AlumniLinc
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Lincoln University Alumni
AOTEAROA • NEW ZEALAND
New Zealand's specialist land-based university

Vice-Chancellor's Column

University on a new threshold

It's a pleasure to bring you good tidings in this festive season message, as 2017 draws to a close.

A momentous year of accomplishments at Lincoln University has given us all a sense of being on an exciting threshold.

Underpinning the year's institutional achievements, has been immense progress on the Refreshing Lincoln programme, mentioned in earlier editions of AlumniLinc. Both the Fitness workstream, improving organisational culture and financial performance, and the Transformation workstream, exploring and developing strategic options and opportunities through partnerships, have achieved hugely important targets.

Among the deliverables from these two workstreams, the Fitness work gave the University a financial operating surplus, the first in 10 years, and the Transformation work saw the first physical step, an official ground-breaking ceremony, towards construction of the Joint Facility, the University's new collaborative structure with AgResearch. Furthermore, in November the University's Transformation Board released its seminal document, the Lincoln University Transformation Board Report, from which a blueprint for the University's future will emerge. You can read about this further on in AlumniLinc.

Returning to the Fitness workstream, we have begun a considerable reorganisation of our faculties and programmes to refocus our multidisciplinary strengths on initiatives of importance to the New Zealand economy.

Courses are being tailored to ensure they better meet student and employer demands and the 2018 Prospectus will reflect the future academic direction we are taking.

New programmes in 2018 include additional majors in Water Management, Event Management, Tourism Management, Environmental Management and Parks and Outdoor Recreation.

In terms of the Joint Facility, a jewel in the Transformation work, we are confident that together with the wider Lincoln Hub it will lift the value of New Zealand's land-based sectors and improve environmental outcomes.



Vice-Chancellor Professor Robin Pollard.

I invite you all to join us on the journey ahead.

Season's greetings and best wishes for an enjoyable holiday period. To our farming alumni, whose daily round of work continues 365 days a year, we hope you manage to snatch an opportunity in your daily routines for some traditional fare on the 25th and at New Year. It's important for urban New Zealand to remember the rural community's activities at this time of the year. Cows still need milking, irrespective of whether it's Christmas Day, and busy shearing sheds and sheep pens are part of the New Zealand farmscape on Boxing Day and thereafter. It's interesting to reflect that a barn, sheep, cattle and shepherds are among the central elements in the traditional Christmas story.

Professor Robin Pollard
Vice-Chancellor
Lincoln University

Loving Lincoln

Student success has many faces, and the 37 beaming smiles at this year's two campus completion ceremonies for New Zealand Aid Scholars spoke volumes about the value of the Lincoln University experience.

The ceremonies, organised by the University's NZ Aid and Postgraduate Administrator Sue Bowie and Scholarships Administrator Jayne Borrill, were held in June and November with 21 different countries represented among the students.

The scholars, funded through the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, come to Lincoln University to study for a range of qualifications up to PhD. They are required to return home soon after finishing their courses and as this generally doesn't coincide with the traditional April graduation season, 'Completion Ceremonies' are held twice a year at which the scholars wear academic regalia and can celebrate their achievements with appropriate ceremony and in the company of friends and any family members who are able to travel to New Zealand for the occasion.

From this year's Completion Ceremonies, the Alumni & Development Office welcomes the following to Lincoln University's ranks of international alumni -

