

Whitireia school shifts to Cuba Mall

The Whitireia school is moving into new premises in Wellington's Cuba Mall (beside the Bucket Fountain) this week and starts its first programme, the National Certificate in Journalism, on February 25.

Programme manager Jim Tucker reports the school has a full complement for the certificate (18) and is already oversubscribed for the National Diploma in Journalism (Multimedia), which starts on June 3. He says 25 are enrolled with a waiting list of a dozen or so.

The Whitireia staff will be joined on May 26 by Dave Lee, a 20-year-old journalism graduate from Lincoln University in the UK, who will be at the school for two months to teach multi-media, convergence, web journalism and blogging. Dave is acclaimed by Roy Greenslade as probably Britain's leading journalism [student blogger](#).

Dave (right) is available to other journalism schools too, subject to his travel and accommodation costs being met. "If he is away from here for only a single working day, there is no charge for his salary; beyond that, we will need to recover costs. Best to time it for a Friday or Monday so he can sightsee at the weekend," says Jim. He returns to the UK on July 16.

Dave is speaking at the upcoming Global Intermedia Dialogue on Reporting Diversity, scheduled for Bali in early May, a conference Jim will attend.

The Whitireia staff this year, in addition to Jim, include Queenie Rikihana and Destina Munro, with more to be added when the diploma starts. *JT/AL*



Massey Journalism name change

Massey's Department of Communication and Journalism is now the Department of Communication, Journalism and Marketing. The name change follows the merger of the department with the Marketing Department at Massey.

"The change will not affect the delivery of our Journalism programme in any way," says Massey Journalism head Grant Hannis. "The Department is part of the College of Business, and the merger is part of the College's strategy to rationalise departmental administration and costs.

"We will continue to teach our Graduate Diploma in Journalism and all our Journalism Studies papers." *GH/AL*



PM opens Jeanz conference

Helen Clark fired some critical comments at the New Zealand media when she opened the Jeanz conference at Massey's Wellington campus on December 10. Arguing that journalism sometimes lacked fairness and balance, she pointed to the *Herald* being in "full campaign mode" on the Electoral Finance Bill.

She said complaining to the Press Council didn't get you anywhere. "So you try to shrug and say, 'Well, that's life,' and get on with it." She tried to be open with the media, but saw dangers in getting too close in the small political bubble that is Wellington. "I make a habit of keeping professional boundaries." She encouraged journalism educators to give students "a thirst for knowledge and context", especially for historical events.

Clark criticised media outlets for not sending journalists to cover many of her international trips, saying it was "a matter of regret that proprietors don't seem to think these things are particularly important."

The conference theme was: "The future for the mainstream: The changing demands on journalists and the challenge for journalism educators."

Some conference speakers have made their papers available: [Jezanz conference papers](#). [Jezanz AGM minutes and President's report](#) AL



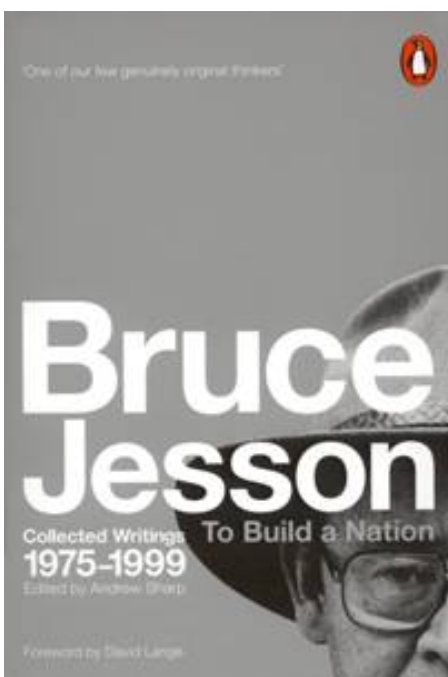
Freelance 2008 attracts high-profile speakers

A strong line-up of speakers for the Bank of New Zealand Freelance 2008 conference includes former *AA Directions* editor John Cranna, investigative journalist Nicky Hager, *North and South* (assistant) editor Virginia Larson, Kath Webster from *AA Directions*, *Next's* Brenda Ward, the *NZ Herald's* multimedia editor Jeremy Rees, freelance columnists Rod Oram, Linley Boniface and Tracey Barnett, and feature writers and authors David Cohen and Peter Calder.

In just three years the conference has become New Zealand's biggest annual gathering of journalists, says organiser Kim Griggs. Workshops cover small business management, travel, business and lifestyle writing, negotiating and selling overseas. Leaders include editors, experienced freelancers, and experts in accounting and law. The conference is on May 8 at the Hyatt Regency in central Auckland.

