

ALUMNI COUPLE'S DONATION MEANS MULTIPLE PACIFIC SCHOLARSHIPS AT MASSEY

A £350,000 (\$674,000) gift from London-based Massey University alumni Ross and Stephanie McEwan will be earmarked for Massey University scholarships for Pacific Island students, at the couple's request.

Undergraduate students studying degrees with practical applications will be able to apply for scholarships worth up to \$8000 a year.

Mr McEwan, who is about to take over as head of the National Australia Bank, graduated with a Bachelor of Business Studies, majoring in Personnel Management, in 1980. He held various human resource positions before moving into insurance and taking the top job at AXA New Zealand. He later became chief executive of First New Zealand Securities and joined the Commonwealth Bank of Australia. In 2013 he was appointed chief executive at the Royal Bank of Scotland. Two years ago he was presented with the Sir Geoffrey Peren Medal at Massey's Distinguished Alumni Awards. He was recently announced as the new chief executive and managing director of the National Australia Bank.

Mrs McEwan graduated with a Bachelor of Technology with Honours, majoring in Food Technology, in 1978. She worked in food product research and development for several years then completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Secondary School Teaching. She taught at Massey High School in Auckland for two years before the couple moved to Sydney, where she completed a Diploma in Patisserie at Le Cordon Bleu Australia.

Massey Vice-Chancellor Professor Jan Thomas describes the donation as extraordinarily generous. "This will be a tremendous boost to the aspirations and outcomes for Pasifika students," Professor Thomas says. "It is always wonderful when graduates choose to recognise either the benefits they received from their study with us and qualifications earned in such a tangible way. In many cases they simply want to ensure the transformational effect of education are made more widely available."

Massey Pasifika director Associate Professor Malakai Koloamatangi says the McEwan Pacific Scholarships help address a pronounced shortage of financial support specifically for Pacific Island students. "What has been available is very piecemeal; we are talking about really small amounts of money," Dr Koloamatangi says. "We are greatly appreciative of the McEwans. The majority of our students struggle with the financial burden of study because of their poor socio-economic backgrounds."

Mrs McEwan says they were surprised to discover how few scholarships there were for Pacific Island students. "Pacific Island groups contribute a lot culturally to New Zealand, but in many ways they don't get a lot of the opportunities that perhaps Māori and Pakeha do. We wanted to make sure the scholarships gave practical support, so that when recipients complete their degrees they can get good jobs."

The scholarships will support Pacific students enrolled in bachelor degrees with practical

application, including aviation, business, construction, engineering, agricultural science or agricommerce, information science, horticulture, nursing, technology or veterinary science.

Mr McEwan said they felt it was time to give back to Massey. "Massey was incredibly good for both of us. I didn't know what I wanted to do when I enrolled and I really benefited from what was a very diverse business studies degree. We both really felt the social environment was special at Massey. It is a big sporting university and we were both very involved in sport – we met playing basketball."

The gift is the first through the Foundation's United Kingdom Friends of Massey Trust.



**STEPHANIE AND ROSS McEWAN
WITH GRANDSON**

FINAL FUNDRAISING PUSH AS WORK BEGINS ON REFECTORY BUILDING

Preliminary work has begun on the iconic Refectory building which will be restored to become home to the University Chancellery and the heart of the campus.

The Foundation has fundraised \$2.6 million and will now make applications to trusts for the final \$1m to achieve its fundraising target.

The restoration will reinvent the Refectory as the new "front door" to the University and home to the institution's memorabilia. The grand hall will be restored to its former glory, and used to host alumni and municipal functions, welcome overseas visitors, and for graduations and meetings.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MASSEY UNIVERSITY AVIATION CENTRE – OFFICIAL OPENING
Friday 18 October, Palmerston North

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS FUNCTION – WELLINGTON
Thursday 21 November
InterContinental Wellington, 5.30-7.30pm

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS FUNCTION – AUCKLAND
Thursday 28 November
Grand Millennium, Auckland, 5.30-7.30pm

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS FUNCTION – MANAWATŪ
Tuesday 3 December
Tiritea House, Massey University, Palmerston North, 3.30-5.30pm

MASSEY UNIVERSITY ALUMNI APPEAL
October to December

HISTORIAN LEAVES BEQUEST TO MASSEY UNIVERSITY

Former Associate Professor in History Dr Alison Hanham has left a large bequest to the Massey University Foundation in her will.



