



ISSN 1177-0376 (print)
ISSN 1177-7885 (online)

Inside

- Page 2: Editorial; Axford Fellows report their findings
- Page 3: History repeats for Wallace Art Award winner; Another busy period for alumni events; Generous bequest from Fulbright alumna
- Page 4: Grantee and Alumni News; In Memoriam; Important Dates
- Page 5: Alumni Association update; Alumni Voice: US geologist on the ground for earthquake
- Page 6: Awarded; Arrivals and Departures; Returning Grantees
- Page 7: Grantee Voice: Diving into whale genetics
- Page 8: Awards



Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association Chairperson **Graham Cochrane** (seated centre) with Association Board members at the recent Annual General Meeting

Alumni Association Chair on exchange to US

The Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association's founding Chairperson, Graham Cochrane, was one of 63 leaders of alumni associations for US government exchange programmes selected to take part in a recent for Alumni Association Leadership Development in the US. Graham participated in the second of two group International Visitor Leadership Programmes organised by the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, which ran from 25 September-16 October.

Graham joined 31 other alumni leaders from countries as far afield as Argentina, Hungary, Jamaica, Laos, the West Bank and Zimbabwe to network, share best practices and discuss common challenges facing alumni organisations worldwide. Participants in Graham's group included alumni of the Fulbright, Humphrey Fellowships and International Visitor Leadership Programmes, and several others sponsored by the US government.

The group's programme began in Washington, DC with a comprehensive tour of the US capital and its monuments, before settling into a week of meetings with officials from the State Department's Office of International Visitors and Office of Alumni Affairs, alumni coordinators for such organisations as the Fulbright Association, Peace Corps, George Washington University and Eisenhower Fellowships, and experts in fields including organisation development and non-profit organisations.

After a week in Washington the group relocated to San Francisco where they undertook workshops on non-profit management, technology and social media, and models for exchange alumni organisations. Further networking opportunities included meetings with representatives of the Young Nonprofit Professionals

Network and the alumni office of St Mary's College, and practical activities included volunteering to serve breakfast to several hundred homeless.

The group of 32 then split into four "teams" to visit different cities across America and learn from local chapters of the National Council for International Visitors – a large non-profit organisation which relies largely upon volunteers and fundraising to serve international exchange programmes and promote "citizen diplomacy" – and Parent-Teacher Associations, which are also volunteer-run. During his visit to Pensacola, Florida, Graham was home-hosted by an American family. On a school visit he spoke about life in New Zealand and his experiences as a Fulbright Exchange Teacher to the US in 1978.

The Alumni Association Leadership Development programme wrapped up in Chicago with further meetings with alumni, volunteer and professional groups (including Rotary, Lions and the American Bar Association) and summary sessions about the lessons learned throughout the programme and how participants could best incorporate their newfound knowledge upon returning to their home countries.

Reporting in part way through the programme, Graham Cochrane said: "I am thoroughly enjoying the company of 31 other alumni leaders from around the world participating in a full-on International Visitor Leadership Programme on alumni leadership. It is amazing how 31 people thrown together like this for three weeks get on so well together and make friendships. It is clear that the Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association is on the right track and that we have a bright future. There is much we can learn from and contribute to the global alumni network." ►

Editorial



Mele Wendt, Executive Director

From the desk of the Executive Director

Kia ora, Talofa lava and warm Fulbright greetings to you.

At 4:36am on 4 September 2010 Canterbury was woken by a huge 7.1 magnitude earthquake, causing buildings to collapse, roads to crack and power and water outages right throughout Christchurch and neighbouring areas. Miraculously no lives were lost. Fulbright New Zealand received quite a few messages from alumni in the US concerned that people were okay, which they were, thankfully.

A group of Fulbright US Graduate Students based in Wellington – Elizabeth Beall, Hannah Frank, Julie Polakoski and Bradley Markle – wanted to help in some way so they decided to have an American bake sale to raise funds to donate to Canterbury. The four of them got busy baking and then held their cake stalls on 14th September at Victoria University of Wellington's Kelburn campus and 15th September at the Pipitea campus. The final tally in fundraising was \$1,182 which they then forwarded to the official Canterbury Earthquake Appeal. Not only did they share a small part of their American culture with folks at Victoria University, they also worked hard for such a worthy cause and held the Fulbright flag up high. We're proud of and thankful to them.

Not long after, Fulbright alumna and newly appointed Board member, Helen Anderson, kindly offered to give a generalist talk on the science behind the Canterbury earthquake to a Fulbright audience in Wellington. On 19th October at lunchtime, Helen delivered her very interesting seminar to a room filled with alumni and friends at the Fulbright New Zealand offices. Helen

drew on her experience as a seismologist and on her Fulbright scholar award to UC Santa Cruz following the 6.9 earthquake in San Francisco to analyse the Canterbury earthquake. The lay audience really appreciated Helen's easy-to-follow and lively lecture.

