



NZBS celebrates 20th birthday in style

Congratulations to colleagues at the New Zealand Broadcasting School at CPIT, who celebrated the School's 20th anniversary with a conference and gala dinner in late March.

The event coincided with NZBS's largest graduation ceremony: 52 former students received their Bachelor of Broadcasting Communications degree in person, with 25 others in absentia. The photo shows the graduands, along with journalism tutor Yvonne Densem (2nd from right), preparing to march to Christchurch Town Hall.

The conference, 'Back to the future', heard an address from Broadcasting Minister Steve Maharey, with responses from Ian Fraser, CEO of TVNZ, and Brent Impey, CEO of CanWest NZ.

'Getting Ahead - Looking Ahead' was a panel discussion where former students spoke of their experiences at the school and the realities of the industry. Another debate asked, 'Has news gone too far towards infotainment, celebrities and trivia?'. This featured Bill Ralston (TVNZ), Joe Atkinson (Auckland University), Mark Jennings (3News) and Judy McGregor (Human Rights Commission). It led to a heated discussion about the role of the BSA and, inevitably, Corngate. (YD, AL)

New Maori Media course at WITT

The WITT School of Journalism in New Plymouth has employed former *Hawera Star* editor Bonita Bigham to lead a new course in Applied Maori Media aimed at people wanting to work in both Maori and mainstream media.

Bonita, who is Nga Ruahine of South Taranaki, is a graduate of the WITT course (1999) who worked for the *Bay News* and *Bay of Plenty Times* before taking over the *Hawera Star*.

Her new course will start in July and lead graduates into a new study pathway at WITT. Based on the concept of a Centre for Applied Media, the new programmes will include photojournalism.

Bonita has just won a scholarship to Columbia Journalism School in New York to study under the auspices of Columbia's Race Project, which funds research into how media cover race issues. She will look at comparisons between Maori media in Aotearoa and US minority media, eg Black American, Latino and Native American communities. She takes up the scholarship in June. (JT)

Robie receives PhD at Fiji graduation ceremony

AUT journalism lecturer David Robie is pictured at his PhD graduation ceremony at the University of the South Pacific in Fiji last month.

David is joined by two of his former students, Laura Robinson (Fiji, left) and Akka Rimon (Kiribati), who both graduated with a BA in Journalism.

David's thesis is titled *Journalism Education in the South Pacific, 1975-2003: Politics, Policy and Practice*. [Thesis abstract](#).

[Full graduation story](#) (Wansolwara Online). (AL/DR)



JTO in plan to revamp Solomons broadcasting

Working with the NZAID division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the NZJTO has facilitated a plan to aid the restructuring of the Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation.

The services of the SIBC, which are regarded as the key communication tools in the islands, have suffered greatly from the social and political instability over the past few years.

Senior RNZ executive Terry Brown (former head of Radio Australia and a JTO council member) visited Honiara for a fortnight to talk with radio staff and community groups and is now drawing up the restructuring plan. The project involved former Whitireia Polytechnic radio tutor Cathy Strong, who did three weeks of intensive training for the SIBC's news and production staff. (BS)

New photojournalism unit standards

WITT tutors Jim and Rob Tucker have been working on a new set of unit standards that cover photojournalism (still image photography for the print media) from certificate to diploma level. The units are now with the NZJTO for consulting with industry. (JT)

Waiariki and AUT courses join forces in Rotorua hui

About 120 journalism students and their tutors from AUT and Waiariki Institute of Technology met in Rotorua last weekend for a two-day hui on reporting bi-cultural issues.

After an encounter with the hikoi on its way south, students met at Waiariki's Tangatarua Marae. They heard speakers including Dr Jill Chrisp and Marama Davidson of the Human Rights Commission; Doug Tamaki of Tamaki Tours; Bay of Plenty MP Tony Ryall; the head of Waiariki's School of Maori Studies, Ngahi Bidois; and Wena Harawira, of the Maori Journalists Organisation (KTR).

Waiariki programme leader Annabel Schuler says her School's programme is prospering, spurred by the advent of MTS and the growth in Maori media. The School trains Maori and non-Maori journalists wanting to work in the Maori environment. Its 18-month programme has papers on Reporting on Marae, feature writing in the Maori area, plus sessions in Te Reo and tikanga.

Annabel teaches the core journalism subjects and contract tutors cover the specialist areas. Maramena Roderick will come in to teach reporting on marae and feature writing. (AL/AS)



Photo by Kim Reed: Aroha Awarau leads the singing

WITT introduces online journalism course

The WITT School has now launched its distance learning programme for journalism training. The first students are now progressing through the Introductory Certificate in News Journalism (closely based on the JTO's introductory certificate), which takes about six months of online learning.

Graduates from that will be accepted into the distance learning version of the National Diploma in Journalism in July. The programme is divided into six courses that will take about three years to cover part-time. (JT)

AUT recruits journalist from *The Age*

After 14 years with *The Age* and *Sunday Age* in Melbourne, Denise Ryan has returned to New Zealand to lecture in journalism at AUT.

Denise worked for the *Evening Post* and *NBR* before heading to Sydney in 1987 as *NBR*'s Australian correspondent. There she wrote for titles including *The Times on Sunday* and *BRW*. After a stint as *NBR*'s political editor, she was approached to be the founding business editor of the *Sunday Age*. "I moved to Melbourne for a year ... and stayed 14. As my students will find, journalism is never dull." (AL/DR)

PJR call for papers

Articles are now being sought for the April 2005 (Vol 11) edition of *Pacific Journalism Review*, which will have the theme 'The indigenous public sphere'. It will



be edited by Dr Barry King and Dr Ian Goodwin, both based at AUT's School of Communication Studies.

The editors say this edition will explore/critique the concept of the 'public sphere' in relation to notions of identity, place, community, indigeneity and journalism practices in the Asia-Pacific region. For details of the types of contributions the editors are seeking, see [Call for Papers](#) on the journal's site.

The journal has four main sections: research articles (3000-6000 words), commentaries (1500-3000 words), reviews (500-1000 words) and forum contributions (up to 800 words).

The submission deadline for Vol 11 is September 30, 2004 . Please send abstracts and articles as email attachments to: Dr Barry King (barry.king@aut.ac.nz) or Dr Ian Goodwin (Ian.goodwin@aut.ac.nz).

[Call for papers](#): *PJR* "Media Ownership and Democracy" (Vol 10) edition September 2004. Submission deadline May 31.

Email PJR: pjreview@aut.ac.nz

Website: www.pjreview.info