





# Chronicle

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-  Graduation speeches and photos.
-  Rev. Margaret Wood tribute.
-  Coveted award to Jacob Bercovitch.
-  Cheerio to retiring John Kennedy.

## April graduation memorable in many ways



Photos by Duncan Shaw-Brown, External Relations

Roanna Cooper (marimba) and the University String Orchestra play *Back Talk*.



Kapa Haka members at the pōwhiri for Māori graduands and graduates, with Sanchia Kumalija and baby Cueba (centre) in the swing of things.

## V-C throws down gauntlet to Arts Faculty graduates and academics

**The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Daryl Le Grew, went into bat for the arts in his speech to 405 Arts Faculty graduates on the afternoon of Tuesday April 10.**

“Just above the clatter of the world there is a special place which you graduates have entered.

“This special place is the world of scholarship in which you have just shown your colours. This new world of yours values learning for its own sake; it revels in the sheer joy of satisfying human curiosity; it poses and partly answers questions about yourself, your relationship with others and the nature of the world around you. In this special place you can both find yourself and lose yourself. Here the world is one moment familiar and the next is strange.

“From this special place you can take a wide-angle view. You can be detached and analytical. Or you can be emphatic and attached to the world. You can see it anew; even see how it might be, if only you could change it. And you can, because this special place is not divorced from the world but is integral with it – and so are you.

“In this context, your BA, MA or PhD takes on its full meaning. You have achieved not just a rite of passage and not, as some would have it, an irrelevant passport to unemployment and despair. Rather, with the arts degree you have attained an essential step toward self-development and fulfilment. The degree prepares you for citizenship in and of the world, and it provides

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## Sublime weather and vivid autumn colours made it an April graduation to remember.

Almost 1600 graduates were capped in the four ceremonies in the Christchurch Town Hall on April 10 and 12, which also saw honorary doctorates bestowed on Emeritus Professor Bob Park (DEng), Emeritus Professor Don Beaven (DSc) and Professor Robin Clark (DSc).

Conditions for the four processions from the Arts Centre were more akin to mid-summer, with graduands sweating it out under their regalia in 27degC on Tuesday and 25degC on Thursday.

A highlight for many in the audience were the performances on marimba by Roanna Cooper, accompanied by the University String Orchestra. A first-year performance student in percussion, Roanna and the orchestra played *Back Talk* by Harry Breuer, as arranged by orchestra double bassist and second-year

performance student Oleksandra Gunchenko.

Another first for graduation took place on Tuesday afternoon, when interpreter Andrew Townshend signed the ceremony for a deaf BEd graduate and her family.

At the Celebration of Māori Graduates and Graduands, held at Te Ao Marama on campus on Wednesday April 11, 28 students were presented with a taonga (whalebone pendant) and certificate. At the ceremony were three PhD students – Helen Clothier (Te Aupouri, Ngapuhi, Ngai te Rangi), PhD in education; Craig Ogilvie (Te Arawa, Ngati Awa), PhD in zoology; and Valerie Underhill (Ngati Raukawa), PhD in English.



# Vice-Chancellor challenges arts graduates to “look above the horizon” - continued

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you with generic skills, expertise and knowledge that have great utility and durability. These generic skills are precisely those that employers, in both the public and private sectors are calling for. This arts degree is your next step towards a real vocation, for which you must be world ready before you can be work ready. This is the great purpose of a university education – it prepares you for the world, in whatever form that might take.

“Through your arts degree you have begun to understand the world in new ways – learning not simply what to think about it but how to think about it. You can now respond and adapt to it; equally, you can be proactive in adapting and improving it. You will be conversant in the literature of your discipline and know how to assess ideas in the context of that literature; you will know how theory and praxis interrelate, how to analyse problems and synthesise solutions, how to research, interpret information and seek evidence, how to discern the value of the work of others, how to assemble and present arguments and how to engage with the polemic as well as the negotiation and mediation of human affairs. And you will know how to communicate well. You will be critical in your outlook and committed to a sense of social justice and betterment and cultural development; and concomitantly, you will have developed the imagination and flair that will make you a builder of communities as well as their critic and conscience.

“In all of this, arts education has been of primary importance. It has prepared you for the world so that you can operate in it, without being overwhelmed by it.

“Unlike more pragmatic vocational degrees, the generic arts degree has a long shelf life – in fact it will last a lifetime and be the springboard for many professional pathways that you may choose.

“The arts degree provides you with a base to work widely in the public and private arenas – from diplomacy and the public service, through politics and policy analysis and development, public relations, community mediation, organisational development and

administration, international agency service, environmental and resource management and planning, social analysis, a raft of human services and public entrepreneurship, to mention but a few. For those of you who have combined arts degrees with other degrees, then you will practise your professions in very special ways – with better understanding of the context within which you are practising, with better inter-personal and communication skills, with a more powerful capacity for analysis and with heightened creativity – all because of the BA!

“However, despite these advantages, the arts are under threat and we, as their harbingers, will need to be vigilant in protecting and promoting the wide sweep of arts disciplines. The prospect of national profiling, under a newly formed Tertiary Education Commission, has a fair probability of being an exercise in rationalisation and reduction, especially in the arts.

“The dogs of utility will be snapping at the heels of the arts. And many disciplines, with small enrolments, will be vulnerable to external rationalisation and even obliteration. They may be essential to a particular university profile, but if such disciplines do not fit a national pattern then they may come under fire. We must be proactive, not just in reasserting our support but also in giving cogent and contemporary justification for the inclusion of the widest possible band of arts disciplines within our profile. This requires national collaboration and a plan for the arts.

“We will need a national mapping of the disciplines in arts education and research. This should establish whether or not we have a well-developed arts base that gives access to students in all regions. Over and above this essential raft of cover there will be particular strengths and distinctive programmes that have developed in different universities. These must be celebrated, further developed and their benefits shared around the sector.

“Where there are gaps in our national cover we should fill them.



Photo by Duncan Shaw-Brown, External Relations

Where there is potential for new strengths in the arts we should develop it.

“Arts research has never been given the national prominence that it deserves. Much research in the humanities and creative arts is the work of lone scholars and national research funding should better support this. However, both in the social sciences and the humanities there are opportunities for group research work, which will allow the arts to be included in portfolio research funding that is, increasingly, favoured by public research funding agencies. This could open the way for major collaborative research centres in the arts and formation of a new social science-based crown research institute to provide social analysis, assessment of social programmes and be the driving force for evidence-based social policy.

“At the institutional level, there should be agreement that the arts continue to form a major underpinning of our academic life. We should find a way to include arts study in all undergraduate degrees, regardless of their specialisation, professional or technical focus. Or the arts degree should be included in many more double degree combinations than at present. The BA itself should be strengthened so that greater cross-disciplinary syllabi are possible and more double majors encouraged. We should strategically establish scholarships to allow more students greater access to study in the arts.

“That’s what we in the universities can do.

“To you the graduates – your response to this challenge will be to

take your BA, MA or PhD and demonstrate how your generic skills, critical perspectives, conceptual abilities and research strengths, coupled with your understanding and sensitivity to the human condition to society and to a sustainable ecology, can transform and improve the status quo.

“You have a great gift. Use it. Apply yourself with confidence.