To all Fulbright alumni and supporters in Canterbury, we hope that your lives weren't too affected by the quake and wish you all the best as the region rebuilds and gets back to normality.

Last month we farewelled Mark Wenig, Public Affairs Officer at the US Embassy who served on the Fulbright New Zealand Board for 18 months and left for a new posting in Cambodia. We thank Mark for his input and support, and wish him all the best for the future. In his place on the Board is Adrian Pratt, the new Deputy Public Affairs Officer. We welcomed Adrian to the Board last month along with dual US-NZ citizen, Professor Harlene Hayne, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Enterprise) at the University of Otago in Dunedin. It's great having representation from the Mainland!

Lastly, we are holding a Christmas party on Wednesday 1st December from 5:00-7:30pm at our offices if you'd like to join us for some festive cheer. We wish everyone a happy Thanksgiving this month, and an enjoyable and restful holiday over Christmas and the New Year!

Hei konei ra, ia manuia and warm regards,

Axford News



Terri Dunahay

Axford Fellows report their findings

This year's five Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellows in Public Policy reported their research findings at a series of seminars in August, launching policy reports authored during their seven month placements at relevant New Zealand government agencies.

Laura Benedict from Self-Help in Durham, North Carolina researched the phenomenon of "social lending" – lending to low income individuals and to organisations with social goals, both of which are traditionally underserved by conventional banks and lending institutions. Based at the Ministry of Social Development and Philanthropy New Zealand, Laura explored the potential benefits of social lending for New Zealand grantmakers and communities. She has stayed on at the Ministry of Social Development for the rest of the year to help them further develop the practice of social lending in New Zealand.

Arnell Hinkle from CANFIT in Berkeley, California researched the implementation of healthy eating and physical activity programmes in Māori and Pasifika communities, based at the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs. She made a series of recommendations for government and non-government agencies, health professionals and community leaders to fill gaps left after the discontinuation of the Ministry of Health's Healthy Eating-Healthy Action (HEHA) strategy.

Dr Hillery Harvey from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases researched partnerships among animal, human and ecosystem health sectors in New Zealand, while based at the Ministry of Agriculture and

Forestry. In order to cope with today's increasingly dynamic health challenges, she recommended a common sense multidisciplinary approach acknowledging the interdependence of people, domestic animals, wildlife and the environment.

Dr Terri Dunahay from the US Department of Agriculture researched economic, social and regulatory issues that could influence decisions on whether to adopt genetically modified (GM) pasture grasses in New Zealand, while based at the Ministry of Research, Science and Technology. GM forage grasses are being developed here that could potentially provide significant economic and environmental benefits that might outweigh the risks of uncertain market acceptance, and Terri's report provides some suggestions for a way forward to allow New Zealand to make informed decisions about the option of using GM crops.

Lou Green from US Customs and Border Protection researched plans for trade recovery after serious disruption. New Zealand and US customs services have highly effective security standards and risk management systems, but still need to develop post-event plans should any significant incident or disaster disrupt trade. She will return in the near future to work with her host agency, the New Zealand Customs Service, on establishing a joint New Zealand-United States trade recovery action plan. ►

All five 2010 Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellowships in Public Policy reports are available to download from the Fulbright New Zealand website – www.fulbright.org.nz

History repeats for Wallace Art Award winner

Kawhia-based visual artist Mark Braunias has been selected as the 2010 recipient of the Fulbright-Wallace Arts Trust Award, 18 years after winning the inaugural paramount Wallace Art Award in 1992. His award this year includes as its prize a three month residency at Headlands Center for the Arts in the Marin Headlands near San Francisco.

Mark, whose work revolves around the interface between drawing and painting (often directly onto gallery walls), intends using his three month residency to develop a body of drawings based on scientific and popular culture imagery around the notion of a Parallel Universe. The drawings will be expanded into large scale paintings and animation work after he returns to New Zealand. Beginning this new body of work in the US will inform the project in important ways. The illustrations will reference Western pop culture, modern art and core principals of physics and chemistry to create what the artist describes as "my own weird science hybrid".

"The culture of the USA has been a huge source of inspiration for most of my creative life," explains Mark, "and the fact that most of the greatest scientific developments of the past 100 years have also taken place in America is also of major interest."

Mark Braunias has exhibited extensively throughout New Zealand over the past two decades, and has taught drawing and painting at Unitec's School of Design and Visual Arts in Auckland since 1997. He has held artist residencies at several major public galleries in New Zealand – Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Southland Art Gallery and Museum, and Wanganui's Sarjeant Gallery – but this will be his first residency overseas.

Mark's work *The Periodic Table* (2009) is included in the exhibition of 2010 Wallace Art Award winners and selected finalists on display at TheNewDowse in Lower Hutt, until 8 November. ►

Fulbright News



Mark Braunias with his artwork
The Periodic Table

Another busy period for alumni events

This quarter has been notable for several major alumni events held by both Fulbright New Zealand and the Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association.

