

JEANZ conference: Challenges and opportunities

This year's conference will be held at Massey University's Journalism School in Wellington, New Zealand. The dates are December 17-18, 2015.

The conference theme is:

"Journalism: Challenges and opportunities."



The keynote speaker is Mike Darcey, immediate past chief executive officer of News UK, publisher of The Times, The Sunday Times and The Sun. A New Zealander who has lived in England for 25 years, Mike spent many years as a senior strategic manager at BSkyB before heading News UK from 2013 to 2015. He will speak about the trends he sees emerging in news publishing in the UK and how these contrast with his experience in television. As well as delivering the keynote address, Mike will run a Q-and-A session.

Conference programme.

You can register to attend the conference here. Massey's campus is at 63 Wallace Street, Mt Cook, Wellington. Campus map

If you have any queries, please email the conference convenor, Associate Professor Grant Hannis: g.d.hannis@massey.ac.nz

Canterbury wins award for disaster reporting exercise

Canterbury University's Journalism programme has won international recognition for its disaster reporting training exercise with UC's Hazard and Disaster Management programme.

The International Association of Emergency Managers has awarded its 2015 Oceania Technology & Innovation Award (Division 2) to the collaborative exercise, which pits journalism and hazard management students against each other in a role-play simulation based on a real-time natural disaster.

UC Senior Lecturer in Hazards and Disaster Management Dr Tom Wilson said recent experience had shown how challenging it could be communicating accurate information in the middle of a disaster and the exercise aimed to give students practice translating complex science and public safety information at speed for an anxious public.



PMC students on Fiji media mission

Two AUT journalism students – Kai Ping Lew and Niklas Pedersen – recently came back from two weeks on assignment in Fiji. They reported on issues including Fiji's Development Forum as a challenge to the Pacific Islands Forum, climate change initiatives by Pacific nations, gender violence and were also

interviewed by The Fiji Times about their postgraduate project.

Their stories and videos can be seen on the Asia-Pacific Journalism course outlet at **Pacific Scoop on the Storify aggregator**: <https://storify.com/pacmedcentre/fiji-report-2015>

Danish native Niklas Brandt Pedersen and Kai Ping Lew are postgraduate students on the Asia-Pacific Journalism course at AUT, led by Pacific Media Centre director Professor David Robie, a former head of journalism at the University of the South Pacific.



Pedersen described the media culture in Fiji as very different from what he was accustomed to, but he said he found it exciting. “There are a lot of restrictions because of the media decree and it’s been a real challenge to try to cope, but I think we’re going to learn a lot from this,” he said. Pedersen, who is from the Danish School of Journalism and Media and at AUT as part of an Inclusive Journalism initiative (IJI) exchange, added that not being able to publish anything critical of the government without a response from them was challenging.

“So actually they can shut down any critical story they want by just not responding to it, but I think it’s also a positive stance by the Fiji media to try and look forward and not backwards.”

Self-censorship was a challenge faced by Lew in her journalistic endeavours in the country. “It’s not just the publications that self-censor but also the people who self-censor,” she said.

Lew said they wanted to ensure their reports took into consideration the context and cultural sensitivities.

“It’s easy to criticise the exterior of things, but it takes a little bit of deeper understanding and analysis and talking to the people — I think — to be able to get the bigger picture and that’s what we’re aspiring towards,” she said.

Wintec covers multi-sport event and hosts RNZ reporters

A team of Wintec students provided daily coverage from the NZCT AIMS Games in Tauranga earlier this month. The games include 19 sporting codes and it is the largest multi-sport event for 11-13-year-olds in Australasia.

Their coverage can be seen here: <http://news.nzaimsgames.co.nz>.

Mihingarangi Forbes and Annabelle Lee (pictured) were guests at the Wintec Press Club recently. They talked about their departure from Maori TV and



shift to Radio New Zealand. Forbes was a presenter on MTV's Native Affairs programme and Lee was a producer.



PMC director David Robie wins Asian media award, publishes new book

AUT journalism professor and director of the Pacific Media Centre David Robie was recently honoured for his significant contribution to the Asia-Pacific media landscape at the 24th Asian Media Information and Communication Centre (AMIC) conference held in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates.

AMIC board member Dr Pirongrong Ramasoota of Chulalongkorn University in Thailand says the prestigious Asia Communication Award was awarded to Professor Robie for his “unstinting contribution” as an Asia-Pacific journalist, media educator and “human rights and environmental champion”.

Dr Ramasoota added that Professor Robie’s 20 years of journalism and academic research in Asia-Pacific media had made an exceptional impact in all areas of the award categories – research, education, institution building and excellence in journalism.

A delighted Dr Robie (pictured at right receiving the award) says the award signals a strong recognition for Pacific media, and as a counterbalance of Western dominance in the research and publication culture led by globalisation.

Shortly after the award presentation, Dr Robie’s new edition of *Eyes of Fire: The Last Voyage* of the Rainbow Warrior was published marking the 30th anniversary of the Greenpeace campaign ship bombed by French secret agents in Auckland harbour on 10 July 1985.

He spent 10 weeks on board the ship leading up to the sabotage and this new edition includes new chapters and reflections, additional colour images and an exclusive French cartoon. It is linked to a microsite set up by the publishers, Little Island Press, as a public resource and includes reportage by AUT student journalists.

The AMIC award

[Radio NZ on the new book](#)

[More PMC news](#)

[PMC media books](#)