“If the world does not immediately offer up a place – then create one for yourself.

“If you cannot make it alone, then team up with others and create opportunities together.

“If you can’t make a mark here and now, then find somewhere that you can. Or bide your time and prepare for the day when you can.

“Keep on learning; never stop learning.

“If your area is not of interest to others, then adapt it until it is or use your polemical skills to win their interest.

“Stay flexible and willing to add to your basics. Develop a second string

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## Alumni Assn AGM

The Alumni Association AGM is to be held on Monday May 7, at 5.30pm, in the University’s Central Library. Enquiries to the Alumni Office, ext. 6922.

## Chronicle

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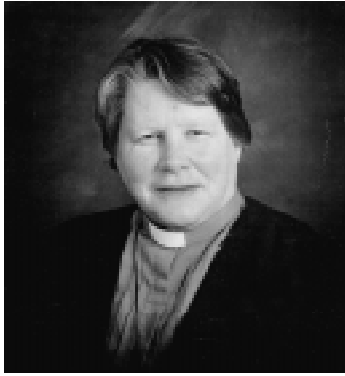
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## Rev. Margaret Wood



**The Reverend Margaret Wood, who died suddenly in Christchurch on March 6, will be remembered by hundreds of former residents of Bishop Julius Hall as a friend, mentor, comforter and excellent shot with a water pistol.**

Margaret, no-one ever called her "Reverend", was principal at the hall of residence for 22 years. Friend and colleague Grace Dawson said Margaret was unique.

"She had her own style and way of doing things. She always wanted the best that was possible for the students."

Under her leadership the hall developed its own ethos. "Everyone looks after everyone else. Margaret fostered this."

Born in Christchurch in 1934, Margaret grew up in Opawa. She

taught at St Margarets College and spent many years in the guiding movement, becoming the district commissioner for the Godley District and working full-time as a national trainer.

She was ordained as a deacon in the Anglican Church in 1976 and a priest in 1978. The following year she became chaplain of Bishop Julius Hall.

The Reverend David Balfour, retired clergy and friend, said: "As one looks back at Margaret's life what becomes obvious is her attitude of service and what a wonderful educator she was. She leaves a big gap and a huge legacy in all those she touched down through the years."

Mrs Dawson said the staff and students were like Margaret's extended family. Some of the kitchen staff were with her for 16 or 17 years.

"She had a wicked sense of humour and a real rapport with the students. She used to start water fights in the quad. They knew when she wasn't happy with them though. When she went quiet, that's when everybody moved. She just needed to go out and stand in the middle of the quad and silence would prevail."

*Lynette Hartley*

## UC's TEAC submission praised

**The University Council has complimented Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Bob Kirk and his team for the quality of the University's submission on the Tertiary Education Advisory Commission's report *Shaping the System*.**

Dr Roy Holmes said the University submission was "clear, succinct and thoughtful, in startling contrast to the document to which it responds."

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Daryl Le Grew, said the University welcomed several aspects of the proposal, including the formation of an intermediary body (TEC). It was critical, however, that chronic under-funding issues were addressed and that institutions could work in genuine partnership with TEC.

Professor Le Grew also suggested a regional approach to profiling the span of educational opportunities, an approach the University of Canterbury was actively pursuing with other tertiary institutions in Christchurch.

Copies of the submission are available from the Vice-Chancellor's Office.

### Departmental name change

The Department of Asian Languages has been renamed the Department of Asian Studies, reflecting the department's teaching and research, which is a mixture of language, linguistics and cultural studies.

### Arts Centre Gallery

The University has concluded rental negotiations to lease the Centre Gallery at the Arts Centre,

formerly occupied by the Robert McDougall Art Annex.

Work is continuing to define the changes needed for departments to occupy the building, planned for June/July.

### Chancellorial honorarium

Council has set the Chancellor's and Pro-Chancellor's honoraria at \$19,500 (gross) and \$10,980 (gross), effective from January 1, 2001. The amounts are in line with recommendations from Tertiary Education Minister the Hon Steve Maharey. Professor Jim Coxon (Chemistry) noted the amount was small compared with the work.

### Council's Audit and Finance Committees

The Council Audit Committee will comprise the Chair of its Finance Committee and two lay members of Council, along with at least two co-opted members. The Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Director of Business and Finance and UCSA President will be in attendance, with secretarial support from the Financial Services Manager. A motion to open up the positions designated for lay members to all Council members was lost.

The committee's terms of reference will be refined by the committee itself and brought back to Council for approval, allowing the opportunity to incorporate suggestions made by Professor June Pallot (Accountancy, Finance and Information Systems).

Council also approved the renaming of the Finance Committee, which now becomes the Finance, Planning and Resources Committee.

### V-C's speech to graduates - *continued*

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to your bow - and a third if necessary.

"Sometimes you will succeed and at other times you will fail. Don't give up: never give up.

"Don't become pessimistic: look above the horizon.

"Don't be petty and pedantic: look broadly and ahead.

"Have courage and patience. If you prepare yourself well, then time will move the world in your direction.

"I turn to my colleagues in the arts and say that these challenges apply to us as much as to our graduates. They are our emissaries in the world and they must know that we are determined to win back the centre of scholarship for the arts.

"There's the challenge. The gauntlet is down. Pick it up if you will. Good luck and God speed."

## Māori grads celebrate in style



Photo by Durcan Snow-Brown, External Relations

**Māori Department Head Te Rita Papesch (left) joins in a waiata at the Celebration of Māori Graduates and Graduands.**





**Despite our enrolments being higher than at the same time last year, the University is now facing a worrisome funding shortfall.**

We've ended up about 250 EFTS down from our planned EFTS numbers for the year. If further central and departmental budget cuts are to be avoided, we all need to chip in to help close this gap and meet our budget targets.

Adding to the uncertainty of the funding picture is the Government's as yet unknown intentions this year regarding across the board payments to persuade universities to hold student fees.

Our challenge is, of course, to secure these extra 250 EFTS, which I am confident we can do through a variety of means while making efforts to save money elsewhere.

On the positive side, increased international, foundation studies and second semester enrolments will claw back some of this shortfall. The summer programme proposal - which is being steered by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Dr Jan Cameron, the Academic Services Director, Bill Matthew, and the Continuing Education Director, Geoff Pearman - will be a major way to target additional EFTS, as we saw at Victoria University and Otago University this past summer.

The proposal includes a broad range of degree credit courses, preparatory and bridging courses (at present offered by several departments, the English Language Centre and the New Start

## Council tribute

**Council paid tribute to John Kennedy's 20 years of service as finance registrar following last week's meeting.**

Chancellor Dame Phyllis Guthardt said he would be a huge loss to the University and thanked him for his loyalty and his "honest, capable advice."

Dame Phyllis said the one word she associated with him most was integrity.

Programme), leisure and learn courses (including Continuing Education Centre courses in photography, fine arts, creative writing and languages), summer camps and programmes for secondary school students, and professional update short courses.

Not such positive news for anyone, however, is the freeze on new and replacement staff which I introduced at the beginning of April. This controlled staffing policy means that in both academic and service departments no further replacements for vacancies or appointments of additional general staff can be made to continuing positions this year.

