

Massey commits to unit standards

Journalism teaching at Massey University's on-campus course will continue to be based on the JTO's unit standards, says journalism programme head Grant Hannis. Hannis (pictured) says he "wholeheartedly supports the teaching of unit standards on this vocationally-oriented course".

Although Frank Sligo, the head of Massey's department of communication and journalism, has publicly raised reservations with unit standards (*PJR*, [Vol 10](#)), Sligo says staff teaching the course are free to teach unit standards if they wish.

Working alongside Hannis at [Massey's journalism school](#) is Alan Samson, who was recently promoted to full lecturer. The departure of other staff members means the school is recruiting new staff.



Massey's extramural diploma is being overhauled. To increase student numbers, the course is moving towards a more academic study of journalism. Massey is also introducing an academically-oriented News Media major as part of its Bachelor of Communication. This strategy is supported by the journalism school. It is hoped that top graduates of these programmes will form at least part of the cohort of students moving into the on-campus vocational course. GH/AL.

Jeanz conference: Call for Papers

Papers are now sought for the Jeanz annual conference to be held at the NZ Broadcasting School, Christchurch, December 1 to 3, 2004. The conference theme is "The practice of journalism in an increasingly diverse society".

Preference will be given to papers based on the theme, but papers on all journalism topics - including those dealing with practical aspects of journalism education, or which offer an academic reflection on training issues - will be considered. [Call for Papers](#)

Two \$300 **travel scholarships** are available to fulltime journalism/media studies students of Maori and/or Pacific Islands descent who want to present an academic paper at the conference. The scholarships are provided by Massey University and Waiariki Institute of Technology. [Application guidelines](#)

Fiji school to host JEA conference

The Journalism Education Association conference will be held December 5-9, hosted by the journalism programme at the University of the South Pacific in Suva. Conference convenor and USP journalism lecturer Steve Sharp says the theme is "Media literacy in the Pacific and Asia".

[Conference details](#)

Sherson appointed editor-in-residence at Wintec

Wintec has appointed Venetia Sherson, former editor of the *Waikato Times*, as editor-in-residence in its school of communication. Her role is to mentor students, to add value to the [journalism programmes](#), and to explore new training opportunities.

She has established a fortnightly press club for students and journalists working in the greater Waikato area.



The 90-minute sessions are led by journalists or a panel who discuss major news or issues relating to journalism.

Sherson will also work with students on four publications during 2005. Students are currently producing a newspaper focused on the local body elections and younger voters.

Sherson spent the first month of her appointment visiting the editors of major metropolitan and provincial newspapers to discuss journalism training. She says most editors were pleased with the standard of graduates but there were concerns about ongoing training in the workforce. "There was also some concern that students were not well prepared for the reality of newsrooms, especially the pressure of deadlines and the workload."

A journalist for 35 years, Sherson edited the *Waikato Times* from 1997-2003. In January, she was awarded an ONZM for services to journalism. VS/AL

Tucker joins Sunday newspaper battle

WITT journalism head Jim Tucker is taking four months professional development leave to be chief reporter at the *Sunday Star-Times* from the end of August. He was approached by the paper to assist with the upcoming battle against the *Herald on Sunday*, due out in September.

Daily News senior reporter/columnist Gordon Brown will take his place. Brown is standing for the New Plymouth District Council in October, giving him a new perspective on local body reporting. JT

Wintec students produce daily for National Fieldays



Senior Wintec students recently produced four editions of their new targeted newspaper, the daily *Fieldays Exhibitor*, aimed at the 1000-plus exhibitors at the National Fieldays in Hamilton.

Students wrote, photographed and designed the full-colour paper. About 2000 copies were distributed between 6am and 8am, each day of the Fieldays. Students used digital cameras, cellphones and InDesign to

produce the paper to a daily 4pm deadline. The paper was well received and the Fieldays organisers have asked Wintec to produce it again next year. CR

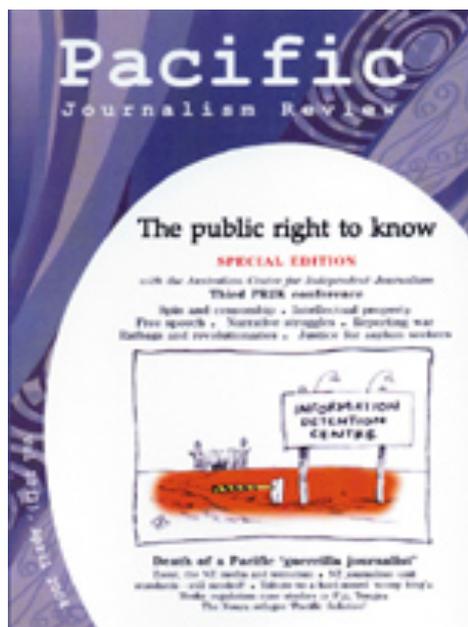
Columbia Journalism School visit successful

