

Welcome to the LIMELIGHT

November 2016

This newsletter puts tertiary teaching and learning in the limelight and links you with all the latest news from the members of the Ako Aotearoa Academy of Tertiary Teaching Excellence.

A note from the incoming President

These are interesting times for the Academy. We are continuing to deepen our connections with other parts of Ako Aotearoa. These connections help us to make a contribution in support of excellent teaching and learning across New Zealand.

There are exciting developments with the Māori Caucus and the Ako Aotearoa Board. Come to the November Symposium to hear more! We are also strengthening some key relationships overseas. In Australia, Associate Professor Angela Carbone is working on a Government-funded research project profiling AUTY Award winners. Part of this project advocates forming a national network of award winners that would be similar to our own Academy. We think this is a great idea and have assisted by providing both information on the Academy's activities and a supportive statement in the report. We look forward to collaborating with the new network; strengthening our ties with excellent Australian teachers will benefit learners in both countries.

In September, I attended the launch of the International Federation of National Teaching Fellows (IFNTF), a new international non-profit federation, with membership open to winners of national teaching awards. At present, members are from Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia or New Zealand, but the plan is to branch out and include award winners from other countries. Its mission is "to bring together award-winning teachers from across the world for the global advancement of excellence in learning and teaching in higher education". The launch was hosted by Baroness Rennie Fritchie in the House of Lords and it was my pleasure to attend as a representative both of the Academy and of Ako Aotearoa. The IFNTF plans to publish a journal on teaching and learning and to hold an annual international conference. The first such conference has been confirmed for Birmingham, UK from 16-18 February 2017. The group has already acquired an impressive amount of sponsorship and the support of some influential people, especially in the UK. Professor Christine Rubie-Davies was nominated and confirmed as the New Zealand Vice Chair on the IFNTF Executive. She describes her new role elsewhere in this issue of Limelight. Thanks Christine for taking on this important liaison position.

Academy members, we are seeking expressions of interest from those who might be interested in representing the Academy on the Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards as Selena Chan has just finished her term. Selena, you did a great job and we are very thankful for your hard work. We are waiting on exact dates to be set for next year before sending out full information, but the candidate should have a passion for hearing about other people's approaches to teaching and an ability to evaluate a wide range of teaching practices. The position involves reading the applicants' portfolios in April 2017 then meeting with the panel in Wellington to select the award winners. Panel members are also invited to the presentation of the awards at the banquet at Parliament. All expenses are covered. This is also an early reminder that we will be holding an election in December for Executive Committee members. Please consider getting more involved and standing for a position!

Selene Mize, President



Disobedient teaching

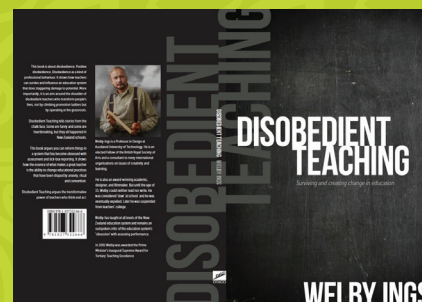
Welby Ings' new book *Disobedient Teaching: Surviving and creating change in education*, will be published by Otago University Press in March next year. Welby was the winner of the inaugural Prime Minister's Supreme Award for Tertiary Teaching Excellence in 2002. Although (or because!) he was expelled from secondary school and suspended from Teachers College he has, across forty years, been an influential and outspoken critic of dehumanised systems of learning and our preoccupation with micromanaging teachers.

He questions the obsession we have with assessing performance, and he argues for creativity in learning, teaching and educational management. *Disobedient Teaching* takes a stand against our national obsession with testing and reporting. It calls for higher levels of teacher agency and learning that operate away from the restrictions of performance indicators, predetermined criteria and tick-box teaching. Welby argues that positive disobedience is a fundamental teaching behaviour among successful practitioners, and the ability of excellent teachers to change learning and learning environments is predicated on it. His book tells stories from the chalk face. Some are funny and some are heartbreaking, but they all happen in New Zealand schools.

Disobedient Teaching suggests that the essence of what makes a great teacher is the ability to stand up to, and change, educational practices that have been shaped by anxiety, ritual and convention.