Of course there may be cases that have to be treated as exceptions, where key staff in certain areas simply must be replaced. Such specific and exceptional appointments will require strong supporting cases and evidence that it is not possible to restructure duties within the existing staffing establishment.

Similarly, academic positions will continue to be disestablished from the date the vacancy takes effect. The retention of such positions will require clear evidence that they are needed and can be justified by the department's staff-student ratio and departmental strategic plans.

Naturally I regret the need for this policy. I seek your co-operation in achieving savings on salaries and also seek the co-operation of heads of departments in the difficult task of managing the workloads of their staff. The policy will remain under review and if we cannot meet budget through increased enrolments and the summer programme further action will need to be taken.

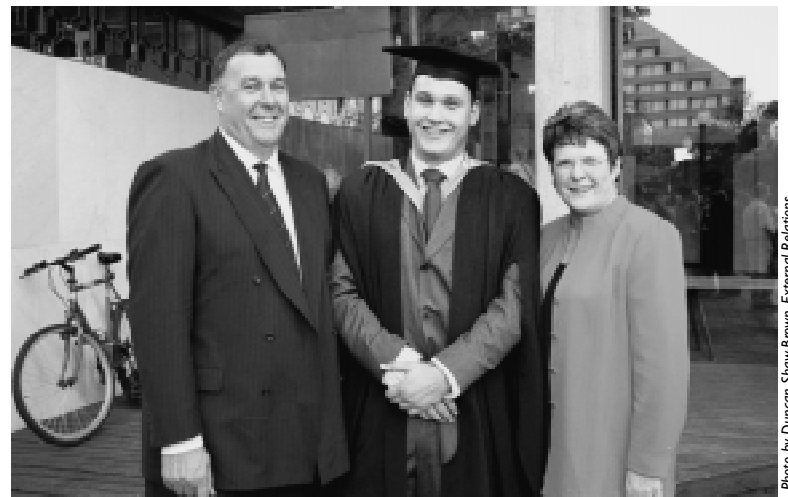
The country's universities have collectively sought further information from the Government on any fee stabilisation programme for next year. At a joint meeting, chancellors and vice-chancellors agreed that unless there is a very substantial increase in the public subsidy to universities, we will not be in a position to accept anything. The Minister's Office has confirmed that the Government wants to meet with vice-chancellors to discuss funding and tuition fees for 2002.

Working to the very short time-frame imposed by the Tertiary Education Advisory Commission, we have made submissions to *Shaping the System*. We welcome several aspects of the proposals, including the formation of the Tertiary Education Commission. But that's provided we can be given incentives to develop as a university, that chronic under-funding begins to be meaningfully addressed and we can work in genuine partnership with the commission. We have suggested, and are actively pursuing with the other tertiary institutions in Christchurch, a collaborative, regional approach to profiling the educational offerings in the city. I'm looking forward to seeing what the next move is.

Today I will be signing our memorandum of understanding with the University of Auckland. This will provide the framework around which co-operation between our institutions can progress. Our agreement with Ngai Tahu is also close to being signed and will hopefully take place this month.

I'd like to finish by saying a big thank you to all those involved in last month's wonderful graduation ceremonies. The weather was marvellous, we conferred honorary doctorates on three outstanding citizens and not a thing went wrong. I was especially proud to see our former deputy vice-chancellor and colleague Professor Bob Park receive his honorary DEng. Congratulations to you and your family, Bob.

## No opposition to this one



**Ben Shipley graduated BA on Tuesday April 10 in front of father Burton and mother Jenny, Leader of the Opposition.**

## Hang on to those hats



Photo by Duncan Shaw-Brown, External Relations

**The nor'-wester whistles around the official party at graduation, threatening to take regalia with it.**

## International Festival next week

**The International Festival, from 7 to 11 May, will include exhibitions, cultural performances, demonstration sports, food fairs and more.**

Tuesday May 8 is a day for national dress, which all students and staff are encouraged to wear to highlight cultural diversity on campus.

# Prof. Park's contributions recognised with DEng

**The oration for Emeritus Professor Bob Park (Civil Engineering) was given by the Dean of Engineering, Associate Professor Alex Sutherland, at the morning ceremony on Thursday April 12.**

"Madam Chancellor, ladies and gentlemen, I have the honour to read the citation for, and thus introduce to you, Emeritus Professor Robert Park.

"The Doctor of Engineering is awarded for significant original contributions to engineering. Today we honour one who has made many such contributions to engineering in its widest sense. These have come through his leadership role as head of the department of civil engineering, his service to the engineering profession and from his teaching and research in the area of structural design. I am delighted to have the opportunity of briefly exploring with you Professor Park's contributions in each of these categories.

"Professor Park was born in Fiji, receiving his initial education in Suva. He studied at Canterbury University College, as this University was then known, receiving a Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in civil engineering in 1956 and a Master of Engineering with distinction in 1958. In 1964 he completed a PhD at the University of Bristol.

"He joined the University of Canterbury as a senior lecturer in 1975, becoming a professor in 1978 and deputy vice-chancellor in 1993. He retired with the title of Professor Emeritus in 1999. Retirement for Professor Park is a euphemism because he is still very active with his research and writing and we often enjoy his company in the School of Engineering.

"Much of Professor Park's contribution to engineering lies in his capacity for leadership.

"Under his leadership for 15 years from 1978 to 1992, the Department of Civil Engineering flourished. Of particular note was the structural engineering laboratory that inspired so many undergraduate and graduate students. The

laboratory was recognised in 1993 by the American Concrete Institute with its Charles S Whitney Medal 'for a tradition of leadership and excellence in research on structural concrete'.

"Professor Park's leadership has also been recognised by others. The Royal Society of New Zealand awarded him the R J Scott Medal in 1997. I quote from the citation: 'for his leadership and meritorious contributions'. The Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand awarded him the Millennium 2000 Award for Building and Construction. Again from the citation: 'for his leadership of structural engineering research ... and for his massive contribution to his chosen profession in New Zealand'.

"Professor Park has always played an active role in the affairs of the engineering profession by way of membership and chairing of technical committees, by being a Council member of the New Zealand Institution of Professional Engineers, running conferences and courses, contributing papers, providing seminars and continuing education, and in the role of keynote speaker at many conferences in New Zealand and internationally.



**Professor Park with Professor Sutherland after the ceremony.**

"One can only give a sampling of Professor Park's services in these areas. He was a member of the Seismic Commission of Federation Internationale de la Precontrainte (from 1972 to 1998) and its New Zealand vice-president (from 1978 to 1986), a member of many American Concrete Institute committees and vice-president of



Photos by Duncan Shaw-Brown, External Relations

the International Association for Earthquake Engineering (from 1996 to 2000). In New Zealand he was president of the Prestressed Concrete Institute (from 1975 to 1977) and of the National Society for Earthquake Engineering (from 1983 to 1985).

"Honours he has received for these services include the 1993 Professional Commitment Award of the Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand and a Distinguished Fellowship of the Institution in 1998.

"In 1995, on the occasion of the Queen's Birthday, he received an OBE 'in recognition of his services to civil engineering'.

"Turning now to the third area – that of structural design. Most people will be aware of Professor Park's contributions to the earthquake resistant design of structures based on his many research and professional activities over 30 years. This is by no means the extent of his contribution.