The Alumni Association's Board meeting and first annual general meeting were held in Wellington on 25 August. The Board reflected on the successes of the Association's first year of operation and made plans for its second. At the AGM, the majority of Board members were reinstated with one change of Regional Co-ordinator in Auckland, where Graeme Wake stepped down from the role and was replaced by Stuart Parsons.

On 19 October Fulbright New Zealand alumna and Board member Dr Helen Anderson gave a free public lecture at the Fulbright New Zealand offices in Wellington, explaining the science behind the recent Canterbury earthquake. Helen is a seismologist whose 1990 Fulbright exchange was to the University of California, Santa Cruz shortly after the magnitude 6.9 San Francisco earthquake of 1989.

In her lecture, Helen explained how New Zealand's earthquakes reflect our position at the intersection of the Australian and Pacific plates, showed how merging seismological and geological data has given a remarkably complete picture of the "text book" fault break on 4 September, and compared the Canterbury earthquake with the Haitian quake in January to explain why we escaped without major loss of life or injury.

On 20 October alumni in the Waikato region were generously hosted for a formal cocktail function by the University of Waikato in partnership with Fulbright New Zealand. The university's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Roy Crawford, and Chancellor, Rt Hon Jim Bolger, both spoke, as did Fulbright New Zealand's Chairperson, Barbara Johnson. The event was used to "kick start" alumni activity in the region.

An alumni reception planned for Christchurch on 14 September was postponed owing to the earthquake, and will be rescheduled in the new year. ►

Generous bequest from Fulbright alumna

Fulbright New Zealand was delighted to recently receive a generous bequest from a Fulbright alumna. Margaret (Meg) Everton was a Fulbright New Zealand Exchange Teacher in 1956. Then a lecturer at Ardmore Teachers' College in Papakura, she spent her exchange year at State University of New York's Teachers College in New Paltz, where she taught classes in early childhood education and child development.

Like many Fulbrighters of her era, Meg made the absolute most of her overseas exchange opportunity. Her trip to New Paltz was made by plane to Nadi, Honolulu and finally San Francisco, then by train via Chicago to Washington, DC for a week long orientation programme, and on to New York by train. During her year in the US Meg visited all but four states, as well as Canada and Mexico, and her long trip home included an 11,000 mile road trip by car over two and a half months!

Meg was taken by many aspects of the American education system – an extra year of training for teachers, well resourced classrooms, detailed student record keeping, older school leaving ages, etc. – and concluded that education had obviously played a tremendous part in the country's development.

Meg returned to Ardmore College and worked there until retiring when the college was closed in 1974. She travelled widely over the next 20 years and enjoyed spending time at the cottage she built at Snells Beach, north of Auckland. Meg passed away in June, aged 90.

The Fulbright New Zealand Board has discussed putting Meg's bequest towards awards in the field of education. Other alumni interested in making bequests to provide for additional Fulbright awards should feel free to contact Fulbright New Zealand's Executive Director, Mele Wendt, at mele@fulbright.org.nz or by phone on (04) 472 2065. ►



Meg Everton, 1956

In Brief



Bradley Markle, Elizabeth Beall
and Julie Polakoski

Grantee and Alumni News

Fulbright grantee **Lydia Wevers**, the current 2010 Fulbright Visiting Scholar in New Zealand Studies at Georgetown University in Washington, DC, published a new book in July, shortly before departing for the US. *Reading on the Farm: Victorian Fiction and the Colonial World* (Victoria University Press) reflects on the meaning of books, reading and intellectual life in colonial New Zealand by exploring historical records and the books themselves at the lending library of the historical Brancepeth Station in the Wairarapa.

Fulbright alumnus **Marty Vreede** (2009 NZ Travel Award) won the Prime Minister's Supreme Award for Tertiary Teaching Excellence in August. A senior lecturer in printmaking at Whanganui UCOL's Quay School of the Arts, Marty was one of 12 tertiary teachers recognised for sustained excellence and commitment to their teaching and students in the annual awards, which are funded by the Tertiary Education Commission and managed by Ako Aotearoa – the National Centre for Tertiary Teaching Excellence. His award included a \$30,000 cash prize which Marty intends putting towards a trip to see the aurora borealis in Canada.

Harkness alumnus **Ian Warrington** (1974 Harkness Fellowship) was made a Fellow of the International Society for Horticultural Science in August, the first New Zealander to be recognised in this way. There are only nine fellows worldwide, who are Society members awarded for their outstanding contributions to horticultural science worldwide. Ian had a 30 year career at the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), and more recently was a Professor of Horticultural Science and Deputy Vice Chancellor at Massey University in Palmerston North.

