



THE UNIVERSITY OF
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A newsletter for alumni and friends



Join us in Raising the Bar in August

This month marks the New Zealand debut of Raising the Bar. This exciting event will see 20 academics present their work and wisdom in the unfamiliar setting of 10 Auckland bars, taking place on one night (29 August).



We are excited to announce the full line-up of speakers and the wonderful array of topics they are bringing to the bar. These include:

- Professor Alexei Drummond explaining how his team uses evolution and computers [to map the origin of diseases](#) such as Zika and Ebola.
- A thought-provoking talk from Dr Ronald Kramer who challenges the view of graffiti as a detriment, [in a rise of a legal-graffiti counter culture](#).
- Associate Professor Treasa Dunworth, guiding you through the 1987 “nuclear-free” act and [why it is so important in 2017](#).
- A lively look at how we listen to and critique music [with insights from Dr Davinia Caddy](#).

One of our talks has already sold out so be sure to register soon to avoid missing out!

[SEE FULL LINE UP](#)



Jasmine Plows explains her personal link to researching gestational diabetes

One of our Raising the Bar speakers was recently interviewed by the *Listener* about the personal reasons that compelled her to her field of study.

Jasmine Plows started off her studies with dreams of becoming a doctor. However, she was drawn to the Liggins Institute when she made a connection to her partner's health and her low weight at birth.

Now, she is exploring how diseases like diabetes can be treated before and during pregnancy.

[READ FULL STORY](#)



Come along to Courses and Careers Open Day

Courses and Careers Open Day is the perfect chance for school-leavers and potential postgraduates to get a taste of the types of courses they might like to pursue at New Zealand's leading university. The event is on **2 September** with lectures, talks and activities planned across all eight faculties from 9am to 3:30pm.

This event is a must for anyone considering their next steps, whether they have just left high school, finished an undergraduate degree or are wanting to return to formal education. We encourage parents, friends and family members to come along with potential students and find out more about the opportunities available.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



Brave Hearts exhibition showcases work of ABI

Brave Hearts – The New Zealand Cardiac Story tells the story of the heart and the New Zealand scientists, doctors and researchers who are making significant contributions to cardiology on a global scale. The exhibition opens at MOTAT on August 18, hosted by the Auckland Medical Museum Trust and will tour across the country.

One of the contributors to the exhibition, Vicky Wang, is part of a research team at the Auckland Bioengineering Institute that is exploring how to construct personalised models of the heart for better patient diagnostics.

We sat down with her to get a sneak peak of what they will be bringing to the exhibit and to talk about her experience with studying the human heart.

[READ MORE](#)



Goldie Estate in *Dish* magazine's Top 10 Cabernet dominant blends

The Goldie Estate Reserve Cabernet Merlot Franc 2013 has been ranked in the Top 10 Cabernet Dominant reds by Dish magazine. The tasting panel took place on Saturday 3 June and wines were evaluated in a blind test, under competition conditions by a panel of four judges.

Goldie Estate was a gift from the Goldwater family and serves as a key location for the University of Auckland's viticulturists.

A reminder that all alumni are entitled to 25 percent off the RRP of the full range of Goldie wines. For further information visit the Goldie section on the Alumni Benefits page.

[ALUMNI BENEFITS](#)



University of Auckland in \$215 million investment deal for commercialisation

UniServices has signed a multi-million-dollar deal that will allow a significant increase in the number and quality of world class “disruptive” companies spun out of the University’s research and development.

The investment will be used to find and support companies that engage in disruptive innovation, such as digital medicine, new medical therapies and quantum computing.

Auckland UniServices Limited is the University’s commercial research and knowledge transfer company, where ideas are brought to life. It is the largest company of its kind in Australasia bringing income and new employment opportunities into the University and New Zealand.

[READ MORE](#)



New Zealander of the Year Awards 2018

Nominations are now open for the 2018 New Zealander of the Year Awards. The University of Auckland is the proud sponsor of the Young New Zealander of the Year category.

This award acknowledges those aged 15 to 30 who are striving to improve themselves and their communities, and brimming with the potential to produce a bright future for New Zealand.

Law and Arts alumna Rez Gardi was the 2017 winner – if you know a special person who is making a positive impact, be sure to put them forward for an award.

Nominations close at midnight on Monday 18 September.

[MAKE A NOMINATION](#)



UniServices win big at the KiwiNet Awards

The recent KiwiNet commercialisation awards were a great showcase and success for UniServices and the University of Auckland. We had finalists in all four categories and were delighted to win two of them:

- Precision Driven Health for the MinterEllisonRuddWatts award for Research-Business partnership, and
- Soul Machines for PwC Commercial Deal Award.

Congratulations to these two hard-working teams, including our many alumni who contributed to this success.

[READ MORE](#)



What the election means for Auckland

The University of Auckland, in collaboration with its new Public Policy Institute and the University of Auckland Society, is hosting a political debate that will focus on Auckland issues.

Prominent Auckland MPs are taking part including National's Paul Goldsmith, Labour's Phil Twyford, Green's Julie Anne Genter and NZ First's Tracey Martin. Representatives of other parties will also be attending.