Welby Ings, *Disobedient Teaching: Surviving and creating change in education*, Otago University Press, March 2017, \$35 ISBN 978-1-927322-66-6

(Want to know more? Email welby.ings@aut.ac.nz)



Gold award for Sustainability

Eric Pawson and his colleague Simon Kingham, both in Geography, won the gold award for staff at the University of Canterbury's sustainability awards in September. Since 2008 they have been running courses that have exemplified the outcomes possible for students working on research projects with community partners. They have ushered hundreds of students through GEOG 309 and 402, to deliver work with a focus on different aspects of sustainability and, since 2011, community-based earthquake recovery.

The results inform community knowledge (eg a sequence of projects undertaken over some years in the post-earthquake red zone with the Avon-Otākaro Network), assessing the social and economic impact of community initiatives (eg the time bank and farmers' market for the Project Lyttelton transition towns project), exploring options for future community development (eg an edible school walking route for Project Lyttelton), assessing more effective ways to undertake community work (eg land assessment and educational outreach for Trees for Canterbury, a local social enterprise) and building resources for future community use (eg a sound and image archive for an inner city business and residents' group, Peterborough Village Inc).

In all they have worked to establish a community network of around thirty partner organisations. The judges (borrowing from the citation) were impressed with how their work has influenced their students' approach to sustainability issues, how it has assisted community organisations in essential ways, how they have helped redefine the university's connection with the wider community and how these courses have opened new ways to think about what meaningful tertiary education can look like.

(Want to know more? Email eric.pawson@canterbury.ac.nz)



Pushkin classic love ode in Te Reo

An influential poem penned by revered Russian poet Alexander Pushkin, A Wondrous Moment I Remember, was translated into Te Reo Māori after the Russian Cultural Centre Trust approached UC's Professor of Māori Research, Angus Macfarlane, seeking a professional partnership.

Professor Macfarlane and Te Hurinui Clarke, Programme Coordinator of Hōaka Pounamu and an accomplished and respected lecturer, worked collaboratively to produce the piece. Clarke, employing a Māori-Shakespearian style of language using metaphor and personification, translated the work, and using some poetic licence, managed to retain the artistry of Te Reo Māori, yet still convey the meaning of the poem. Māori scholars value collaborative approaches to research, and the Pushkin Project is a fine example of teamwork that celebrates the Māori tradition of pūrākau (storytelling). The poem has been translated into 210 languages, including Te Reo Māori, and makes an important and unique contribution to the revitalisation of Te Reo Māori, and also enriches teaching and research at UC.

(Want to know more? Email angus.macfarlane@canterbury.ac.nz)



Inaugural World Summit of national teaching fellows

The International Federation of National Teaching Fellows (IFNTF) will hold its first World Summit in Birmingham, UK at the Radisson Blu hotel. The theme of the Summit is 'Defining Teaching Excellence within the Disciplines'. The Summit will include panel discussions and papers and break out focused task groups. A call for 25-minute papers on the theme of "Defining Teaching Excellence within the Disciplines" will be issued shortly.

The conference is open to all members of the IFNTF (membership can be purchased with conference registration, with a discount on the Summit fee for all IFNTF full members). The event is open to all National Teaching Fellows. The IFNTF annual full membership fee for all National Teaching Fellows is £50.00. Information on IFNTF membership application and payment will be confirmed soon. The Summit registration will commence on the evening of 16 February, when there will be an opening reception. There will be two full days of Summit activities (*Friday 17 and Saturday 18 February*) including a Summit dinner on the Friday evening.



Conference registration costs*

IFNTF members	200GBP
Join IFNTF at time of registration	260GBP
Non IFNTF	300GBP

**Includes costs of registration; refreshments during the day including unlimited tea and coffee and lunch on 17 and 18; summit evening meal 17 February.*

The International Federation of National Teaching Fellows has been established this year as an independent not-for-profit group of national teaching fellow award-winners from around the world. The IFNTF mission is to bring together award-winning teachers from different countries for the global advancement of excellence in learning and teaching in tertiary education. Its key aims are:

- to foster international collaboration between post-secondary teachers on projects and initiatives
- to advocate for the importance of excellence in teaching in tertiary education
- to develop innovative evidence-based pedagogy and related scholarship and research
- to recognize excellence in teaching worldwide
- to bring together outstanding students as IFNTF International Student Fellows
- to work collaboratively with teaching and learning organisations and societies
- to host an annual international symposium bringing colleagues together from around the world
- to support Fellows to develop regional and national strategies aligned with the aims of the organization

Join us in Birmingham for our first international Summit. Our website, with details of travel, registration, and membership, is coming soon.