Harkness alumnus **Richard Faull** (1975 Harkness Fellowship) was the Royal Society of New Zealand's 2010 Distinguished Speaker, giving lectures on brain science research in Wellington, Dunedin, Christchurch, Hamilton and Auckland in September and October. The last of these, at the Auckland Museum on 13 October, was recorded by Radio New Zealand as part of the *Talking Heads* series of lectures by six distinguished experts on brain and behaviour. Richard's lecture on 'The Marvels and Challenges of the Human Brain' was broadcast by Radio New Zealand in October and is now available on their website at www.radionz.co.nz

Wellington-based 2010 Fulbright US Graduate Students **Elizabeth Beall**, **Hannah Kim**, **Bradley Markle** and **Julie Polakoski** held bake sales at Victoria University of Wellington's Kelburn campus quad and the law faculty's

Government Building cafeteria in September to raise funds for earthquake relief in Canterbury. Elizabeth Beall explained their motivation for doing so as follows: "Kiwis have been so giving to us in our experience in New Zealand, so we wanted to be able to help those affected by the Christchurch earthquake, in even a small way. Having an American-themed bake sale allowed us to share a bit of what comforts us from back home, while raising money for those in need in Canterbury." The grantees' sales of American-style baking raised \$1,182 and prompted generous donations by other Fulbright alumni.

Harkness alumnus **Robin Gauld** (2008 Harkness Fellowship) was one of 21 category winners in the British Medical Association's 2010 Medical Book Awards in September. Robin's book *The New Health Policy* (Open University Press), which he completed while on his Harkness Fellowship in Boston, was judged best book in the Health and Social Care category of the awards, which were established in 1996 to encourage and reward excellence in medical publishing. Judges described Robin's book as "a clear, readable, well-structured overview of recent health policy developments" New Zealand, the US and Britain.

Fulbright alumnus **Bill Manhire** (1999 Visiting Professor in New Zealand Studies) has collaborated with jazz musician Norman Meehan on an album setting Bill's poems to music. *Buddhist Rain* (Attar Media) was released at Victoria University of Wellington's Soundings Theatre in September. In October, Bill was one of twelve academics and researchers selected as new Fellows of the Royal Society of New Zealand, and in November the Society will announce the winner of the 2010 Royal Society of New Zealand Manhire Prize for Creative Science Writing, which was created to encourage exciting science communication through the written word and is named in Bill's honour. ►

See the Fulbright New Zealand website for more alumni news – www.fulbright.org.nz/alumni

Alumni, please keep us up-to-date with your news and achievements, by email to andy@fulbright.org.nz

In Memoriam

We are saddened by the recent passing of the following alumni:

Kathy Dudding, 2010 NZ Travel Award
Meg Everton, 1956 NZ Exchange Teacher
Terry Healy, 1995 NZ Research Scholar
Martin Kean, 1955 NZ Graduate Student
Allan Thomas, 1990 NZ Research Scholar ►

Important Dates

- November**
- 1 Fulbright New Zealand Travel Awards applications close
 - Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Travel Awards in Indigenous Development applications close
 - Fulbright Specialist Awards applications close
- December**
- 1 Fulbright New Zealand Christmas Party
 - 5:00-7:30pm, Fulbright New Zealand, Level 8, 120 Featherston Street, Wellington. RSVP to info@fulbright.org.nz by Wednesday 24 November
- March 2011**
- 16-19 Fulbright Academy of Science & Technology Sixth Annual Conference & Ideas Festival
 - University of Heidelberg & Crowne Plaza Hotel, Heidelberg, Germany. See www.fulbrightacademy.org for details
- See www.fulbright.org.nz or contact the Fulbright New Zealand office for more details

Alumni Association update

The Fulbright New Zealand Alumni Association has completed its first year. The recent Board and Annual Meetings were times to reflect on the much that has been achieved and to plan ahead.

Among the Association's plans for the next year is a further extension of alumni hospitality to US grantees. The opportunity for alumni to give back something to visiting grantees is one very satisfying benefit of FNZAA membership, and will be repaid with interest through the relationships that develop through these activities.

Another plan for the next year is to establish annual Fulbright lectures in each region. The three lectures presented by alumnus Jon Johansson have paved the way for building a more formal relationship with the universities and an opportunity to plan annual high profile lectures by Fulbright alumni and/or grantees.

Coordinators will continue to arrange at least three activities in their regions but the focus for the coming year is to provide opportunities for alumni-initiated activities and projects. This includes an investigation

into the feasibility of online events. There is a vast pool of alumni expertise and experience and ways of sharing this with each other and the community need to be developed.

The Association is grateful to the US Department of State for further grants to support the work for the coming year.

I was privileged to be invited to participate in a special International Visitor Leadership Programme (IVLP) in the US in October. Entitled 'Alumni Association Leadership Development', this project involved 32 alumni leaders from around the world and was very timely for our Association.

Thanks again for your continuing support. Keep watching the Association's website at www.fnzaa.org for the latest news.