"Professor Park's research career started in Bristol with his PhD in the 1960s. That work was concerned with the inelastic behaviour of reinforced concrete slabs and in particular how a slab behaves just prior to failure. This led to the now well-known concept of 'membrane action in slabs'. Further research in the area of slab behaviour and design culminated in 1980 with a book co-authored by an American colleague from the University of Illinois, Professor Bill Gamble. This book, although not as well-known as some of his other publications, has had wide acclaim,

particularly with the military, who are interested in how to blow up buildings and bridges and how much explosive is needed to collapse slab panels.

"It was in the 1970s that Professor Park began his work in earthquake engineering. Along with his colleague, Professor Paulay, and numerous PhD students, he coined a whole new technical vocabulary including 'strong-column/weak-beam', 'capacity design' and 'overstrength' which are now common civil engineering terms.

"He had a very strong influence on the development and writing of the first New Zealand Concrete Code. This code is considered by many people abroad as the Rolls Royce of codes. It has significantly influenced worldwide structural practice, particularly in the United States, Europe, Japan, China and South America.

"Since the 1980s, Professor Park's continued focus has been directed to earthquake engineering and structural concrete. Two areas have been emphasised. First, how to build better seismic resisting buildings using prestressed concrete. Second, given that older buildings and bridges (pre-1980) were generally not designed well for resisting earthquakes, Professor Park posed the questions: How badly would these structures perform in an earthquake, and what can be done to improve their performance? Under his insight and leadership the engineering profession has answered these questions and so ensured the integrity of many important, pre-1980, structures. The Christchurch Cathedral and the Provincial Chambers are examples.

"It would be remiss of me not to mention Kathie Park whose support, I know, has been invaluable to Professor Park over many years. We are all delighted she and other members of the Park family are here to share this honour with him.

"Chancellor, I have the honour to present Robert Park for the conferment of the degree Doctor of Engineering (*honoris causa*)."

# DSc for “very good friend’ of the University

The oration for Professor Don Beaven was given by University Council member Dr Roy Holmes at the afternoon graduation on Thursday April 12.

“Since its inception this University has honoured community leaders, scholars, creative artists and scientists. Until today we have not honoured an academic medical scientist because there were no such folk in our community until the establishment of the Clinical School of Medicine.

“This is not to imply that we have not had distinguished and original clinicians, but until the school was established there were no full-time academic posts and thus doctors were required to engage in private practice to survive. We now have many such academics and today I wish to present to you the most senior member of that group.

“What are the criteria for this distinction? Academic prowess, teaching and leadership, community service and enthusiasm are all such criteria and our graduand fulfils them to overflowing.

“Professor Donald Ward Beaven was born in Christchurch and educated here at Christ’s College. After a first year at Canterbury University College he studied at Otago to qualify MBChB (NZ). After two house officer years he spent 15 months as solo practitioner at Karamea. This strange career deviation was the fulfilment of a bursary. Fees are not an invention of the 1990s but at that time the debt was repaid by service in remote areas and you do not get more remote than Karamea.

“After this sidestep, Don proceeded to London. At that time, in the early 1950s, it was not possible to gain specialist qualifications in New Zealand. After three years in teaching hospitals in London, Don acquired the Diploma of Membership of the Colleges of Physicians in London and Edinburgh.

“He returned to Christchurch to join the staff as the medical tutor. In 1958 he was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to the United States and



Photos by Duncan Shaw-Brown, External Relations

it was at this stage that his interest in diabetes began to blossom. He returned to Christchurch to be the director of the Metabolic Laboratories and to lead the Diabetic Service. After a period as visiting professor at Geneva, he was appointed foundation professor of medicine at the Christchurch School of Medicine.

“At this time Dr Beaven became involved with two general surgeons – Geoffrey Holland and Ted Perry – in work at Lincoln College transplanting pancreas and adrenal glands in sheep. This was groundbreaking work, which was superceded by newer technology, but resulted in papers in *Nature* and similar journals.

“His appointment as professor at the new Clinical School required the organisation of a whole department of researchers and for a time Professor Beaven’s own work had to take second place.

“In 1990 he became Emeritus Professor.

“In 1970 this University awarded Don Beaven with the Margaret Condliffe Memorial Medal. This medal had been presented as the result of a gift by J B Condliffe and his wife. The donor’s intention was to confer honourable recognition and to give the University the opportunity to act for the community in paying respect to men or women who had already served the community well and were likely to serve it still further. A very sound prediction in the present case.

“Prior to the discovery of insulin, diabetics died and some quite quickly. Insulin helped control blood sugar and it appeared that

this disease was ‘conquered’. It soon became clear that this was not the whole answer as the survivors fell prey to afflictions of the kidney, eye and peripheral arteries. It was established that meticulous control of blood sugar was necessary and this could only be achieved if the patient and their family understood the disease and its management. It was this outreach beyond the specialist consultation and beyond the GP management into the homes of the diabetics which was one of Don Beaven’s major contributions to this society. Diabetes has become a disease to live with rather than to die from.

“Of course, he did not do it alone, but by training, motivating and enthusing a team. We now have an excellent diabetic service.

“Don has written nine books and has 250 publications at last count. One of his books has been translated into German, French, Spanish and Portuguese and another into Japanese.



Eye-specialist Dr Roy Holmes made this optical statement the day he presented Professor Beaven for his DSc.

“Although much of this writing is to be found in the scientific literature of diabetes, two of his books emphasise low-tech bedside medicine. These are colour atlases of the tongue and of fingernails. Observation can provide useful information at no cost with a little effort.

“The health services of New Zealand have been in a maelstrom of reform for the past 15 years and Don has been in the middle of this – first as a member of the old hospital board and ending up as chairman of the (former) Canterbury Area Health Board.

“He has been a very good friend of this University by virtue of the substantial efforts he has made to the establishment and nurturing of the Department of Speech and Language Therapy. In recognition of this he has been made an adjunct professor of that department.

“Don Beaven is an enthusiast and his enthusiasm extends to really important things such as wine. He has written on wine in the lay press and was for many years senior judge at the New Zealand Wine Competitions. Recently he has promoted the growth of olives and the virtues of olive oil in the hope of persuading us of the health promoting virtues of a Mediterranean way of life.

“Madam Chancellor, I have great pleasure in presenting to you Donald Ward Beaven for the conferment of the degree of Doctor of Science (*honoris causa*).”

## Prof Beaven’s thanks

Professor Don Beaven acknowledged his honorary DSc as “very humbling” and a “high honour”, and thanked the University for adding him to its ranks of distinguished scientists.

He said it was essential to harness better use of science in an increasingly hostile and often immeasurable environment. Pure scientific endeavour was the foundation of all advances in maintaining health and wellness.

“We must argue for, advocate, instigate and negotiate for much more research. I will, on your behalf and that of the citizens of Christchurch, vigorously promote a very necessary graduate entry school of medicine in Canterbury.”

# “Modesty and understatement” typify Professor Clark

**The oration for Professor Robin Clark was given by the Dean of Science, Professor Jim Coxon (Chemistry), at the afternoon ceremony on Thursday April 12.**

“The University today honours Professor Robin Clark, Sir William Ramsay Professor at University College, London, and Fellow of the Royal Society, by the award of an honorary DSc.

