Life after Vic online to catch up with news from many more graduates.

Piamsuk Menasveta PhD 2002

After six years of study in New Zealand, and having been awarded the Phillida Bunkle Prize in Women's Studies in 2002, Piamsuk Menasveta is now working as a consultant for the Empowering Research Project for women in Thailand's Nan province. The initiative is part of the healthy community project of the College of Public Health, which is supported by the World Health Organisation. She combines this work with teaching media and politics subjects at Thammasat and Rajabhat universities. She is also a columnist for women's magazines in Thailand, with a female readership aged between 20-50 years old. Most of her other writing is about women's perspectives, feminist theory, female revolution, patriarchy and capitalism, and the roles and expectations of Thai women. Piamsuk enjoys working in the media and not only will she soon be working as a radio presenter on a programme for women, but her book about feminism, written in Thai, will also be published soon.



Vikramaditya S Khanna BCA 1991 LLB(Hons) 1993

At just 32 years old, Vikramaditya Khanna has recently become a Full Professor of Law at the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) Law School. Vikramaditya was a top scholar during his time at Victoria and the recipient of numerous awards and scholarships and went on to complete graduate legal studies at Harvard Law School. He then joined the Boston University School of Law in 1998 and received the John M. Olin Faculty Fellowship in 2002-2003. He has also been a Visiting Professor at the University of Michigan, Visiting Associate Professor at Harvard Law School, Senior Research Fellow at Columbia Law School and Visiting Scholar at Stanford Law School. His articles have been published in the *Harvard Law Review*, *Boston University Law Review*, *American Criminal Law Review*, *Regulation*, and *Georgetown Law Journal*. Now a Full Professor of Law, his areas of teaching and research include corporate



law, securities law, corporate crime and corporate liability, corporate governance in emerging markets, and law and economics.

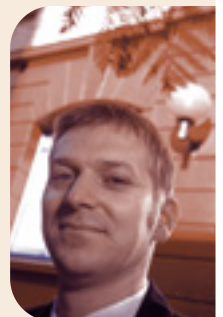
Zofia Skrzynski BA 1995

Zofia Skrzynski wanted to use her language skills in a career other than teaching or as a tour guide. So after majoring in German and French language at Victoria she completed a Diploma in Marketing. She then experienced several different career options with and without using her language skills. Zofia realised that starting her own business could become a reality when one of the judges of the New Zealand Institute of Management Young Executive of the Year Award, in which she was a finalist, said it was clear she displayed entrepreneurial skills. It was then that the international language consultancy, Sophie Says, was born. Zofia enjoys being able to do what she is passionate about and providing people with options involving international languages. Having the opportunity to study in Germany at the end of her time at Victoria, through a DAAD scholarship, improved her ability to speak German and reach a level of fluency and confidence to use the language in business in New Zealand. In addition to Zofia's successes as a businesswoman, she is also a Director on the Board of Sales & Marketing Executives International.



Vincent Heeringa BSc 1989

Vincent Heeringa always wanted to be a journalist. He excelled in history and philosophy at Victoria and credits this to his first year lecturers who inspired him to enjoy processing information and turning notes into truthful and compelling stories. He entered a competition in *Metro* magazine and won its young writers award. This opened doors for him in journalism and he landed a job at *Metro* as a features writer before moving to business weekly, *The Independent*. In 1998 he was founding editor of *Unlimited* magazine, New Zealand's biggest selling monthly business magazine. He has won numerous awards, including twice being named Editor of the Year and Publisher of the Year by his peers. His latest venture is establishing a new company, HB Media. His first contract is to create AUT Press, the publishing arm of Auckland University of Technology. Vincent says his biggest challenge has been to believe in himself and he has only recently encountered the blinding realisation that most people feel the same and there is plenty of room for everyone to achieve. Outside of work, along with his wife Sarah, who is also a Victoria graduate, he is dedicated to his four children, plays drums in a jazz band and is completing work on a swimming pool in his own backyard.



If you are interested in supporting students and staff with a donation of funds, resources or time, we'd like to hear from you. For financial contributions contact the Victoria University of Wellington Foundation Executive Director, Tricia Walbridge.
Email: Tricia.Walbridge@vuw.ac.nz Tel: +64-4-463 5109

“Mr Accounting” honoured by fellowship

Top accountancy experts from around the world are being lured to Victoria by a fellowships scheme named in honour of a professor known as New Zealand’s “Mr Accounting”.



Professor Don Trow, who has had a distinguished career as both an accountant and lecturer, has given his name to a new visiting fellowships fund established by Victoria’s School of Accounting & Commercial Law, with funding from the business community through the Victoria University Foundation.