Graham Cochrane, FNZAA Chairperson ►

Alumni Association

**FULBRIGHT
NEW ZEALAND
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**



**TE WHAKAWHITINGA
AOTEAROA-AMERIKA**

US geologist on the ground for earthquake

Fulbright alumnus Professor Kevin Furlong from Penn State University's Department of Geosciences has maintained research links in New Zealand since his exchange here as a Fulbright US Senior Scholar in 2003. He returned to New Zealand on sabbatical in July, and inadvertently found himself on the ground for the major Canterbury earthquake in September.

How did you come to be in Christchurch during the recent earthquake?

Since my Fulbright exchange, I have continued active research with colleagues at several New Zealand universities. My plans for my current sabbatical included spending half the year at the University of Canterbury with a focus on active tectonics, hazards and hazard management, and the second half at the University of Waikato. I have been in Christchurch since early July. Prior to the earthquake the focus of my teaching was on how Christchurch would be affected by a large event. Our students got direct experience testing whether their ideas of impacts were on the mark.

Had you experienced such a major quake firsthand previously? What was your immediate reaction to the quake?

Prior to this event, I had only experienced magnitude 4-5 events. As strange as it may sound, my immediate response as the earthquake was happening was that it could not be the 'expected' Alpine Fault event (the shaking was too high frequency) so I knew it must be near Christchurch. Once the shaking stopped, I was almost immediately in contact with colleagues at the US Geological Survey's Earthquake Center to get their estimates of location, magnitude, type of earthquake etc. And within a couple of hours I took a team of postgrads from the university to the fault and started recording the key scientific data before it disappeared.

Were there any unique features of this quake?

The earthquake itself was pretty much typical for earthquakes of its size, in terms of shaking and overall damage. It does differ in two main ways. First it was very shallow, so there is a very large extent of surface rupture along the fault, much more than normally seen.

Second, it will become one of the best observed and measured earthquakes of this size anywhere. As such it has the potential to provide critical information of how such 'moderate' sized earthquakes work, which will really improve our preparations and responses for similar earthquakes globally. Earthquakes this size occur about once a month globally, so the better we understand them, the better we can reduce the devastation they can cause.

What have geologists here and internationally learned from this quake?

It is still too early to say exactly what we have learned. The analysis of the data is just now starting. I think the extent of liquefaction damage has been an eye-opener to much of the science and engineering community. There are also locations that experienced large shaking and showed other signs of damage that are not on or near the fault. Fitting them into the big picture is needed.

How has it informed your own research or influenced your research interests for the future?

This has had an impact on both of the reasons I am in New Zealand. For my teaching in hazards and hazard management, having been involved in the response effort from the start has really provided me with insight into how such things actually play out. For my research, this event has really pointed out the need for integrating across our disciplines. We were able to figure out what happened and why only when we worked collaboratively in our research.

What are the most important lessons everyday New Zealanders should take away from this natural disaster?

The main lesson for New Zealanders is that they all live in a plate boundary (not near one but *in* one!), and as such, events like the Canterbury earthquake can happen essentially anywhere. There is, for good reason, a focus on some major faults such as in Wellington and along the Alpine Fault, but we need to remember that everyone in New Zealand potentially could experience what Cantabrians faced in September 2010. ►

Alumni Voice



Kevin Furlong

"This event has really pointed out the need for integrating across our disciplines. We were able to figure out what happened and why only when we worked collaboratively in our research."

Awarded

Fulbright New Zealand Travel Awards

Hinemoana Baker (see Departures)

Grant Hammond from the Court of Appeal of New Zealand will undertake a Visiting Judicial Fellowship at the Federal Judicial Center in Washington, DC.

Karen Lavin (see Departures)

Robert Patman from the University of Otago presented the research findings of his latest book *Strategic Shortfall: The Somalia Syndrome and the March to 9/11* at a number of US universities.

Fulbright New Zealand Senior Scholar Awards

Ian Barber from the University of Otago will research revitalization movements in Māori, Western Pacific and Anglo-American religions, at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah.

Chellie Spiller from AUT University will research indigenous business models for creating relational wellbeing in addition to wealth, at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Yvonne Underhill-Sem from the University of Auckland will research the potential of feminist population geography theories to address maternal mortality, at New York University.

Rachel Vernon from EIT Hawke's Bay will research development of a model for assessing continuing competence of nurses, at the University of California, San Francisco.

Gwenda Willis from Victoria University of Wellington will research American sex offender treatment programmes following the New Zealand-developed Good Lives Model, at Lynn University in Boca Raton, Florida.

Fulbright Visiting Scholar Awards in New Zealand Studies

David Small from the University of Canterbury will research the appropriateness of anti-terrorism measures adopted by low risk countries, and teach a course on the transformation of New Zealand society over the past 30 years, at Georgetown University in Washington, DC for their Fall 2011 semester.