“Professor Clark, you honour this institution by the contribution to science that you and your students have made – a contribution the foundation for which was laid here at Canterbury College in the old chemistry building in the Arts Centre of the University of New Zealand, where you studied for the degree BSc and MSc, the latter being awarded with first-class honours.

“Professor Clark’s research project concerned diffusion controlled reactions and was carried out in collaboration with Dr Walter Metcalfe, who is here today. Like so many projects supervised by Dr Metcalfe, the topics were in advance of the technology available and the defined problems were of fundamental importance. After a brief time at Otago University, Professor Clark went to University College, London, to study and undertake research for his PhD with Professor Jack Lewis FRS, now Lord Lewis of Newnham, and the famous Australian, the late Professor Ronald Nyholm FRS.

“Professor Clark has spent most of his career at University College, London. So what has been his contribution to science?

“Professor Clark’s studies have all involved shining light on or through things. If we walk into a blackened room we don’t know what is there until we turn the light on. Light is also the scientists’ way of investigating the universe. The light casts a shadow under a table and lightens the surface and walls. Both the shadow and light surfaces define the space – both are equally important. The space between words is as important as the letters in the words, as the spaces separate a string of letters

that would otherwise have no meaning. We may look at an object but we don’t know what is under the surface unless we cut it open or shine light through it, and invent an eye to measure the shadows and the brightness. This has been the focus of Professor Clark’s work. For the first 30 years of his career his



Photo by Duncan Shaw-Brown, External Relations

studies were concentrated on basic studies of Raman spectroscopy of inorganic molecules, where light of appropriate energy is used to induce molecules to vibrate if, and only if, the specific vibration is accompanied by a change in polarisability. The effect is to be able to see inside a substance, to see not just the surface but within the material and to draw structural conclusions.

“The practical application of Professor Clark’s work involves pigment identification of manuscripts, paintings, ceramics and papyri, and is critical in finding solutions to problems of restoration, conservation, dating and authentication in the art world. It is in these media that much of the world’s cultural heritage is encapsulated.

“Professor Clark has used Raman spectroscopy and laser-induced breakdown spectroscopic methods to find reproducible, sensitive, non-destructive methods, with immunity to interference from adjacent materials. The recent

advances in optics provide powerful and long needed links for multi discipline arts- and science-based projects. For example, Professor Clark recently showed that manuscripts brought from Egypt to sell at a London auction house, supposedly dating from the 13th to the first century BC,

contained pigments made by synthetic chemists in the 20th century. Art world beware!

“For the past several years Professor Clark has had access to the colossal art archives of the British Library and Tate Gallery, and a host of other institutions of similar importance. This is the first time a proper scientific investigation of these treasures has been undertaken. Professor Clark has told me that there are rather a lot of million pound paintings in the cellars of these galleries. The phrase ‘rather a lot’ reflects something of the influence of Canterbury on Professor Clark. We call it ‘The Canterbury Way’, ‘The Kiwi Way’, one of modesty, competence and understatement. Professor Clark typifies that ‘way’ with quiet confidence.

“Professor Clark is also studying nanotubes, discovered after the Nobel work of Professor Bob Curl – a frequent visitor and collaborator with colleagues here at Canterbury – along with Professor Rick Smalley and Professor Sir Harold

Kroto on buckminsterfullerene – buckyballs – molecular soccer balls found in soot. Professor Clark and his students have doped the nanotubes or nanopipes with boron and made them into conducting rods. The dream is to create minute molecular machines from lego blocks of this type.

“Professor Clark’s work has been recognised by visiting professorships and named lectures held in more than a dozen countries, along with a string of international honours. These demonstrate not only his skills as a scientist but also the importance the community places on his abilities as a scientific communicator. His work is described in more than 400 scientific papers and in numerous conference presentations.”

“It is a pleasure to present Professor Clark to you as a man of eminence and creativity in the scientific and chemical community. Those of you graduating today, minimise risk. Use your alumni contacts. Have Professor Clark check the authenticity before you make your million dollar art purchases.

“Professor Clark is remembered for his activities as an undergraduate member of the famous haka party. The haka party spent graduation week, known as capping week, slugging in the bike race in the Avon and in the local bars, in the characteristic high black hats, university rugby jerseys and farm boots, parading, or more correctly rampaging, (and) cheer leading a collection for charity throughout the city.

“Professor Clark is remembered carrying a rolled-up zebra crossing, which he proceeded to roll out across the street whenever his scholarly collective of drunks (and) vocally hoarse louts deemed to cross the road. But it is my pleasure to present Professor Clark to you also as a man of eminence and creativity in the scientific and chemical community.

“Madam Chancellor, I have the honour to present Robin Jon Hawes Clark for the award of the degree of Doctor of Science (*honoris causa*).”

# Long history for high-quality science in NZ – Prof. Clark

**New Zealand's history as a destination for high quality scientific investigations was outlined to 338 Science and Forestry faculty graduates by Professor Robin Clark in his address (edited below) on the afternoon of Thursday April 12.**

Professor Clark said he was honoured to receive an honorary DSc from the University, which was, in the 1950s, a great place to be a student, as he was sure it was today.

The Royal Society of London, founded in 1660, and British scientists began forging links with New Zealand in the 1700s, establishing excellent relationships between the two countries.

“The Royal Society, in 1768, persuaded George III to fund a ship – the *Endeavour* – and the appropriate instruments, to sail to Tahiti in the South Pacific Ocean. The objective was to observe at the particularly favourable latitude and longitude of Tahiti, the passage of the planet Venus across the sun on June 3, 1769. The event was recognised to be of major significance to astronomy, on which navigation so much depended. This mission was very successfully accomplished – as you know – by a certain Lieutenant James Cook. When the mission was complete, he opened his secret orders from the Lords of Admiralty. These were: ‘To proceed south as far as latitude 40degS; then, if no land were found, to proceed west between 40 and 35degS until he found New Zealand, which he was to explore...’

“And what a successful mission this was also – both in navigational and cartographic terms. Cook's charts stand comparison with those of today.

“Cook was accompanied to New Zealand by two distinguished young botanists, Joseph Banks and Daniel Solander, both fellows of the Royal Society of London, who made classic, detailed and very high quality studies of New Zealand's flora. Banks is remembered in the *banksia* plant and Banks Peninsula and went on to be president of the Royal Society of London in 1778. The *Endeavour* voyage had repercussions far beyond its original astronomical purpose – in

oceanography, biology, exploration, cartography and world politics. Cook and Banks laid the foundations for anthropological studies in the Pacific.

“The point I am making is that – unusually for any country – high quality scientific investigations were conducted in New Zealand from the beginning.”

He said in the 19th century New Zealand became a very attractive destination for the best British and European scientists undertaking studies in natural history and geology, including Charles Darwin, Joseph Hooker, Julius von Haast and James Hector.

“British/New Zealand academic exchanges developed properly in the 20th century when New Zealand universities began to produce top-class scientists who came to be in great demand, not only locally but from British and eventually also from European and North American universities. This could be said to have started in the *annus mirabilis* of 1891 at Canterbury College, where one page of the register of that year included the names of five people (two being scientists) who were to become really distinguished: William Marris, brilliant administrator in India; Apirana Ngata, eminent Māori leader; James Hight, rector, Canterbury College; Ernest Rutherford, Nobel Prize in Chemistry, 1908; John Erskine, mining engineer, Australia.