Mebrahatom Medhane **Abera** (Ethiopia), Mandille **Alcee** (St Lucia), Chidozie Onyedikachi **Anyiro** (Nigeria), Melissa Salvino **Carbonell** (Philippines), Atish **Chand** (Fiji), Elsa Silvana **Fransisca** (Indonesia), Pichraksmey **Huot** (Cambodia), Aimi Nabilah **Hussein** (Indonesia), Natasha **Kari** (Papua New Guinea), Ruth Muthoni **Kimani** (Kenya), Francisco Moises **Marques** (Timor Leste), Cornelius **Mek** (PNG), Anthea **Mogua** (PNG), Naomi **Mwayawa** (PNG), Neeraj **Parushotham Balraj** (India), Sam **Samnang** (Cambodia), Luka **Selu** (Tuvalu), Sicelo Moses **Simelane** (Swaziland), Sufyan **Suleman** (Ghana), Jonathan **Taake** (Kiribati), Thi Tuyet Mai **Tran** (Vietnam), Edward **Omi** (PNG), Serah **Pyawa** (PNG), Pisi **Seleganiu** (Tuvalu) Joanna **Wari** (Vanuatu), Howard **London** (Republic of Guyana), Deborah **Kigare** (PNG), Sintia **Ramadhani** (Indonesia), Narith **Roeun** (Cambodia), Nekelia **Gregoire** (Dominica), Josivini **Kaloumaria** (Fiji), Samuel **Gyasi** (Ghana), Lilian Bijey Thomas **Msuya** (Tanzania), Mary-Anne Tatenda **Mushambi** (Zimbabwe), Sindha Cahya **Wardhani** (Indonesia), The Hung **Ta** (Vietnam), Abel **Mamboleo Mwakaleja** (Tanzania).

Among the qualifications achieved were 20 master's degrees and 7 PhD's. Speaking at the June Completion Ceremony, the Pacific Cooperation Foundation's Interim CEO Leaupepe Taala Ralph Elika said that the scholars with their tertiary qualifications would be 'highly attractive' in the employment market at home and worldwide.

For 2018, Lincoln University is anticipating potentially its largest ever intake of NZ Aid Scholars, possibly up to 40.



At the November completion ceremony.

Celebrating success:



Student –

Lincoln University Students' Association President for 2017 Danyon Thomas has capped an impressive year of engagement with university affairs and activities and the community by winning the Outstanding Contribution Award at the annual Blue and Gold Ceremony.

Danyon, from the Matamata/Piako area and a past pupil of St Peter's School, Cambridge, graduated Bachelor of Environmental Management and Planning in April this year.

In the New Year he leaves his student days behind and takes up a graduate position with Waste Management New Zealand.

Danyon has assisted Alumni & Development Office activities several times in 2017, such as speaking to the Texas A & M University group in August during their campus visit organised by alumnus James Dixon. Most recently he was a guest at the Alumni Association Executive's Christmas function.



Academic –

Highly productive research activity has won Environmental Physics Lecturer Dr Henry Chau, of the Department of Soil and Physical Sciences, an Excellence in Early Career Research Award for 2017.

These awards are administered through the Lincoln University Research Committee to encourage, recognise and reward excellence in research by Early Career Researchers.

Dr Chau joined the department in 2014 from the University of Saskatchewan and the focus area of his research is the movement and storage of water in soils. The award also reflects Dr Chau's initiative in funding searches and track record in postgraduate supervision.

The award of $5000 will be used by Dr Chau to build international collaborations through conference attendance and presentations.



Graduate -

For Lincoln University BAgrSc graduate Annabelle Smart, success in 2017 was the personal and professional satisfaction of doing her job as a DairyNZ Consulting Officer to the best of her ability, using her knowledge and skills to support stressed farmers in her work area, the Hauraki Plains Coromandel.

"It's been such a tough season on the Hauraki Plains, with much of the ground sodden for a long time. A lot of stressed farmers needed our support as they struggled to manage issues around the wet conditions. It was very satisfying to be in a position to help professionally. That, for me, amounted to a feeling of 'success' in my job, as I look back on achievements in 2017."

Born and brought up in Auckland, Annabelle attended Nga Tawa Diocesan School, in Marton, as a boarder. Staying weekends with rural friends in the Rangitikei district sparked a passion for farming, and from school an agricultural science degree at Lincoln University was the next logical step.