Fulbright-Cognition Scholar Awards in Education Research

Ngaire Addis from Havelock North High School will research the use of mathematics achievement data in evidence-based leadership of American high schools, at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Veronica O'Toole from the University of Canterbury will research the development of an emotional literacy programme for New Zealand educators and students, at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut and Wichita State University in Wichita, Kansas.

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Senior Scholar Award

Leonie Pihama (see Departures)

Fulbright-Wallace Arts Trust Award

Mark Braunias from Kawhia will complete a three month residency at Headlands Center for the Arts in Sausalito, California. ➤

Arrivals and Departures

Departures:

Fulbright-Ministry of Research, Science and Technology Graduate Awards

Shaun Williams from Christchurch will research numerical tsunami source modelling at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in Honolulu, towards a PhD in Hazards and Disasters from the University of Canterbury. Shaun departs in February.

Fulbright Visiting Scholar Awards in New Zealand Studies

Chris Gallivan from the University of Canterbury will research US approaches to judicial oversight of the decision to prosecute, and teach a course on New Zealand's constitutional structure and international relations, at Georgetown University in Washington, DC for their Spring 2011 semester. Chris departs in December.

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Senior Scholar Award

Leonie Pihama from Māori And Indigenous Analysis Ltd (MAIA) will research impacts of historical and intergenerational trauma on the health and wellbeing of indigenous peoples, at the University of Washington in Seattle. Leonie departs in January.

Fulbright New Zealand Travel Awards

Hinemoana Baker from Whitireia Polytechnic is performing her poetry and music at the University of Iowa's 43rd annual International Writing Programme in Iowa City. Hinemoana departed in August.

Karen Lavin from the University of Otago will present a paper entitled *Using trace elements in particulate matter to determine the geographic sources of semi-volatile organic contaminants in air at an alpine ecosystem in New Zealand* at the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry North America's 31st Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon. Karen departed in October.

Ross Notman from the University of Otago will give presentations on innovative school leadership developments in New Zealand and Alaska, at Indiana University in Bloomington and to various Alaskan school administrator coaching programmes in Anchorage. Ross departs in January. ➤

Returning Grantees

Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Awards

Bethany Edmunds from Auckland returned to New Zealand in August, having completed a Master of Arts in Visual Culture and Costume Studies at New York University.

Fulbright-Cognition Scholar Award in Education Research

Enosa Auva'a from Mount Albert Primary School returned to New Zealand in October, having researched ethnic minority leadership in American schools, at the University of Hawai'i in Honolulu.

Fulbright-Wallace Arts Trust Award

Richard Maloy from Auckland returned to New Zealand in September, having completed a three month residency at Headlands Center for the Arts in Sausalito, California.

Fulbright US Senior Scholar Awards

Halaevalu Vakalahi from George Mason University returned to the US in August, having researched grandparenting among Māori and Pacific peoples in New Zealand, at Massey University Palmerston North.

Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellowships in Public Policy

Terri Dunahay from the US Department of Agriculture returned to the US in September, having researched issues affecting the adoption of genetically modified pasture grasses in New Zealand, at the Ministry of Research, Science and Technology in Wellington.

Lou Green from US Customs and Border Protection returned to the US in September, having researched establishment of a New Zealand-United States joint action plan for recovery from serious trade disruptions, at the New Zealand Customs Service in Wellington.

Hillery Harvey from the National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases returned to the US in September, having researched partnerships between animal, human and ecosystem health sectors in New Zealand, at the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in Wellington.

Arnell Hinkle from CANFIT returned to the US in September, having researched healthy eating and physical activity programmes in Māori and Pacific communities in New Zealand, at the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs in Wellington. ➤

Diving into whale genetics

Alana Alexander from Auckland was one of 40 students from around the world selected for 2008 International Fulbright Science and Technology Awards, which fund the full cost of completing a PhD at a US university. Alana began her doctoral research into genetic diversity of sperm whales at Oregon State University in August 2008.

The first thing I noticed when entering the United States two years ago is, for some reason, the Americans really love our accents. I've actually received feedback on a presentation where I was told I should give all talks with "that accent you have". This is a great conversation starter, allowing you to talk with a diverse group of people. It has taught me that Americans are lovely – open and honest to a fault, if a little passionate about their crazy brand of football (more on that later).

However, it isn't just my accent that marks me as a foreigner. Another thing is the high-pitched "squeeeee!" I make whenever I see wildlife (I'm particularly fond of raccoons, with their cute little hands and bandit masks). Having obtained my Bachelor of Science in biology at the University of Auckland, focusing mainly on ecology, I've always been proud of New Zealand's unique ecosystem – dominated by birds, with no native land mammals apart from bats. Introduced mammals in New Zealand tend to equal a fast and furry death for most of our native birds, including such iconic species as the kiwi, kakapo and takahe, so getting to see mammals in an ecosystem where they belong is quite a treat for a geeky ecologist like myself.

