

'Walking the talk' at Rotorua conference



The 2009 Jeanz conference at Waiariki Institute of Technology, Rotorua, on December 3 and 4 featured an eclectic mix of papers. The programme included sessions on student internships, research funding (PBRF), media coverage of Antarctica, bi-cultural reporting, field trips, sports media, plagiarism, experiential learning, a scandalous editor, Australian history and online delivery of the national diploma course.

JTO-Jeanz agree moderation plan and Level 5 review

The JTO-Jeanz workshop on December 2 agreed to the introduction of the JTO's new moderation scheme from 2010. The JTO will send out information to J schools detailing what moderation material they need to gather. News reporting and ethics will be the first two subjects to be moderated. Polytechnic staff discussed the level 5 unit standards and concluded they needed revising, in part to remove some overly-prescriptive requirements. The level 5 review will be conducted through a JTO-Jeanz panel. Shorthand will be under the spotlight. The JTO-Jeanz panel will also draft contents for a new level 4 qualification.

Deakin offers PhD scholarship

The School of Communication and Creative Arts at Deakin University is seeking applications for its Schiavon scholarship. The doctoral scholarship is for \$20,000 a year for three years for a project on a significant issue or aspect of regional/rural journalism. [Details](#)

New certificate programme at Whitireia

A new level 4 journalism qualification – the Certificate in Multimedia Journalism – will be launched at Whitireia Journalism School early next year.

Designed as a pathway up to the National Diploma in Journalism (Multi-media), the new programme will include web journalism, digital stills photography and video reporting for the web to augment news reporting and news writing. An innovation is the inclusion of an introductory module in shorthand theory, which will get graduates to the stage where they can begin speed tests when they start the diploma.

Whitireia has developed the new programme as a matter of urgency because of the outdated state of the existing level 3 National Certificate in Journalism (Introductory) and the need to offer something more relevant to the diploma. It will be encouraging students to take both programmes, since the head start in shorthand – trialled this year – makes a big difference to the second half of the diploma. Getting shorthand done early not only gives students the proper skills for news reporting, but it allows greater flexibility to concentrate on journalism.

The 18-week certificate begins on January 25. It will be offered twice a year. Whitireia is keen to promote the idea of the certificate – or a version of it – being picked up by the JTO for posting on the national qualifications framework. Aoraki's Dale McCord is doing something similar, which ought to lend some weight to the initiative, due to be discussed at next month's JEANZ conference.

Whitireia will shortly be advertising for staff to teach the programme and is seeking people with experience in web journalism. JT

China's first blogger tours J schools

Isaac Mao – the man dubbed by the Guardian as China's first blogger (he says he has no way of proving the claim) – had a whistle-stop tour of New Zealand last month, speaking to journalism students and staff at AUT, WINTEC and Whitireia.



He has developed sophisticated theories about “convergence-within-convergence” (the complex interaction between various web applications), “shar(e)-ism” (his term for web dwellers to share their knowledge, media freedom, and fast redistribution of material on Twitter (he invented the term RT – re-Tweet)).

He was interviewed by **Kim Hill** for RadioNZ and by various other journalists. Coverage of his visit is on the Whitireia news site, www.newswire.co.nz, and on the **Asia:NZ Foundation website**. Whitireia Journalism School is grateful to Charles Mabbett at Asia: NZ Foundation for funding the visit. JT

Taranaki journalism scholarship

A family relationship with the Taranaki Daily News spanning more than 100 years has resulted in the establishment of a scholarship for aspiring journalists. Funds for the James (Snr) and Mary Garcia Scholarship – which will also eventually encompass music -- come from the estate of the late Veda Garcia, a primary school teacher whose career embraced New Plymouth, Bulls and Leamington.

The 2010 journalism scholarship could be worth up to \$5000 for successful candidates.

Miss Garcia, who retired in New Plymouth, died last year. Her father, the late James Garcia, began the family association with the newspaper about 1905 when he became an agent for the Daily News. In 1909 he joined the reporting staff at New Plymouth where he worked until dying suddenly on his way to a dairy company meeting in 1943.

Mr Garcia, who was well known for his reporting on the rural scene, served on the management committee of the Taranaki Rugby Football Union, was president of the New Zealand School Committees' Association and president of the Taranaki Boxing Association. At the time of his death he was described as “the best known personality in Taranaki”.

A son, the late Barry Garcia, joined the paper three years later and became the circulation manager, a position which was to embrace the Taranaki Herald when both New Plymouth papers came under the umbrella of Taranaki Newspapers Ltd.

In 1948 the youngest son and now the sole survivor of a family of 10, Denis Garcia, also joined the newspaper, initially as office boy and later filling the roles of reporter, chief reporter and associate editor before becoming editor in 1981, a position he held until his retirement in 1991.

“My sister was extremely proud of the family association with the Taranaki Daily News and often talked of our father’s total commitment to journalism,” said Denis Garcia. “It is particularly pleasing to see that the family association with journalism is to be perpetuated through my sister Veda’s generous gift of this scholarship.”

Western Institute of Technology at Taranaki journalism coordinator Robin Martin said the scholarship was a significant development for the profession in the province. “Taranaki has a proud journalistic history and the Garcias' generosity will help enable more young people to pursue the vocation.”

Application forms for the scholarship, which is for permanent residents of the Taranaki District -- with preference to former Westown Primary pupils – are available at the Public Trust, 24 Currie St, New Plymouth and the Witt reception on Bell St, or contact Robin Martin on 06 575 3100 ext 8721 / 021 484 354 / r.martin@witt.ac.nz. Applications close November 30. RM/AL

Pictured: Witt journalism student and Taranaki Daily News netball reporter Brooke Sheehan.



World Journalism Education Congress

The **Congress** is scheduled for 5-7 July, 2010, at Rhodes University in Grahamstown, South Africa. It will be a highly international gathering, with simultaneous translation between English, French and Chinese. The over-arching theme is "Journalism Education in an Age of Radical Change". If you're interested in global dialogue with fellow journalism and media educators from all over the world, this is your 2010 event to attend. The gathering also takes place during the World Football Cup in South Africa, adding to the rich context of this congress. (Guy Berger)

PJR call for articles and commentaries

REPORTING CONFLICT: Challenges and responsibilities (Vol 16, No 1, May 2010) Edition editors: Professor Wendy Bacon (UTS-ACIJ), A/Professor David Robie (AUT) and Alan Samson (Massey)

Articles are sought for publication in the May 2010 edition of Pacific Journalism Review. This themed edition will be linked to the May 2009 Reporting War seminars in Auckland and Sydney organised and hosted by the International Committee of the Red Cross in association with Massey University, Wellington, and the University of Technology, Sydney. The editors will be especially interested in articles or commentaries exploring themes globally and in the Asia-Pacific region such as:

- Conflict reporting: responsibilities and challenges
- The relationship between humanitarians and journalists
- The media and international humanitarian law
- The media under fire
- The military and the media
- Safety and protection of journalists
- Internal and insurgency conflicts
- Journalism schools and conflict reporting education
- Reporting wars: Future trends



Articles on other topics related to media and journalism theory and practice may also be considered. The double blind peer-reviewed journal has four main sections: Research articles, Commentaries, Forum and Reviews.

Managing editor: A/Professor David Robie

Email the editor: pjreview@aut.ac.nz

Articles up to 6000 words

Commentaries 1500 to 3000 words

Reviews up to 1500 words

(Noted short reviews 300 words)

Forum contributions up to 800 words.

Submission deadline: December 20, 2009

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