

Critic

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FEATURES

22 WHAT ON EARTH IS DIVESTMENT?

Molly Reynolds is a member of the Otago Uni Divests campus group. On 14 July 2015, the group will be putting forward a petition to the University Council demanding that Otago stops investing funds in fossil fuels. Read on to find out more about why this is so important.

BY **MOLLY REYNOLDS**

26 THE MAGIC OF SCIENCE

Magic and science are commonly thought to be at odds with each other. However, this hasn't always been the case — ancient civilisations often crossed the line between the two.

BY **GINI JORY**

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EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

» WHEN TEENS ARE SPEAKING UP, LISTEN

"Calculus is no use because a calculator can do everything. It'll be handy if you want to be a maths teacher though." This is what my high school teacher told me when I asked her why we learn calculus. Aside from the fact she single-handedly made every student in that class lose all motivation to study maths, calculus does have some use. That teacher could have told us that it teaches you problem-solving and has been the quantitative language of science for more than three hundred years. Of course, it's also fairly useless for most after high school, but if you've got a room full of students who have opted to take that class, then inspiring them a little doesn't take too much effort. One of the best parts about young people is their hunger for knowledge, and that passion should be fed.

Last week a student at Napier Girls' High School gave a speech at school telling everyone what she thought of the education system in New Zealand. She was told to talk persuasively about something she felt strongly about. Sadly, a lot of people — including some influential figures in the media — slammed her for "not respecting her elders" and said that it "smacked of a bitch, not an argument".

She cared enough to criticise, she cared enough to comment. To put her down for this, when most of the time young people are consistently put down for being apathetic, is hypocritical.

Schools should be teaching students to speak up, to say their opinion. Then they should help students improve how eloquently they can give that opinion, help them see the opposing sides, and then discuss, like adults, what can be done. The student claims she was suspended, and whether or not this is true, it clearly wasn't dealt with as it should be in a country of free speech.

There is a problem with the education system. There are too many teachers who hate their jobs. There is too much focus on grades rather than deep thought or creativity. There are serious gaps in the curriculum.

Teenagers are capable of thought — they are more capable than many adults. All it takes is teaching them how to think more deeply, and showing them all the different things in the world there are to think about.

Use history to teach them why it's important to speak up, why the world is what it is and how we can make better judgements. Use sociology and geography to teach them about diversity and what's going on the world. Use science to teach them curiosity, logical thought and how the world functions. Use English to teach appreciation for language, poetry, lyrics and great writing. Use religious education to promote understanding, tolerance and freedom of beliefs.

Plenty of other areas need an overhaul. Another discussion came up last week about the proposed use of an opt-out system for teenage women, offering them long-acting contraceptives before they decide to have sex. The education system is still working off the world we lived in 50 years ago, but this proposal would be an easy option (if you dismiss the resulting STI issues). Talk to students about sex and relationships. If we open up the discussion, then they'll know the consequences. Too often they just don't, and leaving it to parents is not good enough. Health education class is meant to do this, but the conversation with young people is still not being had openly or honestly enough.

Yes, the powers-that-be need to fund schools, reduce class sizes, etc. But waves are not being made to make that happen. A teenage girl started one and then "adults" decided to criticise her for it. Teachers, schools and all the other critics should be open-minded enough to think about the message she was giving and back her up.

To the girl who did that speech, the monsters in your life can often be your greatest teachers. If you know there's something wrong with the system and know how it should be — keep talking, keep discussing, keep asking why.

JOSIE COCHRANE

CRITIC EDITOR

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Students Fight for Uni Council Seats

» "TOO MUCH POWER" GIVEN TO MINISTERS

BY JOE HIGHAM

The University of Otago's governing council is set to hold a vote on 14 July, which will determine the number of council seats allocated to students.

The council currently has two seats for students, these are held by OUSA President Paul Hunt and Recreation Officer Jonny Martin.

A draft constitution, which the 14 July vote will decide, only allows one seat for students.

Earlier this year, the government passed the Education Amendment Act 2015. Section 171 of the act required four ministerial appointments on university councils and no longer requires universities to reserve staff or student seats.

In a press release after the bill had passed, Tertiary Education Minister Steven Joyce said the new "modernised governance arrangements for universities" by "reducing council staff and student membership flexibility and ensuring all members have relevant knowledge and experience".