Dr Hanham died in September last year in Palmerston North. She also bequeathed her substantial New Zealand and Pacific art collection to Palmerston North's Te Manawa Museum of Art, Science and History.

She was educated at Ngā Tawa Diocesan School, Marton, then at Auckland University College (1946-49), where she graduated with a Master of Arts degree with first-class Honours in English (1950). She completed a Doctor of Philosophy degree at the University of Bristol in 1954 and lived overseas, mostly in Manchester and Edinburgh, until joining Massey as a history lecturer in 1974. She was promoted to Reader/Associate Professor a few years later. Her teaching and research concentrated on English medieval history, especially the 15th century. Students and colleagues valued her vast knowledge and love of her subject, her wisdom and wit, her kindness and generosity. Her historical research and many publications focused on King Richard III and English family papers and letters, especially of the Cely family. Her most recently published book was John Benet's Chronicle, 1399-1462: An English Translation with New Introduction (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016).

Local history was always of great interest to Dr Hanham. One of her books is a history of Cramond (1651-1851), near Edinburgh, where she lived for some years. In Palmerston North, she was a committee member of the Historic Places Trust (Manawatū).

Her longstanding interest in art and culture and her acquisition of works became particularly important after her retirement from Massey at the end of 1993. Time spent in the Cook Islands when she was young and her return to New Zealand after an absence of years, stimulated her interest in New Zealand and Pacific works, and led to her acquisition of jade and stone carvings, hand-blown glass, and in particular the work of John Bevan Ford, a personal friend. His coloured ink drawings surrounded her in her house and his blue kaitiaki hooded figure carving watched over her garden.

Foundation director Mitch Murdoch says the University's charitable arm is extremely grateful for the generous gift of \$215,000 and would try to ensure it was used in a way that was relevant and appropriate to Dr Hanham's teaching and research interests.

CHAIRS KEEP MASSEY SCHOLARSHIP TOP OF THE TABLE

Professor Malcolm Wright has been appointed to the MSA Charitable Trust Chair in Marketing, securing his world-class teaching and research for Massey.

The chair is one of two long-term positions at the Massey Business School funded by business consultant, philanthropist and Massey alumnus Matthew Abel through the Massey University Foundation.

Massey Business School Pro-Vice Chancellor Professor Stephen Kelly says Professor Wright is a world-class scholar with more than 50 peer-reviewed articles to his name. Professor Wright has taught marketing for 25 years, and has previously held head of school, dean academic and deputy pro-vice chancellor positions at Massey.

"Malcolm is one of the most prolific marketing professors in Australasia who excels in publishing, service, grants, and the advising of new academics."

"Academics of his calibre make a huge contribution to programme development, as well as teaching and mentoring students and colleagues. It's in our best interests to keep them in New Zealand and the MSA Charitable Trust Chair makes this possible."

Professor Wright says the appointment will highlight the value of his work to date and "help me to amplify that work and extend its application further into the marketing community".

His career has focused on evidence-based marketing, brand loyalty, new product adoption and product growth. He is currently researching how information processing and memory affect consumer choice.

Professor Wright provides media commentary on marketing, is the chair of the Australian Advisory Board for the Ehrenberg-Bass Institute for Marketing Science, and is a director of Consumer Insights Ltd – a market research company spun out of Massey University.



MATTHEW ABEL AND PROFESSOR MALCOLM WRIGHT

\$14,500 BOOST FOR PŪHORO ACADEMY

Massey University's Pūhoro Stem Academy has attracted a \$14,500 donation to support its work encouraging Māori secondary students into science and technology.

Pūhoro director Naomi Manu says the donation - from an anonymous donor with an interest in marine science - has been used to establish a marine biology session in which students learn about whale strandings. "This investment will help hundreds of rangatahi (young people)."