“The first four were all knighted and awarded honorary doctorates by the then University of New Zealand. The fifth, Erskine, received neither of these honours, though he was considered by many, I understand, to be the brightest of his year. He proved to be very successful financially and, on his death in 1960, made the largest private bequest ever made to any New Zealand university. The Erskine bequest was given specifically for the purpose of the exchange of scientists, engineers and academics in commerce from the English-speaking world with those of Canterbury.

“I had the honour last year to give the United Kingdom-Canada Rutherford lectures of the Royal Society right across Canada, starting at McGill University in Montreal. McGill is significant, of course, because Rutherford was professor of physics there from 1898 to 1907 – and I must say that its Rutherford Museum, recently refurbished, is a wonderful tribute to this great New Zealander, who went on to be president of the Royal Society of London in 1925. In the course of my visit to Canada, I met several Canadians who had been enabled to visit and lecture in New Zealand by funding from the Erskine Trust. So it is interesting that Rutherford's contemporary, Erskine, was one of the most effective in making possible scientific exchange

between Canterbury and the outside world. The interchange of personnel between Britain and New Zealand has been, and is, I believe, still of paramount importance to the development of science, engineering and commerce in New Zealand.

“And now for the future, which is in the hands of you, the new graduates of Canterbury. You will have made friends for life during your student days. You will have been well trained, so that you can hold up your heads anywhere.

“Most of you will follow your career path and become eminent in your field, but some may be offered different opportunities. If so, don't be afraid to take them. I thought initially that I had made a mistake in changing fields completely on three occasions in close succession when your age – and I certainly lost a lot of time on this account. But all the changes of direction and research area enriched my experience and understanding. Such changes could well do the same for you.

“If the opportunity arises for overseas experience, don't be afraid to take it and, if you can, come back and enrich the New Zealand scene.

“There will always be a few of you who remain abroad for longer than intended – as I did – but I can assure you that you will never forget your roots in this wonderful University and country. And you will be able, as I have done, to act as an ambassador abroad on their behalf.”

## Proud mother, shy daughter



This graduate may have been a little shy for the camera but her mother was happy to show how proud she was on this special day.

## peoplepeoplepeople

Journalism graduate **Colin Espiner** has been awarded a Harvey Brittain Fellowship to spend six weeks in the United Kingdom studying aspects of journalism and newspaper production and management. Mr Espiner (class of 1989), deputy chief reporter at *The Press*, will join about 10 other international journalists selected under the auspices of the Commonwealth Press Union. They will meet British government and business leaders and examine the challenges facing the Commonwealth.

# Continued reduction in govt. funding a “challenge” – Prof. Park

**Former deputy vice-chancellor and honorary DEng recipient Emeritus Professor Bob Park addressed 397 Engineering and Arts faculty graduates at the morning ceremony on Thursday April 12.**

“I am indeed honoured by this award and I would like to thank the Council of the University for it. This is a most humbling experience. Thank you also to Professor Sutherland for his very generous oration. In fact it’s probably a bit overdone really. It’s just a job we get on with, with our colleagues and students, and it has been a very enjoyable experience.

field of concrete structures and earthquake engineering. Here I must mention the names of my colleagues Professor Tom Paulay and professor Nigel Priestley. Without their assistance not so much could have been achieved. Research and development is a team effort and we have had a great team. To a large extent this honorary degree is recognition of the whole team. And of course I have had the support of my family, particularly my wife Kathie, for which I am thankful.

“The development of codes for the design of earthquake resisting structures has been a major fascination. This has been most

major earthquakes along the Alpine Fault of about 200 years. The last rupture on it was nearly 300 years ago, in 1717. Clearly we are overdue for what may be a major earthquake which would severely shake Christchurch. And there are other fault lines. The shake on Sunday night was a timely reminder. However, I will not attempt a prediction.

“The University of Canterbury currently has a student population of a little over 12,000. Research and teaching at the University of Canterbury have grown enormously and are strong despite the shrinking government funding. For example, the Academic Audit Unit last month released its report on the University of Canterbury. The report made special mention of Canterbury’s strong research culture and its efforts to promote and monitor the links between teaching and research.

“The University today has many challenges facing it. The most difficult one is the continued reduction in government funding, which has led to a shortage of staff in academic departments and a reduction of funding for temporary teaching, equipment and research.

As a laboratory person I particularly regret the rundown of our major equipment. At the same time, the quest for more and more accountability has led to higher administration loads in departments, taking more valuable time away from teaching and research.

“The vision of the University of Canterbury is twofold. Put simply they are: first, to send out graduates with trained and educated minds, and second, to be a premier research university internationally known for its excellent contributions to knowledge, excellent courses and teaching. The funding situation is making it difficult to maintain this vision.

“There are about 400 students from the Faculty of Engineering and Faculty of Arts (humanities) graduating here this morning. Today is your day to celebrate your success. You very much deserve all the congratulations that we are able to provide you, before you move on to the next stage of your life.

“This is a day that you have won after some hard years of dedicated work and financial sacrifice. It is also a proud moment for your family members and friends who have provided you with their support. The burden of debt falling on students has made it increasingly important for students to have the support of those around them. Congratulations to you all.

“I urge you not to rest on your laurels but to keep mentally alive by pursuing learning wherever it leads you. Be prepared for change. The world today is changing rapidly. Be prepared for it by keeping an open mind. Look for opportunities created by change. Many of you will be surprised to find in a few years that you will be working in areas that you would not have considered now. I believe that your degree will have prepared you for that.

“On that note I would like to end by once again congratulating today’s graduates and wishing them well in their chosen careers. Also, congratulations to their friends and loved ones and to the University staff who have guided them through the years. Best wishes to all of you.”

## Music awards made

**The University rewarded musical excellence when Don Whelan received the Vernon Griffith Prize for Leadership on March 14.**

Mr Whelan, who teaches at Christchurch Boys’ High School, was commended for his work at the school and in the community since studying music at the University.

The prize for excellence in tonal techniques and styles was awarded to Margaret Vitel. Both the prize for outstanding 100-level studies and the prize for outstanding promise in violin went to Alwyn Westbrooke.

Dame Malvina Major, adjunct professor in voice at Canterbury, presented the awards and said the recipients’ achievements were “marvellous”.

Mr Whelan expressed his gratitude and attributed his success to the high standard of teaching at the University.

*Peter Douglas*



Photo by Duncan Shaw-Brown, External Relations

**Five of Professor Park’s grandchildren saw him receive his honorary DEng on Thursday April 12. With him are, from left, Fiona, Lewis, Jasmine, Melanie and Sandra.**

“When I first came to Canterbury University College in the early 1950s, the College had a student population of about 3000 crowded on to the central city block which is now the Arts Centre. Indeed it was a rather small provincial university college in a rather conservative Christchurch. It was said that during meetings on warm days a request to the chairman of the meeting was required that gentlemen be permitted to take off their jackets. At the time, postgraduate research degrees were being established. The University has grown considerably since then and expanded to Ilam. It has built on the strengths and achievements of those early years.