Joyce's statement argued that a student voice on the council is critical, and has submitted a petition for the two seats reserved for student representation to be removed.

In his final submission, Hunt said seats are to be reserved for staff and governance appointments. Hunt said OUSA is "convinced that there should be one

other student, as opposed to a fourth skills/governance-based appointment".

Hunt said there is a "small but healthy chance" that a second student seat will remain. "We do definitely have a good shot at getting a second student," said Hunt, "but lots of things will have to fall our way for that to happen."

Mark Henaghan, the Dean of the Law Faculty at the University of Otago, is a stout supporter of "at least" two students remaining on the council. "I actually think the more [students on the council] the better in some ways, but definitely at least a minimum of two," he said.

"Without students on councils, they don't count for anything really. They would just make up the numbers to provide the salaries. If they don't have representation on the council, what are they here for?" said Henaghan.

OUSA has so far received 406 submissions supporting student representation, the majority from students. "That was only on the online tool we used," said Hunt. "It doesn't even account for people who submitted a submission [directly to the university] off their own back." The University Council will not disclose how many submissions they have received until after the council meeting.

The Tertiary Education Union (TEU) has also publicly opposed the trend of students losing

their voices on university councils. Stephen Day, campaigns and communications officer of the TEU, said the most worrying aspect is the four ministerial positions required on the council. "We think that democratically elected staff and students should also have four seats to counterbalance the power that [they have]," he said.

Day said there is potential for ministerial appointees to have "too much power" and "misuse it under the new structure they have recently created". He argues it is "integral" that universities are "independent enough from the government".

"Whilst staff and students are not the only members of councils who can speak up as the critic and conscience of society, their democratic election gives them a greater scope to take on that role than other council members on average."

Henaghan also argued that students are able to "challenge council and push for positions", but staff members feel less comfortable doing so.

"The great strength of OUSA over the years has been how they stand up for things. The university is becoming, through no fault of its own, run more and more like a business, and therefore you do need those voices that question some of the decisions that are made," said Henaghan. ●



Surprise, you're Pregnant!

Pre-Sex Pregnancy Prevention

» LECTURERS AIM TO PREVENT TEENAGE PREGNANCY

BY LAURA MUNRO

Senior lecturers from the University of Otago are calling for a free, universal LARC (Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptives) programme to be made available for teenage women before they become sexually active. LARCs include the Jadelle, the copper IUD and the Mirena, all of which offer 5–10 years of protection.

The university's Dr Neil Pickering and Dr Lynley Anderson from the Bioethics Centre, alongside Dr Helen Paterson from its Department of Women's and Children's Health, argue teen pregnancy places significant costs on the individual and society, and is associated with higher perinatal mortality.

The team says children of teen pregnancies "do poorly in statistics related to poverty, imprisonment and teen pregnancy". They argue pregnancy in the teenage years is "bad for the teenager, is bad for the child of the teenager and it is bad for both of them during the whole pregnancy. Obviously that also impacts on society."

Chief Executive of Family Planning New Zealand, Jackie Edmond, says teenage pregnancy rates in New Zealand are "very high" in terms of developed countries. "We certainly have high numbers," says Edmond, though "overall, numbers have come down quite a lot in recent years".

Births to teenagers in New Zealand peaked in 1972 to 9,150, a 72 percent increase from 5,315 in 1962. Numbers have been decreasing ever since, with just over 3,800 children currently being born to mothers under twenty each year.

To curb New Zealand's teenage pregnancy rates, the lecturers suggest an opt-out programme, which gives young women the opportunity to have a LARC inserted, rather than having to go and seek one themselves. Dr Pickering says women still have the right to say no, "and in terms of justice it treats everybody the same".

Pregnancy rates with a LARC are 0.5 percent per annum. The withdrawal method is 22 percent, condoms 18 percent, and the pill is nine percent. Edmond says the most common form of birth control sought through Family Planning is the contraceptive pill. However, "since the introduction of implants, particularly for younger women, the LARCs are becoming more and more popular".

Bob McCroskie, National Director of Family First, has come out against the idea, claiming it will encourage girls to have sex and "alienate parents from the role they should be involved in".

"The decreasing proportion of teens wanting to be sexually active need parental involvement and good advice," said McCroskie. "Rates of teen abortions and sexual involvement have fallen significantly recently for teens, but it has nothing to do with contraception, and everything to do with decreased sexual activity and education and awareness for teens on the actual consequences."