A scholarship opportunity at Lincoln gave her the opportunity to do the last semester of her degree at Colorado State University in the USA. Annabelle graduated from Lincoln University in 2015 and began as a Dairy Consulting Officer with DairyNZ in 2016. It's a life she's loving.

University News:

Transformation Board Report -



'Compelling' was the key word used by Lincoln University Chancellor Steve Smith (pictured) to describe the Lincoln University Transformation Board's report, when he launched it publicly on 21 November to a packed Stewart 1 lecture theatre.

The report, the product of some six to seven months of enquiry, investigation and preparation, had earlier been studied and adopted by the Lincoln University Council. The 48-page document was the work of the Lincoln University Transformation Board, headed by Sir Maarten Wevers, who commended it and its recommendations to the University Council "as a contribution to securing a better future for Lincoln University". He says its key finding is that "the future can be optimistic for Lincoln University".

The Transformation Board, made up of 11 members, three of whom were its 'International Panel' developed five 'strategic themes' for Lincoln University encompassing 35 recommendations. The full report, covering the Board's Terms of Reference, the five themes, the 35 recommendations, the list of board members, the organisations and individuals consulted and various summaries of other reports, can be viewed **here**.

A role for alumni is clearly defined among the recommendations: "*Harness the alumni … and engage them throughout their careers to provide support to the University's direction and activities*". The report identifies that the University "*holds a special place in the hearts of its alumni*" but it also cautions that although the University has a "*rich history*" there needs to be a "*fundamental change in … the way it engages with students and alumni*".

Introducing the report to the staff, the Chancellor said it was an "endorsement that this university should stay an independent university on this campus. That the University's teaching and research was "at the heart of everything we do in New Zealand"; that Lincoln University has a "role and a niche that is vital to the country in order to "drive New Zealand's prosperity." Overall, he said it was a "rousing endorsement" of what we should be doing.

Vice-Chancellor Robin Pollard said "what we've seen with the Transformation Board is something of a miracle. We've been given a new lease on life".

Stakeholder Briefing Document -



Strategy, leadership and commitment at every level are propelling Lincoln University forward into new ways of working to greatest effect, with the future lying in high performance through collaboration. Vice-Chancellor Professor Robin Pollard shares these views and a summary of recent achievements, accolades, research and other information about Lincoln's accomplishments and vision for the future in the 2017 Lincoln University Stakeholder Briefing document.

The briefing is essential reading for alumni and all stakeholders and it can be viewed **here**.

Staff



Lincoln University farewells Dr Ann Brower, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Environmental Management on 15 December. Ann, who started at Lincoln in 2005, arriving from the USA as a Fulbright Scholar, is taking up a position at Canterbury University.

Universities live by the intellectual capital of their staff. Ann has contributed great intellectual capital to Lincoln University as a Yale graduate, Fulbright alumna, and an academic who has established a reputation in New Zealand as a powerful and courageous researcher - think high country tenure review; seismically unsafe concrete buildings; and the 'Brower amendment' to building code legislation.

Events and visitors:

Tuesday Lunch Club -

Membership of the Tuesday Lunch Club stands at over 90 and 10 luncheons were held in 2017 with an average attendance of around 50. The first meeting was in February at the Hilltop Tavern, above Little River, and the final meeting was the Christmas function at Lincoln University in November. Alumni

International Medallist Brian Hedley was guest speaker at the April lunch held in conjunction with LUAA Day, and Bledisloe Medallist John Acland gave the Bledisloe address at the Geraldine function in May.



Alumni Association Patron Tom Lambie was MC at the Geraldine luncheon.



Bledisloe Medal recipient John Acland delivering the Bledisloe address.



Professor Robin Pollard addresses the Christmas Tuesday Lunch Club.

Wellington Christmas Luncheon -

Wellington-based Lincoln University alumni attending the annual Christmas luncheon at The Wellington Club on 23 November had new Chancellor Steve Smith as guest speaker for the first time. Vice-Chancellor Professor Robin Pollard also attended, along with Lincoln University Foundation chair Ben Todhunter. The MC, former Interim Vice-Chancellor Dr John Hay, thanked longtime principal organiser of the Wellington luncheons John Nimmo for once again arranging a congenial gathering.