The session was designed by Pūhoro mentor and Massey University PhD student Jordan Housiaux. Students learn the science behind whale strandings and how to respond, Ms Manu says. "In addition to this, rangatahi are taught the mātauranga Māori (knowledge) around whales and whale strandings, which deepens their understanding and connection to these important animals in te ao Māori."

The Pūhoro programme was established in 2016 in a response to low Māori engagement in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects and careers. It provides culturally appropriate mentoring, tutoring and experiential learning for secondary school students and their whānau through schools, community groups, tertiary institutions and industry.

Nineteen schools across four regions have joined the programme. Participating students are affiliated with a total of 75 iwi.

Between 2016 and 2018, 409 students took part in the programme. Ninety-eight percent gained at least one NCEA Science Achievement Standard. Before joining the programme, 75 percent of Pūhoro students did not intend to enrol in external science achievement standards.

Ms Manu says pass rates for Pūhoro students in STEM subjects in Manawātū last year were phenomenal at 95 percent for Year 11, 100 percent for Year 12 and 98 percent for Year 13.

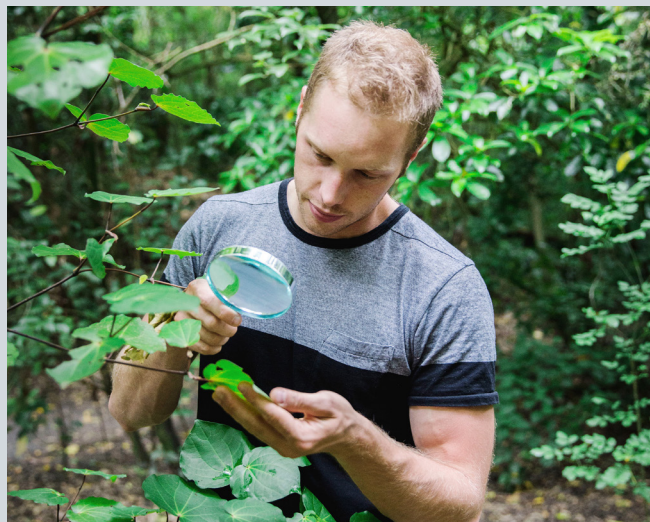
Pūhoro has moved from strength to strength. "This donation signals the strong support that Pūhoro has from the Massey community."

Massey University Development Manager Kelly Weaver says the university's next focus is to ensure support for Pūhoro students entering tertiary education. "To that end, the Foundation is currently fundraising for scholarships for Pūhoro students who go on to study STEM at Massey."

To find out more about Pūhoro or to donate to a scholarship, contact Kelly Weaver at K.Weaver1@massey.ac.nz



NATURE LOVER BOOSTS ECOLOGY BURSARY



A \$77,500 donation from a Waikanae woman with a strong interest in the environment has doubled the value of an Ecology bursary at Massey.

Sheila Coombs made the donation through her charitable trust, The Heseltine Trust, which has made annual gifts of at least \$2000 towards Massey ecology scholarships and bursaries since 2008.

Paul Fifield, Perpetual Guardian Palmerston North branch manager, says Sheila decided to wind up the trust and make large donations to charities and causes she supports.

"Income levels for the trust have been lower in the current financial environment and she was not seeing as much benefit flow through to charities and research as she would like. She really wants to help develop the area of Ecology research and make a difference in that area."

The donation has been added to an existing ecology bursary – effectively doubling its value. The bursary, which has been renamed the Heseltine Ecology Bursary, was originally established with funding from Dr Ian Stringer and Associate Professor Alastair Robertson from conservation-related contracts.

The bursary is offered for the purpose of encouraging postgraduate research in zoology, behaviour, behavioural ecology, ecology of plants or animals or conservation biology at Massey, where practical fieldwork is a major component of the research.

It is open to full-time postgraduate ecology students at Massey in Palmerston North.

ANIMAL LOVER FUNDS FEMALE VET AWARD

A female Massey veterinary science student is about to receive a \$6000 award, thanks to the generosity of a high-flying, animal-loving nonagenarian.