Pickering, however, says there is no evidence to support the claim that adolescents will become more sexually active when given contraception. Edmond agrees there is "no evidence to support that claim".

Family First also argues LARCs have poor side effects for women, specifically the Jadelle. In a recent media release, the organisation argued that the side effects of the Jadelle, an insert into the arm, range from nausea, depression, nervousness, headaches and weight gain to pelvic pain and changes to the menstrual cycle.

"Teen girls deserve to be informed of the serious consequences of early sexual activity including the impact on emotional and mental welfare and academic performance, rather than given a false sense of security and being encouraged to take risks by adults who should know better," said McCroskie.

On this issue, Edmond said: "This is the case with all forms of medication ... there are always side effects, but they can be managed."

Edmond argues the programme as a whole is "a bit of an overkill" as there are actually few young women (under-16s) who are sexually active. "Lots of young people aren't actually having sex, and they delay having sex for quite some time," she said.

The LARCs do not prevent sexually transmitted infections. Edmond says in regards to condoms, "we still need to keep talking about them".

"The whole programme is again making it a woman's responsibility to manage fertility and contraception, when actually men should be part of this as well. This is through the use of condoms for contraceptives, as well as STIs."

"Women shouldn't be managing the whole burden of fertility and contraception themselves," said Edmond. ○

The Queen Can Not Be Saved

» "LIMITING BOTTLES WON'T LIMIT DRINKING AND DRINKING GAMES"

BY **ANGUS SHAW**

As students return for re-orientation, BYOs may no longer be the same.

A new accord, or agreement of standards, developed by the Dunedin Police and the Southern District Health Board was announced last Monday. The accord aims to reduce intoxication in Dunedin BYO restaurants and make BYOs "places for dining, rather than for alcohol consumption".

After requests from BYO premises, a full accord was written to clearly

establish what is expected from both restaurant patrons and management. Especially clear are the alcohol limits, which now restrict customers to bringing one bottle of wine between two people. The accord also includes a ban on drinking games in restaurants. Specific games were not named.

Dunedin Police Alcohol Harm Prevention Officer Sergeant Ian Paulin said that the accord was developed together by the police, liquor licensing inspectors and the health board after receiving concerns from BYO restaurants about the intoxicated behaviour of large groups.

"BYO restaurants are looking for consistent messages and a level playing field so they are saying the same thing," said Paulin.

According to Southern DHB Health Promotion Advisor Toni Paterson, the accord was developed following a meeting earlier in the year to discuss ways to manage BYOs in line with the current Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act.

University of Otago student Zara Kuperus believes the move will negatively affect BYO restaurants. "I think people are less likely to go to a BYO now. The majority of BYOs I have been to remain controlled despite people having a bottle each."

She adds that drinking at a restaurant is safer and "limiting bottles won't limit drinking and drinking games at home." "At a BYO, students can still drink a bottle, but are forced to eat something too."