The panel will be convened by Associate Professor Jennifer Curtin, Director of the Public Policy Institute.

University alumni, staff and students are invited to attend, along with members of the public. Be sure to come along and find out what the upcoming election really means for Auckland.

Event details:

Date: Monday 28 August

Time: 6-7.30pm

Venue: University of Auckland Library, Basement Lecture Theatre, Room B10, Alfred Street, City Campus

Numbers are limited - Register soon to avoid disappointment.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

EVENTS CALENDAR

9 AUG [Information Session for Education and Social Work: Change career, change lives](#)

7-9
SEP [School of Architecture and Planning Centenary](#)



Annual Chapman Lecture: Facing Nuclear Danger

Concerns about President Trump's instability, and the ongoing crisis with North Korea have brought the issue of nuclear weapons to the forefront of our minds. This year's Chapman Lecture examines the proliferation of these kinds of weapons and the world's vulnerability to potential conflict.

The Faculty of Arts is honoured to host Associate Professor Benoît Pelopidas as this year's speaker. Associate Professor Pelopidas holds the Junior Chair of Excellence in Security Studies at the Centre for International Studies, Sciences Po, Paris.

The lecture is at **6.30pm** on **15 August 2017**. Registrations are essential.

[REGISTER NOW](#)



The Power & Potential of the Gut Microbiome: Public Lecture

A ground-breaking study is underway at the Liggins Institute that may be the key to treating the obesity crisis. Gut bacteria taken from healthy donors – cleaned, encapsulated, and swallowed with a glass of water – could be the key to weight loss.

Find out more about the 'Gut Bugs' trial from Professor Wayne Cutfield and his team at the next Liggins Institute public lecture on Thursday 24 August 2017 at 5.30pm.

[BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW](#)

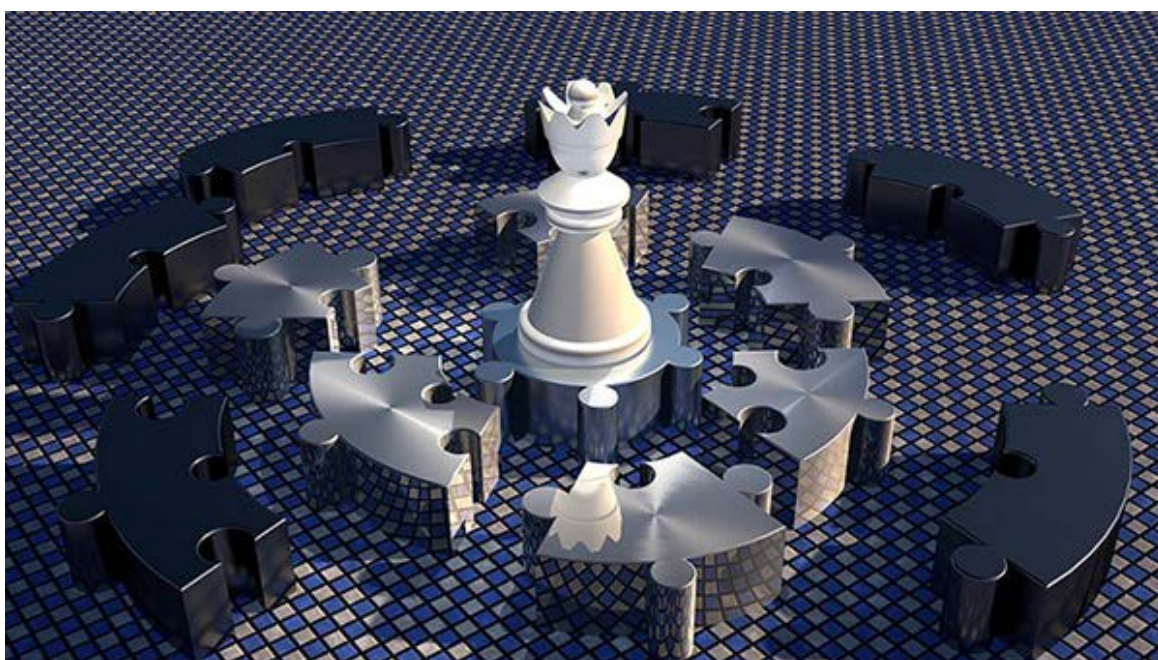


Dean's Distinguished Speaker Series with Professor Will Steffen

Join Professor Will Steffen as he discusses how Earth System Science, coupled with innovative thinking in the policy and economics communities, can provide guidance to help humanity correct the dangerous course it is on and successfully navigate an uncertain future on a rapidly changing planet.

This event will be held **Thursday 3 August**, starting at **6pm** at the Business School.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



Careers Seminar: So Now You're the Boss

Have you recently been promoted into your first role managing people? Perhaps you've been in the role for a while but you're still finding it pretty tough. Or maybe you're about to make a career move and you're curious to know just what to expect.

In this seminar, management development specialist Tricia Alach will walk you through some of the surprises and challenges that many first-time managers experience, and help you identify ways to better manage them going forward.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

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