“I have been fortunate at Christchurch to have had excellent colleagues and postgraduate students working with me in the

satisfying work. I thank the University for the opportunities it has given me. In countries where socioeconomic conditions have not permitted adequate building codes and standards of construction there has been huge loss of life and property, such as in Turkey and Taiwan in 1999 and more recently in India and El Salvador. Hundreds of thousands of people have been killed or severely injured and billions of dollars of damage done.

“New Zealand is fortunate in that it has not had a major earthquake since the Hawke’s Bay earthquake of 1931, which had a Richter magnitude of 7.9 and resulted in 256 deaths. However, we should not grow complacent. The Alpine Fault in the South Island is probably New Zealand’s most hazardous fault. Evidence gathered in recent years suggests an average return period of

## Fellowship for Associate Prof. Bercovitch



**Associate Professor Jacob Bercovitch (Political Science) has been awarded a Senior Fellowship at the United States Institute of Peace for the 2002 academic year.**

This is the most prestigious and sought after fellowship in the field of international conflict, and the first time it has been awarded to a New Zealand academic.

The United States Institute of Peace is an independent, non-partisan, federal institution created and funded by Congress. Its Board of Directors is appointed by the

President of the United States and confirmed by Senate.

The institute was signed into law in 1984 after a congressional commission recommended the creation of a National Peace Academy. Its main objectives are to promote the peaceful resolution of international conflicts and to assist the Executive Branch with research, analysis and information on matters relating to conflicts and their resolution. It achieves its objectives by mobilising the best national and international talent from organisations, universities and government departments to undertake independent and creative research on how best to deal with international conflict.

The institute awards a few fellowships and grants each year (for which there is intense competition). It engages in research, publications and training of officials. Professor Bercovitch will spend January to October next year at the institute's headquarters in Washington D.C. and work on a project designed to facilitate the resolution of intractable conflicts. He will also have access to senior administration officials and an affiliation with the Johns Hopkins University.

## Visiting Erskine Fellows

**Professor Robert Allinson** of the Chinese University of Hong Kong is a Visiting Erskine Fellow in the Department of Management from May 1 to June 30.

Professor Allinson is an expert in international business and business ethics.

**Associate Professor Norman Brown** of the University of Alberta is a Visiting Erskine Fellow in the Department of Psychology from May 5 to August 8.

Professor Brown is an expert in cognitive psychology, including autobiographical memory and the cognitive aspects of survey research.

**Professor Anthony Herbst** of the University of Texas at El Paso is a Visiting Erskine Fellow in the Department of Accountancy, Finance and Information Systems from May 28 to August 3.

Professor Herbst is an expert in finance.

**Professor Carlos Kenig** of the University of Chicago is a Visiting Erskine Fellow in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics from May 13 to June 10.

Professor Kenig is an expert in harmonic analysis and partial differential equations.

**Professor Peter Hilton** of the State University of New York at Binghamton and **Professor Jean Pedersen** of Santa Clara University will be joint Visiting Erskine Fellows in the Departments of Philosophy and Religious Studies and Mathematics and Statistics from May 3 to June 9.

Professors Hilton and Pedersen are both experts in mathematics,

history, cryptanalysis and computing.

**Professor Kenneth Koedinger** of Carnegie Mellon University was a Visiting Erskine Fellow in the Department of Computer Science from March 10 to April 7.

Professor Koedinger is an expert in cognitive modelling.

**Professor Ruth Millikan** of the University of Connecticut is a Visiting Erskine Fellow in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies from May 11 to June 19.

Professor Millikan is an expert in the philosophy of mind and cognitive science, and the philosophy of biology and language.

**Professor Mark Rosenberg** of Queen's University, Canada, is a Visiting Erskine Fellow in the Department of Geography from March 12 to June 12.

Professor Rosenberg is an expert in the geography of health and health research methods.

**Professor Lewis Ryder** of the University of Kent is a Visiting Erskine Fellow in the Department of Physics and Astronomy from April 23 to June 23.

Professor Ryder is an expert in theoretical physics.

**Associate Professor David Smith** of Duke University is a Visiting Erskine Fellow in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics from April 30 to May 31.

Professor Smith is an expert in mathematics and technology, calculus reform and mathematics as a laboratory subject.

## Todd Foundation Awards presented

**Three Canterbury students have received Todd Foundation Awards for Excellence for 2001.**

Seven awards and \$47,000 were granted nationally, with Canterbury gaining three and \$21,000.

PhD student **Robert Ewers** received \$8000 to study forest biodiversity (Zoology); **Kate Orwin**, also studying towards a PhD, received \$7000 for her study of soil microbes and their functions

(Plant and Microbial Sciences); and MSc student **Matthew Galbraith** (Plant and Microbial Sciences) received \$6000 for his study of fire blight control.

The Todd Foundation Awards for Excellence are designed to encourage research of benefit to New Zealand. The awards are granted in three categories – science and technology, engineering and manufacturing, and business and commerce.

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# New and old knowledge welcomed by Chancellor

**The role of universities in handing down the memory of a civilisation was defended by Chancellor Dame Phyllis Guthardt in her speech (edited below) to 450 Commerce, Law, and Music and Fine Arts graduates on the morning of Tuesday April 10.**

“Recently I read a thoughtful article about universities – American as it happens. Dr Stanley Hauerwas wrote this:

Once the university decides, as it apparently has, that its primary function is not to provide the memory of a civilisation but to produce new knowledge, then it’s not obvious that the university is a very efficient institution for the job. IBM and Microsoft are obviously doing a better job of producing new knowledge.

“‘Memory of a civilisation’ or ‘new knowledge’? What would you choose? I guess many of us would want both. I respond to the Māori concept of advancing into the future backwards. If I understand it, that suggests valuing the past as you build on it for the future.

## Kōhanga reo plans

**Plans are underway for the establishment of a kōhanga reo at the University.**

Facilities Management Director Peter Molony said the initial idea of the kōhanga reo being built adjacent to the Māori Students’ Study Centre on Ilam Road had been ruled out because the site did not allow for expansion. A new site had been suggested alongside the Chaplains’ residence at 120 Ilam Road. If necessary the Chaplain’s residence could be relocated to allow for expansion.

A feasibility study found that if built on this site, the kōhanga reo could include both sunny and shaded play areas and accommodate up to 20 children.

The proposal is yet to be approved by the University Council.

Estimates of the cost of the building range up to \$300,000.

*Jesse Duffield*

“We don’t always agree when young. The past has plenty of ignorance and tragedy, much better buried. But it’s also bequeathed us marvellous literatures and music, arts and drama. We inherit enlightened laws and genuine attempts at justice. We admire splendid buildings and the culture of many peoples.

“So I want to defend today our part in passing on the memory of a civilisation. But I also welcome the exciting world of new knowledge that’s part of the university’s contribution to society. Huge advances, say in medicine, make us much healthier. Technology of many kinds makes our lives much easier. Grumble about lack of parking, okay, but then consider doing without your car, or buses and planes. The teaching and research I read about just on our campus is enormously impressive in its creative thinking.”

The Chancellor said most people knew of the vast changes information technology had brought on the world. Surfing the net was a fascinating and time-gobbling occupation and people were already getting their degrees by distance learning.