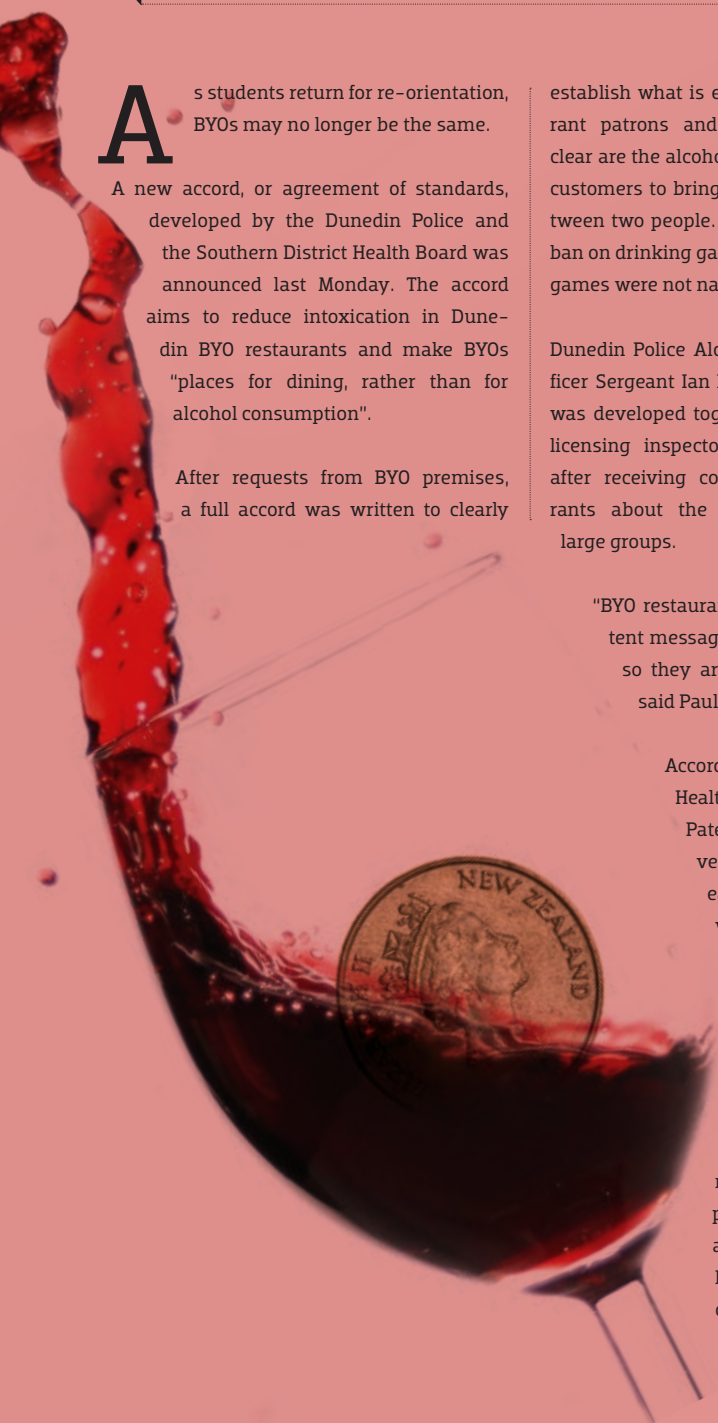
Kuperus said, "Surely it's better to put realistic limits in place so we'll still go out? Students will just stay home now and drink more without there being any limits in place."

Paterson said the rules were not intended to target students specifically, but instead aimed to clarify the current liquor license laws for all patrons. "The accord is a tool for licensees to use to ensure they are compliant with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012. The views of the students do not change what the legal requirements are."

According to Paterson, the alcohol limits set in the accord are intended to reduce alcohol-related harm. "We know that 25 percent of the Southern population drink to hazardous levels and the accord helps licensees keep their customers safe and reduce alcohol-related harm in our community," he said.

Monique Aitchison, a student and waitress at Shaai Tandar, which adopted the alcohol limit in April, said that in general the rule had led to better behaviour. Aitchison said the rule was fair on students as it "stopped people from getting too drunk or too sick ... one bottle of wine is quite a lot." One bottle of wine contains approximately six to eight standard drinks.

To date, 30 restaurants in Central and North Dunedin have signed the accord, and more are expected to follow. ●



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Otago Student Re-Homes the Nepalese

» "EVERY 10 HOUSES, THERE'S ONE THAT'S COMPLETELY FLATTENED"

BY LAURA MUNRO

A former University of Otago student has set up camp in Nepal in order to rehome families after over 700,000 houses were destroyed in the recent earthquakes. Matthew McAtamney, who graduated from Otago in 2012 with a Bachelor of Commerce in Marketing and Tourism, has been travelling back and forth from his home in Australia to work in and around Kathmandu City.

"The work I've been doing, in short, is building temporary shelters for earthquake victims both in rural villages and around Kathmandu City itself or close to it. The shelters are temporary homes for people who have been left with nothing after the quakes," said McAtamney.

The work comes as part of the Rise Nepal project, a youth-led volunteer group set up by McAtamney's cousin, Sam Johnson. "[Rise Nepal] is similar to ... the Christchurch student volunteer army, which he set up following the Christchurch earthquakes."

McAtamney works with fellow volunteers to build hollow shelters for families, which the families then fill and insulate themselves. The volunteers also teach the locals how to use the materials to build the shelters on their own.