Visiting Fellowship in Accounting Research selects international academics to visit the

School during July and August each year, to coincide with the northern universities’ summer vacation. The Fellows will become involved in the School’s research programmes and work as consultants within the University and the wider business community.

Don says the fellowship will have tremendous benefits. “It’s increasingly important for learning institutions to keep pace with global research developments, so having international accountancy experts spend time in the School on a regular basis is going to be fantastic.”

Pro Vice-Chancellor and Dean of Commerce & Administration, Professor Pat Walsh, says the establishment of the fellowships shows how serious the School is about growing its research culture.

“We are striving to become New Zealand’s premier centre for accounting research, conducting research of benefit to the local, national and international business and professional communities.”

Don, who retired last year after 40 years’ lecturing at Victoria, is still involved with the University, chiefly by teaching 100-level classes. He is also Chairman of the new market enforcement board NZX Discipline, Director of Ryman Healthcare Ltd, and an expert witness in court cases. In 2003, he was made a Life Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand.

Email: sacl@vuw.ac.nz

Tel: +64-4-463 5775

Roof support for top scholars

In 1870 New Zealand’s Premier, William Fox, speculated in Parliament whether “poor Wellington should ever rise to such a height of prosperity as to entitle it to have a university of its own”.

“Poor Wellington” had to wait another 30 years, lagging far behind Dunedin, Christchurch and Auckland until Victoria College was founded through an Act of Parliament in 1897, the year of Queen Victoria’s Diamond Jubilee celebrations, and named in her honour.

In 1904, work began to level a building site described at the time as “six vertical acres”, which was to house the winning architectural entry designed by Penty and Blake. In August 1904, the Foundation Stone of the building was laid by the Governor, Lord Plunket.

To celebrate this centenary, the Victoria University Foundation is offering alumni and friends a unique opportunity to obtain their very own piece of the original Hunter Building, says Executive Director, Tricia Walbridge.

“We wanted to set up a new scholarship fund that would recognise the history of the building and help today’s students with the cost of their studies.

“By donating \$100 to the Foundation’s new Hunter Scholarship Fund, donors will receive a limited edition Welsh roof slate from the original roof of the Hunter Building. They will also know that their contribution will help further generations of students with the cost of their study at Victoria.”

The Hunter Scholarships will be awarded to Victoria’s top performing PhD students.

If you’d like to order a slate, fill out the form overleaf. ▶



Tel: +64-4-463 5246

www.vuw.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/hunter.html



Historic Hunter Roof Slates

Help mark 100 Years of Hunter with a \$100 gift towards the Hunter Scholarship Fund. You'll receive a slice of the University's history and help today's students at Victoria.

To celebrate the centenary of Victoria University's historic Hunter Building, we are offering our alumni and friends a unique opportunity. By donating \$100 to the Victoria University Foundation's new Hunter Scholarship Fund, you will receive a limited edition Welsh slate from the original roof of the Hunter Building.

To order your own Hunter Roof Slate please complete and return this form, place in an envelope (no stamp required) and mail to: **Freepost 3589, The Alumni Relations Office, Victoria University Wellington, PO Box 600, Wellington, New Zealand.**

Please enclose a cheque or credit card details for the full amount.

Name _____

Address _____

Tel (W) _____ (H) _____

Email _____

Name and Address for delivery (if different from above) _____

Number of Slates _____

Donation* to Hunter Scholarship Fund \$
@\$100 per slate _____

*You will receive a receipt for a charitable gift taxation rebate.

Package and courier \$

Wellington City (incl Hutt Valley and Plimmerton) @ \$6.50 per slate

Lower North Island (including Kapiti, Wairarapa) @ \$8.00 per slate

Upper North Island @ \$10.50 per slate

South Island @ \$17.00 per slate

Total payment: \$

Method of payment: Mastercard Visa or

Cheque made out to the Victoria University of Wellington

Card number

Expiry Date (Must be specified to validate payment) /

Name on card _____

Signature _____

Slates will be dispatched within two weeks of the order being received. For overseas orders please email alumni@vuw.ac.nz to receive a quote for postage and packaging.

Victorious

Scholarly pursuits

Scholarships are an excellent way to help students continue their research and study to the highest levels, and Maria Matveenکو is on track to do just that.

After completing a Bachelor of Biomedical Science, Maria was determined to explore organic chemistry further and took a year of chemistry papers in 2003 to allow her to enrol in the Chemistry honours programme this year.