Register at: www.freelance2008.co.nz The fee is \$75 including GST for early bird registration.
Kim Griggs/AL

Jesson award revamped



New Zealand's only award for critical journalism is being revamped to link in with a growing movement for more democratic local media.

The Bruce Jesson Foundation, set up after the death of journalist-politician Bruce Jesson in 1999, has provided up to \$3000 a year since 2004 for "critical, informed, analytical and creative journalism or writing which will contribute to public debate in New Zealand on an important issue or issues".

A review after its first four years has concluded that the award should continue, with a slight change in the criteria to cover publishing, as well as producing, critical journalism.

Foundation chair Professor Jane Kelsey says experience to date shows that the barrier to good journalism is not always in the actual production of the work, but in finding an outlet in our commercialised market that is willing to publish it. "For example, freelance journalist Jon Stephenson, who won our award in 2005

for a two-part report from Iraq for Metro magazine, is so dedicated that he would have found a way to get to Iraq somehow," she says.

"You might argue that Metro, as the publisher, should have paid his full costs for his trip there. But the reality of our commercial marketplace is that neither Metro nor any other New Zealand news outlet was willing to pay Stephenson's full costs for stories of marginal commercial value, so by part-funding his trip we effectively subsidised his publisher because we believed in the social value of the stories he planned to write."

Kelsey says the award is now part of a growing recognition that the commercial imperatives of our largely foreign-owned media, increasingly focused on celebrities and consumerism, need to be balanced by a deliberate community-based effort to provide journalism on public issues – issues that affect us as citizens and workers as well as consumers.

The award covers living costs and direct costs such as phone calls and travel to enable New Zealanders to investigate and report on issues in depth. Applications for the 2008 award close on 30 June. *Simon Collins*

Massey to host major communication conference

The Australian & New Zealand Communication Association (ANZCA) will hold its 2008 conference in Wellington and is looking for papers for its journalism and media stream. Themed **Power and Place**, the conference is being hosted by Massey University on July 9-11.

The journalism and media stream will consider how journalists and the media generally wield this power and its effects. Presenters have the opportunity to submit their paper in either a refereed or non-refereed stream.

For full details on when and how to submit your paper, please see [submission guidelines](#). Papers must be submitted through this webpage, **not** to the stream co-ordinator directly. If you have any queries about your paper, please contact the stream co-ordinator, Grant Hannis: g.d.hannis@massey.ac.nz

Keynote speakers at ANZCA08 include: Maxwell McCombs, a US academic famous for his development of agenda-setting theory, and Nicky Hager, whose books and articles continue to hold politicians and PR operators to account. For more details on the conference, and to register, see: <http://anzca08.massey.ac.nz/> GH

On the spot for Suharto's death

Three New Zealand graduating journalists have been in Jakarta with a group of Australians for a [six-week professional programme](#) – and the biggest story of their stay was the death of former dictator Suharto. Designed to give Down Under journos greater insight into the world's biggest Muslim country, this was the first time that Kiwis have been included in the programme.

Aroha Treacher, 27, and Dylan Quinnell (both of AUT University), and Will Roberston (Massey) filed stories from Jakarta. Dylan, 21, also provided a [regular blog and pictures](#) about their experiences, including a mini soccer riot. Aroha filed a story [about the speculation](#) over the likely impact of Suharto's looming death and how the media were handling his failing health. Dylan followed up with an on-the-spot video, photo and [story](#) feed from the street outside Suharto's home just after he died.

Even his student digs and a neighbouring sweatshop (right) provided something to write about. "A young Indonesian girl works a



whopping 14 hours a day, six days a week. For this huge week she earns a meagre Rp 200,000, about NZ\$30, sewing beautiful rainbow coloured nightgowns for export to Australia, Malaysia and the United Arab Emirates," he wrote.

Most of the 26 students on the programme are Australian. "I want to get the cutting-edge, interesting stories that are a rare experience for young journalists in Australia," Charlotte Wheatly, 20, told the *Jakarta Post* at the course launch. Wheatly, of the University of Technology, Sydney, said it was a great opportunity to understand more about Indonesia.

The six-week journalism professional practicum was organised by Atma Jaya University and the Australian Consortium for In-Country Indonesian Studies (ACICIS) at Atma Jaya University in South Jakarta. Robertson is staying on in Jakarta and is currently working with Reuters news agency.

The students attended a two-week course on Indonesian language and culture, followed by a month-long internship at one of several media outlets, including Antara newswire, *Tempo English* magazine, *The Jakarta Post*, TVRI, Metro TV and Voice of Indonesia.

Dylan's [video feed](#) and [photo gallery](#). [Other stories](#).

Aroha, Dylan and Will were assisted in attending the Jakarta programme by sponsorship from the Asia: NZ Foundation and AUT's [Pacific Media Centre DR](#)