In the US I'm lucky to be surrounded by a variety of wildlife. Although enrolled at Oregon State University (OSU), my laboratory is located at Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport, 1.5 hours away from the main campus. Unlike some of its bigger and glitzier namesakes, "my" Newport is a small town of around 10,000 people, sandwiched between the Coastal Range and the North Pacific. The proximity to forest and sea leads to recreational pastimes in Newport including hunting, fishing, diving, kayaking, mountain biking, and my pet outdoor activity – hiking.

Although I have managed to hike my way through parts of Oregon (coercing others to go with me so I don't get eaten by a cougar or bear unnoticed... definitely not a problem you face in New Zealand!), as well as taking up underwater hockey, soccer, softball and knitting, my main purpose up here in the US is to gain a PhD in wildlife science, by investigating the patterns of genetic diversity in the sperm whale. Sperm whales (made famous by Herman Melville's *Moby Dick*), are no longer the target of large-scale commercial whaling, but still face a number of threats including entanglement and ingestion of nets, chemical pollution, ship strike and global warming. However, sperm whales can stay under the surface for over an hour and a half, which makes it really difficult to count individuals or track their movements to see how regional populations are faring.

One way of getting around this problem is to survey the genetic diversity of regional populations. This can help us identify a) regions which have low interchange with neighbouring populations, so are unlikely to be able to sustain high levels of "take" by threats; b) contemporary levels of regional genetic diversity which can be used in comparison with future surveys to identify loss of genetic diversity; c) aspects of

behavioural ecology of this species, such as how individuals in social groups are related; and finally d) what patterns of evolution are occurring in this unique species.

My samples come from 897 non-lethal biopsies collected by the 'Voyage of the Odyssey' (a research cruise dedicated to investigating chemical contaminants in sperm whales – see www.pbs.org/odyssey) as well as 89 strandings around the coast of New Zealand. My research so far has focused on mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA), a type of genetic marker that is maternally inherited. Sperm whale populations show a lot of structuring for this marker, meaning that females are not dispersing extensively between populations. This pattern is particularly true for the Sri Lanka and Kiribati populations which may be at risk from population decline, because new whales will not disperse into the area to counter those killed or harmed by the threats mentioned earlier.

Although I feel very lucky to take part in such a great research project, I'm also grateful to my friends who have expanded my horizons incredibly. Halloween is now one of my favourite holidays, due to their lessons on how to carve a pumpkin (I managed a skull and tiki last year!) and encouragement to make crazy costumes (including blue hair so I could be Sonic the Hedgehog). I've headed to a few of the OSU Beavers football games which I really enjoyed, even if I think it is a bit ridiculous that a one hour game goes on for 3.5 hours... It is very popular – as many people turn up as would back home for an All Blacks match! Speaking of the All Blacks, the cultural exchange goes both ways: a number of my friends are now die-hard All Blacks fans, waking up extra early for the late night games to make sure they don't miss the haka! In addition, serving "biscuits" (scones) with jam and cream has proved a real hit up here, as have meat pies and sausage rolls.

The enrichment and seminar opportunities run by IIE on behalf of the Fulbright programme have also enabled me to meet with Fulbrighters from a large array of countries. This exposure to such a rich variety of cultures was one of the many benefits I didn't anticipate when I first set out to the US. Being a Fulbrighter has not only given me a remarkable research opportunity, it has also given me an amazing experience to export my own culture, while simultaneously learning others. ➤



A raccoon birthday cake made for Alana by University of Oregon lab mate and Fulbright New Zealand alumna Becky Hamner

Grantee Voice



Alana Alexander

"Being a Fulbrighter has not only given me a remarkable research opportunity, it has also given me an amazing experience to export my own culture, while simultaneously learning others."

Fulbright New Zealand Quarterly is published in February, May, August and November by:

Fulbright New Zealand
Level 8, 120 Featherston Street
PO Box 3465
Wellington 6140
New Zealand

Tel: +64 4 472 2065
Fax: +64 4 499 5364
Email: info@fulbright.org.nz
www.fulbright.org.nz

Editor:

Andy Mitchell,
Communications Adviser
andy@fulbright.org.nz

We welcome your letters and articles. Any material submitted may be edited for publication. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of material in this newsletter, Fulbright New Zealand does not accept liability for any errors or omissions. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of Fulbright New Zealand.

Please keep us updated of address changes, so we can keep in touch.

This newsletter is also distributed electronically by email. If you would prefer to receive this format, please let us know.