"Being from New Zealand, we all have a gift of being fast learners and good teachers, but also have a lot of DIY initiative or Kiwi ingenuity, which we all have even if we don't think we do," said McAtamney. "This is compared

with a population vastly under-educated with simple technologies like fencing wire, roof tin (corrugated iron)."

McAtamney says the team are looking for international volunteers to get involved — "the more international volunteers the better".

"Being international is a great drawcard for the local volunteers, which I had never expected. For example, a lot of [local] volunteers will come just so they can meet you and build with you and learn from you," he said.

Rise Nepal also relies entirely on donations to purchase the materials needed for the shelters. The material for one shelter costs US\$120 and volunteers build the shelters for free, so all money donated "goes 100 percent into the shelter". These shelters can house families for up to a year or more.

McAtamney also wanted to counter the "misled, uninformed information" that has been circulating about Nepal since the quakes. "Many countries have been telling people not to visit Nepal because it's unsafe ... it really frustrates me."

"The problem is, the country relies so heavily on tourists but there are no tourists there at the moment, the little businesses are making no money, the hotels are empty, the trekking routes are empty," said McAtamney. "Nepal is so safe and so beautiful to travel, now as much as ever. I didn't feel a quake the whole time I was there, I felt safer there than I would walking around



North or South Dunedin."

McAtamney says the work is "extremely rewarding, both for me personally in a personal growth and travel experience way, but there's also a major feel-good factor as you are building someone with nothing left a new home."

"The people are incredible, even after what they've been through, all of the hard times, they're still so happy. Everyone wants to help each other, but it's heartbreaking seeing the destruction. Every 10 houses there's one that's completely flattened."

Donations to Rise Nepal can be made here: <http://bit.ly/1T80K03>.

To volunteer for Rise Nepal, please contact Matt at matt.mcatamney@gmail.com.



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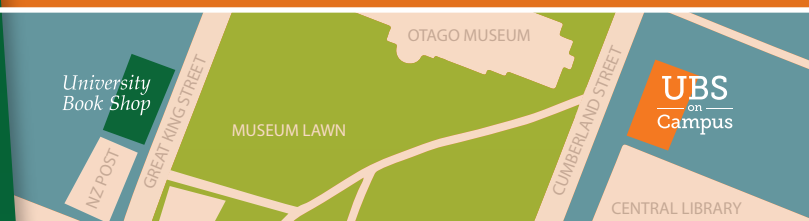
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Council Rejects Opening of Graves

» "SENSITIVITY" LEADS TO DENIAL OF PROPOSAL

BY BRIDIE BOYD

The Central Otago District Council (CODC) has declined a proposal which would have allowed the University of Otago to dig up unmarked graves in the region's 17 cemeteries.

In 2013 an archaeologist reported that there could be almost 800 unmarked graves in Central Otago. With the support of Heritage New Zealand, which protects nineteenth-century graves under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, the university had proposed carrying out forensic analysis on the unmarked graves.

Maria De Cort, communications co-ordinator for the CODC, said discussion "centred around the pros and cons of the proposal primarily from a community perspective".

Before the decision was made, some argued the exhumations would be disrespectful and that the deceased were better to remain buried. De Cort said, overall, "the proposal was not supported by councillors". Of particular caution was "the sensitivity" of the proposal to the community. This "was considered against any positive benefits/learnings the results would bring to the community".

However, Associate Professor Hallie Buckley from the university's Department of Anatomy, argued that, with the right level of respect, the opening of graves can be of great benefit to a community.

"I have experience with working with communities in New Zealand and the Pacific on these kinds of projects (most notably the Wairau

Bar project) which have been a successful and rewarding experience for all involved," said Buckley.

Heritage New Zealand spokesperson and Regional Archaeologist for Otago and Southland, Dr Matthew Schmidt, said the issue is not a new one. In 2010 the groups involved identified an issue with the loss of headstones and, in some cases, the loss of cemetery records. "This has meant the location of many graves within these cemeteries is now unknown," he said.

Had the proposal been passed, identification of the graves would have been carried out. The researchers would also have been able to uncover information about the lives of people in Otago during the nineteenth century. ●

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Nine Killed in Racist Church Shooting

» 21-YEAR-OLD TARGETS OLDEST BLACK CHURCH

BY OLIVER GASKELL

Nine people were shot dead during a Bible study group in Charleston, South Carolina, on Wednesday 17 June. Dylann Roof, a 21-year-old white male, shot and killed the nine African-Americans at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in what is believed to be a racially motivated attack.