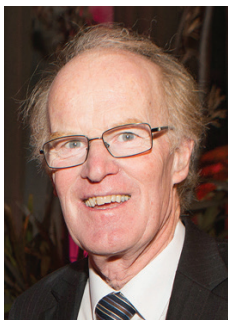
Email ifntffellows@gmail.com

(Want to know more? Email c.rubie@auckland.ac.nz)

News from the Ako Aotearoa regional hubs

SOUTHERN HUB

The 'Spotlight on Tertiary Teaching and Learning' event that was co-sponsored by the Academy, Ako Aotearoa Southern Hub and the University of Canterbury on June 10, at the University of Canterbury, achieved everything it set out to do and more. As well as providing the opportunity for more than 70 practitioners to share innovative practice, it also encouraged them to look at their course designs to ensure they were relevant to the future. There were some cautionary thoughts about the future presented during his summing-up by Dr Peter Coolbear, the now retired National Director of Ako Aotearoa.



See the report on this successful event on our website

Once again, the Southern Hub region was well-represented in the 2016 Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards in August, with seven of the twelve awards presented to staff from institutions in the South Island.

Ako Aotearoa congratulates these seven new members of the Academy and will welcome them at a special function to be held at Otago Polytechnic on Wednesday November 2 and hosted by Selene Mize and Neil Andersen.

I look forward to continuing to work with Academy members to promote ways in which they can become involved in activities and events that promote effective practice within the tertiary sector.

Seasons greetings and best wishes to all for a very successful year in 2017.

Neil Andersen, Regional Manager, Southern Hub

(Want to know more? Email neil.andersen@canterbury.ac.nz)

CENTRAL HUB

Tena koutou to all Academy members.

It was my great disappointment this year was to miss the awards dinner. It is the highlight of my working year, it is central to our mission, and has always been inspirational to meet the recipients after having pored over their portfolios. Congratulations again to the 2016 cohort. Speaking of whom, James Oldfield and Matt Thompson delivered stunning vignettes about their teaching at an Academy seminar at EIT in Napier on 27 September. Their live performances were supplemented



by an equally engaging video presentation from Suzanne Pitama who was not able to be in Napier. There was lively interest from the participants and that continued over refreshments in an informal conclusion. Similar seminars are programmed for New Plymouth, Palmerston North and Wellington, details of which are on the Central Hub page on our website. I thank, in advance, academy members James Paterson, Mike Scott, Sue White, Herb de Vries, Kamuka Pati, Cather Simpson, Richard Nyhof, Marie McEntee and Clive Humphreys.

An exciting development for the 2017 TTEA round is the inaugural Excellence in Supporting Pacific Learners (ESPL) endorsement. This may be awarded to one of the 12 sustained excellence recipients who has applied for the endorsement and meets the criteria. Do draw this to the attention of nominees who you may be mentoring for 2017.

Finally, I hope you all make it to the end of the year intact, in good spirits and anticipating a restful break and another exciting worthwhile teaching year ahead.

Ian Rowe, Regional Manager, Central Hub

(Want to know more? Email i.rowe@ucol.ac.nz)

NORTHERN HUB

Following the TTEA awards at the Beehive in August, the Northern Hub invited awardees from the northern area, Martin East and James Oldfield, to meet to meet existing Academy members in the Northern Hub area at a lunch at Government House in Auckland. The Northern Hub Advisory Group was represented by Phillip Alexander-Crawford, who drove from Whangarei for the occasion. As always, a rolling presentation of all Northern Hub recipients was of interest, and the new members explained their particular focus.



The annual Community Showcase was attended by 25 people from across the sector and Cather Simpson, Welby Ings and Dara Davenport presented at this. Cather talked about the programme for Science Scholars she has been involved in, Welby inspired with an interactive session entitled 'Why you should not sleep with your social editor' (and now we know why). Seeing that we had run over time a little, Dara quickly rethought her presentation, and shocked us with a two minute activity that was a very powerful demonstration designed to raise literacy awareness.

The third event was the Spotlight on Tertiary Teaching Excellence. Here, Dawn Garbett had the group making connections, Cather again explained the Science Scholars' programme, Paul Denny 'wow-ed' everyone with his *Peerwise* app, and Ksenija Napan challenged with her presentation *Is education a human right or a commodity?* Both local new members presented, with James Oldfield talking about *Enabling authentic learning with technology*, and Martin East explaining how he helps pre-service teachers to take their place as confident professionals. These were inspirational, generous and fun contributions to the Northern Hub's programme.