Melbourne –

The Deck Restaurant, Southgate Avenue, Southbank was the venue for the 2017 Melbourne Alumni Dinner, attended by almost 40 alumni and partners. Michael Findlay was MC and principal organiser, taking over the roles from long-serving Rob Latimer. Vice-Chancellor Professor Robin Pollard was the guest speaker.



Rob Latimer (left), Professor Robin Pollard (right).



Enjoying the Melbourne gathering.

To view more photos of Lincoln University alumni events please visit our Flickr albums
www.flickr.com/photos/lincolnuniversityalumni/albums/

Southland -

Some 40 alumni attended the annual Southland Lincoln University Alumni Dinner at the Invercargill Working Men's Club on 17 November. Convenor Luke Macpherson (Senior Partner BNZ Partners) says the event went well and everyone was well entertained by after-dinner speaker Jim Hopkins, well known in television, radio and the theatre. Luke, branch president for the past two years has now handed over the Southland reins to Mark Lankow (ASB Rural Manager) who will organise the next event.



From the archives:

Two silver cups from the Lincoln University archives made a return to the Canterbury A & P Show in November for display after an absence of 86 and 92 years respectively.

The trophies date from the era when Lincoln University's forerunner, Canterbury Agricultural College, regularly entered stock in the Show.

The older of the cups is dated 1925 and inscribed 'Leonard White Challenge Shield. C A & P Assn Royal Show 1925.' The other cup, dated 1931, was awarded to the College as the 'Shorthorn Butterfat Cup'.

The A & P Show's Event Director, Geoff Bone, is pictured here with the two cups from the University archives.

New postgraduate opportunity:

Master of Professional Accounting (CPA)

A programme developed jointly by Lincoln University and CPA Australia, one of the largest international accounting bodies with over 150,000 members across more than 120 countries, opens up an exciting professional advancement opportunity for suitably qualified candidates.

Lincoln University invites its appropriately qualified alumni to consider matching the opportunity with their aspirations.

It is a taught postgraduate programme for a Master of Professional Accounting degree incorporating the internationally recognised CPA Program, leading to both degree and CPA (Certified Practising Accountant) credentials.

The total package involves accumulating 180 credits, achieved by completing nine 20-credit courses.

Students will take a combination of the CPA Program courses and Lincoln University business and management courses.

After graduation and completion of CPA Australia's requirement for 36 months of relevant work experience, graduates will be eligible for full membership of CPA Australia.

Tuition fees are shown on the fee calculator on Lincoln University's website. In addition to the fees shown on the fee calculator, candidates must also pay CPA Australia Associate membership fees and enrol in the CPA Program with CPA Australia.

Applicants need to have the equivalent of a New Zealand Bachelor's degree with a B average or better, Associate membership of CPA Australia, and if English is not their first language an IELTS of 6.5 (with no individual band less than 6.0).

Alumni interested in further details can go to the Lincoln University web page **here** or contact Senior Lecturer Dr Carol Cheong, Faculty of Agribusiness and Commerce, Lincoln University (**carol.cheong@lincoln.ac.nz**).

Save the Date

13-14 February 2018,
'50 Years On – DipVFM 1968' reunion.
Reunion Organising Committee members:
Dick Ashton, Dave Manning, Kerrie Wales.

Obituaries:

Lincoln University records with respect the passing of staff member **Hazel Gatehouse**, on 21 November 2017, in Christchurch, aged 60. Hazel was a Senior Tutor in Blended Learning in the Faculty of Agribusiness and Commerce. She started employment at Lincoln in February 2010 and was a well-respected tutor and colleague.

Richard Lawrence Leslie, DipAgr 1956, and Tripp Scholarship holder while at Lincoln. Died Christchurch, 15 September 2017, aged 82.

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