“For all the usefulness of information technology, leaving aside the porn and dating scenes and bomb recipes, I for one hope we never settle just for remote education. Your time at university should have helped you meet new and different people, to question and debate, to bounce wild ideas and delight in the clash of minds and values. It should have stimulated you to engage in life-long learning.

“Don’t go just for accumulating professional knowledge and skills. Broaden your base, explore new fields, lines that make you a richer



Photo by Duncan Shaw-Brown, External Relations

personality. Don’t settle for queues of facts, try to grow into the learning and wisdom that make you a real scholar. Not just a high achiever or money merchant, but one who enhances the life of your community, especially for those

who haven’t had your chance of education.

“We salute your success today. We wish you well for the future. And we hope you’ll always be proud to be part of the University of Canterbury. Kia ora koutou.”

A black and white photograph of a dog sitting in a field, holding a long stick in its mouth. The dog is looking towards the camera.

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# Well-balanced career for finance registrar Kennedy

**A**ccountancy can seem a rather dry profession to the uninitiated, but the University's recently retired financial head gives the impression his career has been all about people.

Financial services director John Kennedy – known as the finance registrar until January – took early retirement on April 30 after a 20-year stint at Canterbury.

Originally from South Africa, Mr Kennedy worked for a firm of chartered accountants in Auckland and then Christchurch before coming to the University in 1981.

He and his wife Celia, both from an English-speaking liberal background, had become concerned about the hardening attitudes they observed in South Africa. "We wanted to be somewhere the children could start their education without racial tension."

After seven months in Auckland, they decided Christchurch was the place to be. When Mr Kennedy saw

the financial registrar position advertised a few years later, he jumped at the chance to steer his career in a new direction. "I liked the idea of working with the University – it's a worthwhile thing to be involved in, so one is prepared to do possibly a little bit extra."

Possibly a little bit of an understatement, that. Mr Kennedy has transformed the University's finances during his time here, revamping its reporting systems and co-ordinating its trust funds.

When he first arrived, the University reported solely to the minister of education. Thanks to his efforts and a subsequent change in legislation, its annual reports are now readily available and comply with generally accepted accounting practices.

"When I took on the job, I had strict instructions that the only person outside the University who received the report was the minister. But it's a public entity – it belongs to the public of New Zealand and I think

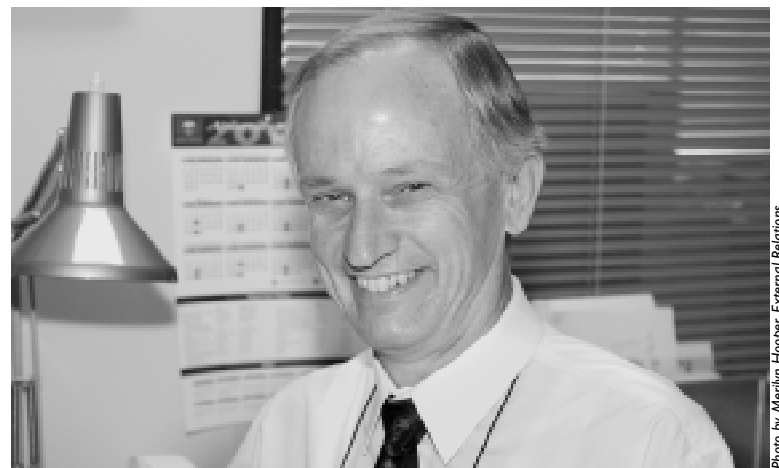


Photo by Marilyn Hooper, External Relations

the public is entitled to know how the University is being managed."

His other key contribution has been in overseeing the University's "significant" trust funds. One fund in particular, the Erskine Bequest, grew in value from \$10 million in 1981 to \$40 million in 2000.

But Mr Kennedy is quick to refuse any credit for the increase. "It was a combination of good investment management, good professional advisers and re-investing of surpluses."

Mr Kennedy officially served as acting registrar for six weeks in 1993 and informally on a number of other occasions. Being in charge was both exciting and stressful, he says. "I was quite glad when the Registrar came home and I could hand it all back to him."

A travelling fellowship from the Association of Commonwealth Universities in 1991 was a career highlight, enabling him to spend three months visiting universities in Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom, Kenya, Botswana and Zimbabwe.

"It was interesting to see the commonality of the problems facing universities around the world. None of them had enough money."

The most enjoyable part of his job has been the people, he says. "I

haven't experienced any stuffiness with the staff – people said I'd have to be sure I called the professors professors and so on, but everybody has been very easy to get on with."

But working with people has also been one of the most difficult aspects. In recent years, tighter funding has led to a number of redundancies.

"I had to go through that process last year with two positions. That was very hard and it was the first time I had been directly involved in it. It's the sort of thing you've got to get right, but it's very time-consuming and laborious, and it gets very painful."

At 56, Mr Kennedy plans to keep working, but is not sure in what capacity. It is time for him to leave the University, he says, simply because 20 years is long enough.

"It'll be good from the institution's point of view to have new ideas coming in and for me personally to do something different. I think I've become less innovative in the last year or so, so it's good to make a change from both points of view."

Be that as it may, both Mr Kennedy's financial prowess and his people skills will be sorely missed.

Tama Moiser



## Art Acquisitions 2000 exhibition

**Floor talks on the art works featured are an innovation for this year's exhibition of new acquisitions from the Art Purchases Committee.**

*Art Acquisitions 2000*, on show in the School of Fine Arts Gallery from May 1 to 11, comprises 13 works bought last year and available for loan to University departments. Ten artists are represented: Gretchen Albrecht, Laurence Aberhart, Judy Darragh, Jessica Douglas, Darryn George, Bill Hammond, Richard Killeen, Heather Straka, Richard Reddaway and Jane Zusters.

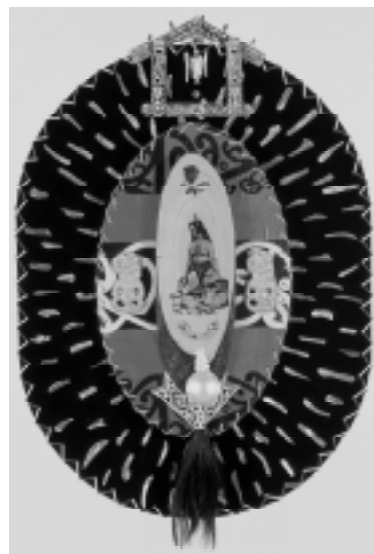
Floor talks will be given by Julie King, Chair of the Art Purchases Committee, and Dean of Music and Fine Arts Jonathan Mane-Wheoki at noon on Wednesday the 2<sup>nd</sup>, Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday the 9<sup>th</sup>.

Established in 1988, the committee's brief is to enhance the physical and cultural environment by displaying contemporary art works around the campus. In accordance with that aim, requests for loan of the new works can be made on forms available at the exhibition.

The collection now comprises some 150 works, displayed in various parts

of the campus, that constitute the nucleus of a collection representative of directions and developments in contemporary art.

Ms King says the range and diversity of the University's collection make it an educational resource that enriches the cultural life of the campus and that of the wider community.



Judy Darragh's "Pania of the Reef" (1992, mixed media, 620 x 440 mm) is one of 13 works to be shown in the 12<sup>th</sup> annual show of new acquisitions.

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