The award, through the Kate Edger Educational Charitable Trust, will be presented to a female student in their second or third year of a Bachelor of Veterinary Science who has shown academic merit and community service, and who has a passion for companion animals.

Nina Tomaszuk, general manager of the trust, says the donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, had a successful career after inheriting her family business at a young age. "She is very progressive, and travelled the world with her business. She wanted to fund someone studying animal health and who would be involved in caring for animals."

The trust gives away more than 100 awards to women each year, in support of their research, professional, artistic or creative activities. Kate Edger was the first woman to gain a university degree in New Zealand, graduating from the University of New Zealand in 1877 with a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics.

Ms Tomaszuk says "We are thrilled to be supporting someone who will be caring for animals, which are so important in people's lives, especially the lives of older people."



DONATION FUNDS NEW FRONTIER IN CANCER RESEARCH

Massey research aiming to develop drugs that can starve cancer cells has received a \$221,000 lifeline from alumni Bryce and Anne (née Percival) Carmine.

The research led by Dr Evelyn Sattlegger, Associate Professor at the School of Natural and Computational Sciences, seeks to identify potent molecules that can be used to “turn-off” an enzyme that helps cells cope with nutrient starvation.

“Cancer cells grow so fast, they have an incredibly high demand for nutrients to fuel their growth,” she says. “Studies have shown that

they are extremely dependent on this enzyme and turning it off has dramatically slowed the growth of tumours, meaning cancer cells are killed easier.”

There is a typical process for turning off the enzyme, but that process has negative side effects, as it can also inhibit other enzyme functions, she says.

Dr Sattlegger and her research team of PhD students have discovered that certain molecules can be used to turn the enzyme off with high specificity, meaning that side effects for other enzyme functions are extremely unlikely.

“There is a possibility we can find something that is even more potent, which is exactly what you want when you are developing a drug. What we are doing now is testing the efficacy of the process and checking in detail the consequences of hitting cancer cells this way.”

The new therapy, which could be patented, could be used to fight all types of cancer, she says.

Cancer cells can become resistant to current therapies. There is also a growing preference for using a combination of drugs to fight off cancer, as the lower doses administered reduce side effects and the risk of drug-resistance.

“We need drugs that work in a different way to fight cancer. The more weapons we have, the better we can fight it.”

The funding from the Carmines will support the research for the next three years.

“The results we have now look promising. We are very grateful for this funding, because otherwise it wouldn’t go on.”

The Carmines, both of whose fathers attended Massey Agriculture College, have a special interest in biomedicine. Bryce Carmine had a very successful career in this field, becoming executive vice-president and president of United States bio-medicine giant Lilly Bio-Medicines and Company before he retired. He is now chairman and chief executive of Australian biotech firm HaemaLogiX.

Anne Carmine (née Percival) worked in clinical drug research and government registration for the major pharmaceuticals firm Merck, and then as a medical writer and editor for Adis Press. She later specialised in pharmacology, gaining a Masters degree in the subject from Butler University, Indianapolis.



BEN VANDERKOLK JOINS FOUNDATION BOARD



Palmerston North Crown Solicitor Ben Vanderkolk has joined the Foundation board, bringing nearly 40 years of legal experience and a strong history of education governance to the table.

Mr Vanderkolk has worked in a wide range of legal disciplines, including criminal law, child welfare and trust law, since his admission to the Bar in 1982. He is principal of BVA The Practice, which acts as prosecutor for the

Crown in the Manawatu region, and also prosecutes on public interest issues.

He is a former member of the Law Practitioners’ Disciplinary Tribunal and served on the faculty of the New Zealand Law Society Litigation Skills Programme.

A member of the Massey University Council, Mr Vanderkolk is also chair of the UCOL Council. “I look forward to serving on the Foundation Board,” he says, “and contributing my skills and knowledge acquired through both public and private sector experience, including strong strategic thinking.”

Ben joins existing trustees; Russ Ballard, Dianne Kidd, Bryan Mogridge, Wayne McIlwraith, Cathy Magiannis and Jan Thomas.

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