Maria was lucky enough to receive a Curtis-Gordon Research Scholarship in Chemistry and a Victoria University Graduate Award. The award covers Maria's fees for 2004 while the research scholarship provides \$3,000 to assist with her expenses during the year.

Maria says receiving both awards has been excellent because they have enabled her to focus completely on her honours year.



"The increase in workload for Honours has been immense and I'm so pleased that I don't have to try and fit it in around part-time work. The combination of awards and my work as a tutor and demonstrator within the School allows me to focus on my coursework and research and make plans for next year."

Maria plans to undertake PhD research and would like to pursue a research and teaching career.

Students like Maria could benefit directly from new strategic research scholarships, worth \$140,000 a year, set up by Victoria to boost postgraduate research.

This investment aims to enhance Victoria's research culture and continue the high level of teaching which makes universities so special, says Scholarships Committee Convenor, Dr Pat Moloney.

"The scholarships are worth \$20,000 per annum and also include a fees waiver for domestic students. Seven scholarships were offered in September, from a pool of incredible talent."

The scholarships have been awarded for research into political science and international relations, art history, family policy, geology, computer science, psychology and chemistry.

www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/scholarships_prizes.html

If you would like to be involved in the varied and exciting events available to members of the University community contact the Events Office. Email: Events@vuw.ac.nz
Tel: + 64-4-463 5810 www.vuw.ac.nz/events

Inspiration's a breeze

Wellington's famous wind provided a Victoria student with the inspiration to design a trophy for the capital's most creative businesses, organisations and people.

Third year Industrial Design student, Damien Crook, won the trophy design competition for the Wellington City Council's Absolutely Creatively Wellington Awards.

Damien, who was awarded \$1,000 in prize money, says the wind is a great metaphor for the city.

"The 'tumbleweed' idea comes from the wind and how it blows all different types of people into Wellington, which really is a hub for creativity and a meeting place for ideas."

All third year Industrial Design students took part in the competition. Programme Director, Professor Simon Fraser, says it was a great opportunity for the students to get some real-world experience, designing to a strict brief for a high profile client.

"Damien's entry was visually striking, and it met all the set criteria, including that it had to be digitally manufactured within the city."



▲ Damien with the trophy he designed outside Victoria's prize-winning Pipitea Campus.

Damien says one of the highlights of winning the competition was getting feedback from Award place-getters.

"It was really nice when the winners came up and thanked me for designing the trophy. I was also pretty excited that Peter Jackson won one—I like to think that it's sitting on his mantelpiece next to an Oscar."

The University was able to claim one of Damien's trophies by winning the economic development category for its upgraded Pipitea Campus. The trophy is now displayed in Facilities Management's reception area in Kelburn.

Let the imagination flow

Creative juices flowed when more than 200 secondary school students, teachers and writers from throughout New Zealand came together for a writing festival in late August.

Organised by Victoria's International Institute of Modern Letters (IIML) and supported by leading law firm Bell Gully, the Bell Gully National Schools' Writing Festival gave students and their teachers the chance to interact with leading New Zealand authors, including Margaret Mahy and Kate de Goldi, during a series of weekend workshops and seminars.

The festival opened with the announcement of the 2004 Bell Gully National Schools' Poetry Award, won by Poppy Haynes (17) from Lower Hutt's Chilton St James School.

Her poem about escaping down the Hutt River on a dolphin was highly rated by this year's judge, Glenn Colquhoun.

"Poppy's poem was a small tunnel of words to escape through, and not out of place among the best poems I have read this year. Every time I read it, it stood out for its simplicity, imagination, precision and joy," says Glenn.

Poppy says she has always written poetry for enjoyment. "Poetry is a chance to fantasise about mad moments and really let your imagination run away with you."

This year, teachers were also given first-hand experience of a creative writing workshop. With support from the Ministry of Education, they also learnt new strategies for inspiring novelists, poets and scriptwriters of the future.

"At most literary festivals, the guest writers speak from the stage and get on the next plane home," says IIML Senior Lecturer, Damien Wilkins.

"Over this weekend there was a rare opportunity for students and teachers to work with writers in small workshops. We think this sort of imaginative engagement will provoke interesting work on all sides."

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Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa

◀ *The orange sellers, Tangiers, 1905, watercolour by Frances Hodgkins.*

Alan and the ▶
Victoria College window replica.

An unlikely couple

The Adam Art Gallery has uncovered an interesting connection between two New Zealand artists who mastered two very different genres.

A selection of works by Frances Hodgkins and Barrie Bates (now known as Billy Apple) will feature in a new exhibition that links them on the basis of the similar experiences they had moving away from New Zealand.