Ruth Petersen, Regional Manager, Northern Hub

(Want to know more? Email ruth.petersen@aut.ac.nz)



AOTEAROA
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR
TERTIARY TEACHING
EXCELLENCE

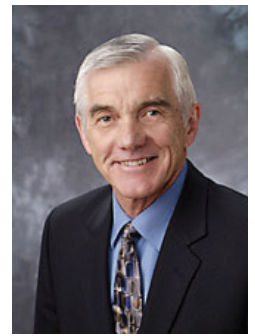
The 2016 Symposium of the Academy of Tertiary Teaching Excellence

This year's Symposium will take place on 24 and 25 November 2016 and will return to the Brentwood Hotel in Wellington. The theme will be 'Teaching Excellence Is...' and attendees can expect a wide range of presentations by Academy members from all over Aotearoa, including from some of this year's TTEA winners.

The international guest and keynote speaker will be Dr. W. Alan Wright, Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning at the University of Windsor, Ontario. Dr. Wright's career has spanned the educational spectrum, from elementary school teacher to leading change in higher education in Canada. He is a past winner of the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education's (STLHE) Christopher Knapper Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr Wright's keynote presentation is entitled 'Teaching excellence is... engaging conversations' and focuses on the dialogue that teachers need to promote for teaching to truly become 'community property'. He will discuss student engagement, the motivation to learn and the learning priorities of the student as well as the teacher's responsibility to offer students growth in their development towards autonomy as conditions are set for them to take greater responsibility for their own learning.

Further programme highlights include a presentation by the 2015 Prime Minister's supreme award winner, Associate Professor Suzanne Pitama, entitled 'Praxis makes perfect', and a presentation by one of the very first recipients of the sustained excellence awards (from 2002), Professor Welby Ings. 'Why I fell in love with Ms Barrie' is about a geography teacher at Te Awamutu College who changed his world when he had lost hope. We will also welcome the new Executive Director of Ako Aotearoa, Dr Stanley Frielick, who will share his presentation 'Teaching excellence and professional standards'.

Find out more about the programme at www.akoacademy.ac.nz



Dr Alan Wright,
keynote speaker 2016
Symposium of the
Academy of Tertiary
Teaching Excellence

Meeting the 2016 recipients of the Tertiary Teaching Excellence Award

The Tertiary Teaching Excellence Academy Executive was again delighted to host the 2016 Teaching Excellence Awards winners and their whanau, for an afternoon tea meet and greet prior to the formal awards ceremony at Parliament in the evening of 17 August.



It was an opportunity for the awardees to meet fellow members of the Class of 2016, and for the executive to welcome them into the Academy.

There is often a feeling of 'what comes next' for new awardees, and the gathering provided an opportunity for past winners to share their experiences and reinforce the notion that this is the beginning of a journey rather than the end, and to embrace all the opportunities to 'pay it forward' that will arise.

The tea also provided the opportunity for new awardees to meet members of the judging panel that evaluated their portfolios, and of course, for panel members to meet and congratulate in person those they judged as having the greatest impact on learners, and among the best tertiary teachers, in New Zealand.

Find out more about the 2016 awardees at www.akoacademy.ac.nz

Academy Executive

Elections to the Executive will be held in December with the first meeting of the new executive is expected to take place in January 2017. Selene Mize, James Paterson, Eric Pawson and Kelly Pender will have completed their three years terms; the last three are not standing for re-election. The current Executive has seven members, comprising: Selene Mize, the President, and Tony Zaharic, the Vice-President, both University of Otago; Eric Pawson, University of Canterbury; James Paterson and Kelly Pender, both Bay of Plenty Polytechnic; Khylee Quince, University of Auckland; and Adrian Woodhouse, Otago Polytechnic. They are listed below along with their portfolio designations. Feel free to contact them at any time with any matters related to their portfolio or the Academy in general.

Selene Mize: *President, award engagement, and Southern Hub*

Tony Zaharic: *Vice President, succession planning, strategic planning and archivist, including database of members*

Eric Pawson: *Limelight and international*

James Paterson: *Marketing including website, Facebook, and Northern Hub*

Kelly Pender: *Engagement with Māori caucus, and Central Hub*

Khylee Quince: *Coordinator of policy process, coordinating constitution*

Adrian Woodhouse: *Symposium 2016*

