



THE UNIVERSITY OF
AUCKLAND
NEW ZEALAND

@auckland

A newsletter for alumni and friends



A message from the Vice-Chancellor

The unparalleled act of terror that led to so many men, women and children losing their lives in Christchurch on March 15 will haunt New Zealanders for a long time.

It is difficult – perhaps impossible – to understand what leads people to take such ghastly actions, particularly in a country such as New Zealand where peace and tolerance are not only the norm but values to which we aspire.

All of us in the University join in expressing our sympathy for the victims and their families, our solidarity with New Zealand's Muslim communities and our concern for those who are also members of our University family.

Professor Stuart McCutcheon
Vice-Chancellor

Contributions from our staff to our nation's discussion

Some of our academic staff are contributing to the public discussion following the mosque attacks on 15 March.



Prime Minister's emerging scientist prize awarded

Dr Peng Du's world-leading devices that help with reliable diagnosis and treatment of gut problems have won him the Prime Minister's 2018 MacDiarmid Emerging Scientist Prize.

[Read more](#)



[Win free VIP tickets to Unfiltered Live](#)

Unfiltered Live: Fall Forward will bring together top business leaders and entrepreneurs from around the world. The speaker line-up includes University of Auckland's 40 Under 40 alumni Elizabeth Iorns and Chris Heaslip.

We have VIP tickets to give away to the Auckland event which includes reserved seats, access to the VIP speaker lounge, a subscription to Unfiltered Pro and more!

[Enter the competition](#)



University of Auckland tops world impact rankings

The University of Auckland has been ranked Number 1 in the world in the inaugural Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings.

[Read more](#)



Distinguished Alumni Awards 2019

Watch the inspiring speeches filmed at our 2019 Distinguished Alumni Awards ceremony.

[Watch DAA speeches](#)



The benefits of pitching in

Dan Walker explains why volunteering is important for communities. He hopes to encourage alumni to pledge an hour of their time ahead of Volunteer Impact Week in June.

[Read Dan's story](#)

The science of restoring mussels

We've partnered with TVNZ to create a



six-week video series. In the first video, which was aired recently, our scientists at the Leigh Marine Laboratory explain how restoring mussel beds has tripled the number of marine animals in surrounding areas.

[Find out more](#)



Know any inspiring alumni?

The University of Auckland's 40 Under 40 nominations are now open. We are looking for inspiring alumni under the age of 40 who are excelling in their professional and personal lives.

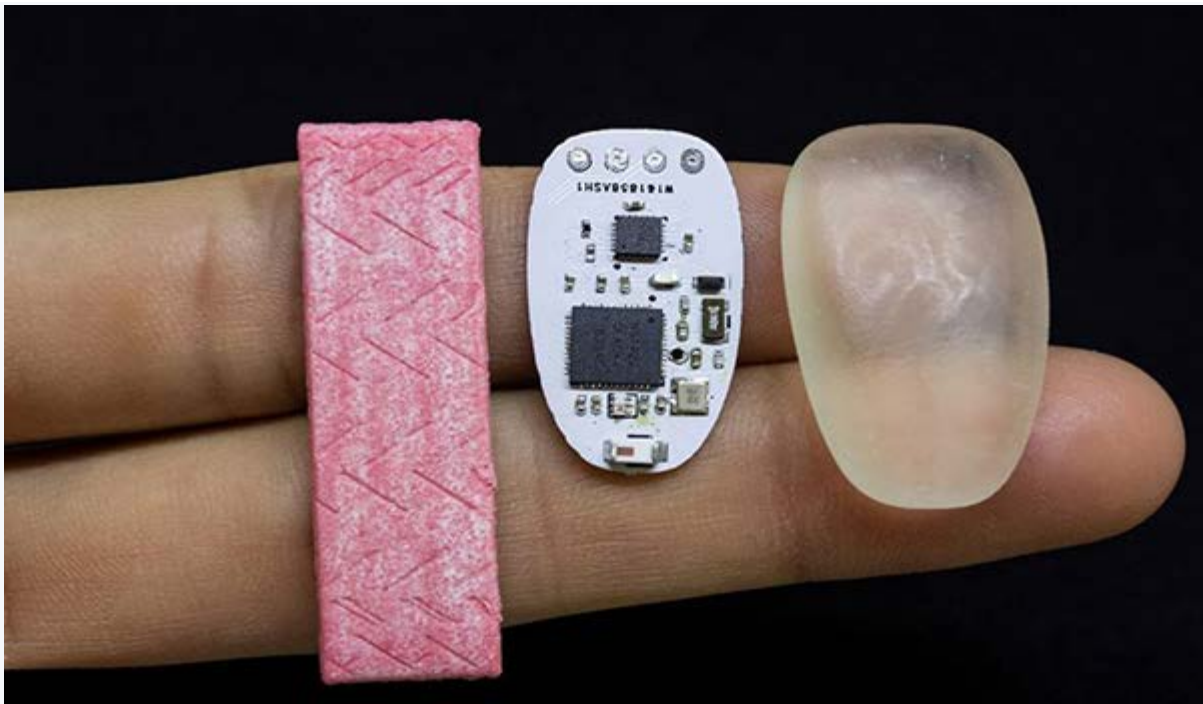
[Nomination form](#)



Win a \$1000 travel voucher

We have five \$1000 travel vouchers to give away thanks to House of Travel Parnell. All you have to do is update your details by July 31 and you'll be in the draw to win!

[Update your details now](#)



The interactive device you can stick in your mouth

Imagine a device that is no bigger than a piece of chewing gum, which allows you to answer the phone simply by biting down on it.

[Learn more](#)



Kupe Scholars announced

Fourteen postgraduate students from universities around New Zealand have been awarded Kupe Leadership Scholarships to study at the University of Auckland in 2019. The inaugural cohort of this prestigious programme has been funded in its entirety by the generosity of our donors.

[Learn more](#)

What's on



Alumni and Friends Beijing (21 May) and Shanghai (23 May) receptions

Join alumni and friends for a gripping talk from Professor David Sundaram. He will explain why it is imperative that our technological advances support a sustainable future, and, what is needed to achieve this.

[Learn more](#)



Everyday acts of racism – May 15

Four eloquent writers bring their experiences and stories to the stage for a nuanced exploration of racism during the University of Auckland Festival Forum.

All alumni are entitled to a discount on tickets to this event - use the code **19ALUM** when purchasing online.

[More information](#)



Auckland History Initiative Symposium – April 15

The symposium will focus on aspects of Auckland history, a panel discussion on urban history, historical accounts in Treaty Settlement negotiations and more.

[Find out more](#)

In brief

[First Sāmoan woman in the world to receive a PhD in Architecture](#)

Earlier this year Karamia Muller became the first Sāmoan woman in the world to receive a PhD in Architecture.

Controversial royal figure inspires top fellowship

Fascination with a controversial and extravagantly stylish French queen has earned art historian Erin Griffey a high honour in the academic world.