The Expatriates: Frances Hodgkins and Barrie Bates, opening on 15 October, is curated by Christina Barton, Senior Lecturer in the School of Art History, Classics & Religious Studies. She says the artistic practices of both Frances Hodgkins and Barrie Bates were altered permanently by relocating to the Northern Hemisphere.

“Although their art takes quite contrasting forms, both Hodgkins and Bates have much in common. In London they were both homesick but, at the same time, they were excited about being in a big city, being strangers among other strangers, and being exposed to new artistic ideas.

“*The Expatriates* traces thematic similarities, relating these back to their respective biographies, in order to draw larger conclusions about the relationship between colonialism and modernity.”

For Hodgkins, this exhibition covers a period of protracted expatriation from 1901, when she decided to leave New Zealand for the first time, through until 1913, her last brief visit to her place of birth.

Whereas for Barrie Bates, the exhibition has a tighter timeframe, from 1959, when he first left New Zealand, until 1962 when he changed his name to Billy Apple.

Christina says *The Expatriates* evolved from conversations with Billy Apple over the past two years.

“Apple was keen to collaborate with me to put something together which linked his early work with that of Frances Hodgkins. It’s been an enormous challenge but the end result offers something quite fascinating to gallery visitors.”

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Clang, clang, clang went the trolley

A window with a poem about Victoria that once graced a Wellington tram has gone on public show again, 40 years after the trams ceased trundling along the Capital’s streets.

In the 1930s, poems about Wellington were inscribed into the doors of three trams, including one about Victoria College by Hubert Church (1857-1932). While author Alan Mulgan praised the poem in his 1939 centennial history of Wellington, later commentators were less kind with the *Penguin History of New Zealand Literature* (1990) describing Church as “the worst poet of the period”.

What happened to the other tram-door poems is unknown, but the Victoria window from Tram 231 survived because Hugh Smith, a 1934 Victoria BCom graduate, and father of former University Librarian Alan Smith, bought it from the City Council Tramsheds in Newtown for £5 in 1963.

Alan says this saved the panel from almost certain destruction as the old trams were taken to Happy Valley and burnt so their metal fittings could be salvaged for scrap.

“During the 28 years that it rattled through the streets of Wellington, that door must have been opened and shut, leaned against and knocked thousands of times, but the glass survived.”

After Alan’s father died in 1966, the window was gifted to the Wellington Tramway Museum, which was then being established at Paekakariki. Earlier this year, the Museum completed the restoration of Tram 159, originally built in 1924. The restoration included the installation of a replica of the window while the original glass remains preserved in the Museum’s store.

“So this mind-boggling verse is once again back in the public domain; a reminder both of the transitory nature of poetic taste and of the more enduring town-and-gown relationship of Victoria and Wellington.”

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▲ Léone, Grahame and Ian Smith, structural engineer, on the central staircase of the Hunter Building, 1977.

The Evening Post



▲ Ian, Grahame and Léone recreate history on 27 August 2004.

Photography by Woolf

Happy Birthday Hunter

The celebrations to mark the 100th anniversary of the Hunter Building were a resounding success, with many members of the original Friends of Hunter Committee returning to celebrate the anniversary of the building they helped to save.

Construction of the Hunter Building began in 1904 and housed the entire University until the 1930s, when student numbers began to exceed its capacity. The building was in use until the 1970s when it was declared an earthquake risk and condemned to demolition.

The Friends of Hunter Society, initiated by Léone Harkness and Dr Jim McMillan, campaigned to save the building and found substantial public support.

Once it was freed from the constraints of the University Grants Committee, the University Council was persuaded to keep the building and strengthen and restore it to create a modern and functional office and learning space.

Celebrations to mark the laying of the Foundation Stone on 27 August 1904 included a Hunter Lecture by Emeritus Professor Tony Taylor on Tommy Hunter, the unveiling of a commemorative plaque and an official reception, which included speeches from Léone, Jim and Grahame Anderson, the architect behind the refurbishment. Family members of Sir Thomas Hunter, after whom the building was named, also attended.

Committee members received an engraved Hunter roof slate as a token of the University's appreciation for saving what has become its most recognised building, and were thrilled to be reunited with old friends, some of whom were meeting again for the first time in more than a decade.

Jim says the Hunter Building symbolises Victoria and his slate will be one of his most cherished possessions.

"We believed that we would achieve our goal, but I didn't think we would get this recognition. On behalf of the Friends of Hunter I would like to thank the University for the privilege that they have bestowed on us."

▼ Léone and Vice-Chancellor Professor Stuart McCutcheon at the unveiling of the centenary plaque.



Photography by Woolf