Fulbright New Zealand gratefully acknowledges the sponsorship of:



ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAROA



Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga



TE MANATŪ PŪTAIAO



NGĀ PAE O TE MĀRAMATANGA



WALLACE
ARTS
TRUST

Awards

Fulbright awards recognise individuals who show academic or professional excellence, leadership potential and the ability to be cultural ambassadors for their country. Fulbright New Zealand offers or administers the following awards and fellowships:

Fulbright New Zealand Travel Awards

For New Zealand academics, artists or professionals to visit the US for 12 to 90 days in order to present their work to American audiences. Valued at up to NZ\$5,000. **Applications close 1 November 2010, 1 April and 1 July 2011**

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga Travel Awards in Indigenous Development

For New Zealand academics, artists or professionals to visit the US for 12 to 90 days in order to present their work on a theme of indigenous development to American audiences. Valued at up to NZ\$5,000. **Applications close 1 November 2010, 1 April and 1 July 2011**

Fulbright Specialist Awards

For New Zealand academic institutions to host US academics, artists or professionals for two to six week programmes of lectures, seminars, workshops, conferences or symposiums. Valued at up to NZ\$8,400 plus travel. **Applications close 1 November 2010, 1 April and 1 July 2011**

Fulbright-Harkness New Zealand Fellowship

For an emerging New Zealand leader in any field of study or vocation (excluding health care policy and practice) to study or research in the US for a minimum of six weeks. Valued at NZ\$15,000. **Applications close 1 March 2011**

Ian Axford (New Zealand) Fellowships in Public Policy

For outstanding mid-career US professionals to research and gain firsthand experience of public policy in New Zealand for seven months. Valued at up to NZ\$45,500 plus travel. **Applications close 1 March 2011**

Fulbright-Creative New Zealand Pacific Writer's Residency

For a New Zealand writer of Pacific heritage to carry out work on an approved creative writing project exploring Pacific identity, culture or history at the University of Hawai'i for three months. Valued at NZ\$30,000. **Applications close 1 April 2011**

International Fulbright Science and Technology Awards

For promising graduate students from around the world to undertake fully-funded PhD study at top US universities in fields of science, technology or engineering. Valued at over NZ\$350,000. **Applications close 1 May 2011**

Fulbright New Zealand Senior Scholar Awards

For New Zealand academics, artists or professionals to lecture and/or conduct research in the US for three to five months. Valued at up to US\$32,500 plus travel. **Applications close 1 July 2011**

Fulbright Visiting Scholar Awards in New Zealand Studies

For New Zealand academics to conduct research and teach New Zealand Studies at Georgetown University in Washington, DC for one or two semesters. Valued at up to US\$32,500 plus travel. **Applications close 1 July 2011**

Fulbright-Cognition Scholar Award in Education Research

For a New Zealand educator or scholar to pursue research in the US designed to have an impact on New Zealand early childhood education or primary/secondary schooling and student achievement, for three to five months. Valued at up to US\$32,500 plus travel. **Applications close 1 July 2011**

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga Scholar Award

For a New Zealand academic, artist or professional to conduct research and/or lecture in the US for three to five months in a field of indigenous development. Valued at up to US\$32,500 plus travel. **Applications close 1 July 2011**

Fulbright-Ministry of Research, Science & Technology Graduate Awards

For promising New Zealand graduate students to undertake postgraduate study or research at US institutions in fields targeted to support growth and innovation in New Zealand. Valued at up to US\$25,000 plus travel. **Applications close 1 August 2011**

Fulbright-EQC Graduate Award in Natural Disaster Research

For a promising New Zealand graduate student to undertake postgraduate study or research at a US institution in the field of natural disaster research. Valued at up to US\$25,000 plus travel. **Applications close 1 August 2011**

Fulbright-Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga Graduate Award

For a promising New Zealand graduate student to undertake postgraduate study or research at a US institution in a field of indigenous development. Valued at up to US\$25,000 plus travel. **Applications close 1 August 2011**

Fulbright New Zealand General Graduate Awards

For promising New Zealand graduate students to undertake postgraduate study or research at US institutions in any field. Valued at up to US\$25,000 plus travel. **Applications close 1 August 2011**

Fulbright-Wallace Arts Trust Award

For an outstanding mid-career or senior New Zealand visual artist to undertake a three-month residency at Headlands Center for the Arts in Sausalito, California. Valued at over US\$30,000. **Applications close 1 August 2011**

Fulbright US Senior Scholar Awards

For US academics, artists or professionals to lecture and/or conduct research in New Zealand for three to five months. Valued at up to NZ\$32,500 plus travel. **Applications close 1 August 2011**

Harkness Fellowships in Health Care Policy and Practice

For promising New Zealand health policy researchers and practitioners to conduct a policy-orientated research project and work with leading health policy experts in the US for up to 12 months. Valued at up to US\$107,000. **Applications close 12 September 2011**

Fulbright US Graduate Awards

For promising US graduate students to undertake postgraduate study or research in any field at New Zealand institutions. Valued at up to NZ\$30,000 plus travel. **Applications close 17 October 2011**

For further information and application forms please visit www.fulbright.org.nz/awards or contact Fulbright New Zealand's Programme and Advising Team.