WITT's Bonita Bigham reports her attendance at the [Columbia Journalism School's Race Project](#) conference in June was highly productive. She was the only attendee from outside the US and took the opportunity to visit minority news outlets, including a national American Indian newspaper based in upstate New York at Syracuse. She will give a full report at the Jeanz conference in December. JT

Extra projects keep SIT students busy

It's a hectic year at Invercargill's Peter Arnett School of Journalism, reports tutor Louise van Uden, with several out-of-class projects running alongside the National Diploma of Journalism.

Four diploma students are putting together a booklet to celebrate the 125th jubilee of South School, an interesting project considering it is one of the schools marked for closure. Several diploma students are involved in *SIT on the Couch*, a news magazine programme on Southland TV which is screened nationwide on Channel 90 on Sky. One of the participating students is reading the news on Southland TV three times a week as well. LvU/AL



Journalist survey in next *Pacific Journalism Review*

An article based on the third national survey of New Zealand journalists will appear in the September edition of *Pacific Journalism Review*. The article is contributed by Associate Professor Geoff Lealand, of Waikato University, who has conducted all three journalist surveys for the NZJTO in 1987, 1994 and 2003. The September edition, themed "Media ownership and democracy", is edited by AUT's Alan Cocker and Wayne Hope.

This follows the April edition, themed "The public right to know", published with the Australian Centre for Independent Journalism (University of Technology, Sydney). The editors were Chris Nash (UTS) and David Robie (AUT). If you missed out on a copy, it is available from Dominic O'Grady at the ACIJ at A\$30 a copy: acij@uts.edu.au

Pacific Journalism Review now publishes twice a year. Bernie Griffin is the Jeanz nominated member on the editorial board. Subscription

information and calls for papers for forthcoming issues - "Media and the indigenous public sphere" (April 2005) and "Ethics, accountability and the media" (September 2005) - are available on the journal's website. DR/AL

Email *PJR*: pjreview@aut.ac.nz

Website: www.pjreview.info

Canterbury programme part of new school

Canterbury University's mass communication and journalism programme has merged with political science to form a new school of [political science and communication](#), headed by Jim Tully.

The first New Zealand Ph.D in Journalism was awarded at Canterbury last December to Laura Sessions who examined the reporting of science in the New Zealand media. She was a graduate in plant and microbial science before embarking on the doctorate. A second Ph.D (in mass communication) was awarded in July to

Nadia Elsaka who examined the emergence of journalism as a profession in New Zealand. She looked at the strategies used by journalists to claim professional status since the 1890s.

Tully has meanwhile received a grant from the Ministry of Youth Development to report on the implementation of the Ministry of Health resource, Suicide and the Media. JT/AL

***Te Waha Nui* a fortnightly production**

Students producing AUT journalism school's newspaper *Te Waha Nui* are feeling the pressure. The 12-member editorial team led by editor Peter White are expected to turn out four 24-page issues in eight weeks between August and October.

Te Waha Nui's editors are taking a course called News Production, introduced into AUT's journalism programme this year and run by tutors David Robie and Allan Lee. Students take on roles including chief reporter, design editor, picture editors, layout subs etc. They swap roles for each of the four editions this semester.

Te Waha Nui first published in November 2003, with a second edition in June this year. While earlier editions had a heavy news focus, the August 23 paper currently circulating includes features, reviews, editorials and cartoons. It also has new columnists including Dr Paul Moon, an expert on treaty issues, Sudesh Kissun, whose piece on Fiji was picked up by Radio New Zealand International, and student Patrick Crewdson. AL

Email *Te Waha Nui*: wahanui@aut.ac.nz

Website: *Te Waha Nui* @ AUT



Handbook advises on setting up work experience

The *International Handbook for Cooperative Education* contains useful information for journalism educators who have not yet got work experience off the ground. The organisation also provides an inter-disciplinary opening for those of you who have experiences in this field and are looking to increase your portfolio based research funding score. It contains a chapter discussing the New Zealand and Australian experience by Ruth Thomas and Nicola Goc, who many of you will remember from the University of Tasmania. Ruth.Thomas@aut.ac.nz. RT