Reports have emerged that Roof targeted the church, one of the United States' oldest

black churches and a civil rights symbol, in order to start a race war.

US President Barack Obama called the attack "senseless", saying in a statement: "Any death of this sort is a tragedy ... There is something particularly heartbreaking about the death happening in a place in which we seek solace and we seek peace, in a place of worship."

Authorities are investigating a website

containing a racist manifesto allegedly written by Roof. Excerpts reveal some of Roof's motivation for the attack: "I chose Charleston because it is the most historic city in my state, and at one time had the highest ratio of blacks to whites in the country."

Roof has been convicted of nine counts of murder and could face a death sentence or 30 years to life imprisonment. ●

38 Killed in Tunisian Terrorist Attack

» IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEATH OF MOSTLY BRITISH TOURISTS

BY OLIVER GASKELL

An attack on the Tunisian resort town of Sousse on 26 June has left 38 tourists dead and 39 injured. Seifeddine Rezgui, who disguised himself as a vacationer, opened fire at the Imperial Marhaba Hotel, killing mostly British tourists before being shot dead by police.

The Islamic State (IS) has claimed responsibility for the attack, which is said to be one of the worst in the country's history.

Rezgui is believed to have roamed the hotel, methodically targeting guests with a rifle

hidden in a beach umbrella, before being shot and killed by police officers after they arrived 30 minutes into the attack.

Tunisian officials know of only the one gunman; however, they are searching for potential accomplices and have arrested seven suspects in relation to the attack.

Survivors have also spoken out, saying that another armed man in red shorts accompanied Rezgui, with others saying that the man was attempting to stop Rezgui.

Tunisian President Beji Caid Essebi

travelled to the resort, promising tougher measures to prevent further terrorist attacks. Mohammed Ennaceur, the speaker of Tunisia's parliament, released a statement saying "terrorism is targeting the state and the interests of the people".

British Prime Minister David Cameron called for a moment of silence in response to the attacks, and wrote a column in the Telegraph calling for "a full-spectrum response — a response at home and abroad; in the immediate aftermath and far into the future". ●

Greece Fails to Make IMF Payment

» EU COUNTRY OFFICIALLY CUT OFF FROM IMF

BY ZAHRA SHAHTAHMASEBI

Greece has slipped deeper into a financial wormhole after failing to pay the 1.5 billion euros it owes to the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

After last-minute efforts to extend the bailout repayment failed, Greece has become the only developed country to miss a scheduled payment to the IMF in history. Gerry Rice, Director of Communications at the International Monetary Fund (IMF), made a statement on 30 June confirming the payment had not been made.

"I confirm that the SDR 1.2 billion repayment

(about EUR 1.5 billion) due by Greece to the IMF today has not been received. We have informed our Executive Board that Greece is now in arrears and can only receive IMF financing once the arrears are cleared," said Rice.

"I can also confirm that the IMF received a request today from the Greek authorities for an extension of Greece's repayment obligation that fell due today, which will go to the IMF's Executive Board in due course," he said.

As a result, Greece has been cut off from the IMF, an organisation of 188 nations that aims to

keep the world economy stable, until the payment is made.

There have now been calls for a two-year bailout from Europe; Greece is reportedly asking for 29 billion euros. A decision should be made soon but there have been claims that the Greek debt could have them kicked out of the eurozone.

At the time of print, Greek banks remained shut and cash withdrawals were limited to 60 euros per person; Greeks are also prohibited from sending money to accounts overseas and Greeks abroad have had their credit cards rejected. ●



Love Wins: Rainbows Everywhere

» AUSTRALIA STILL TO LEGALISE SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

BY ZAHRA SHAHTAHMASEBI

On 26 June, history was made when the United States Supreme Court legalised the marriage of same-sex couples in all 50 states.

Gay and lesbian couples were already able to marry in 36 states and the District of Columbia, but the 5–4 ruling means the remaining 14 states in the South and Midwest can no longer enforce their bans on same-sex marriage.

Barack Obama, the first US president to openly support the legalisation of gay marriage, has lauded the Supreme Court decision. At a press conference, Obama called the ruling a victory for

gay and lesbian couples, a victory for their children and a victory for America.

"If we are created equally, then surely the love we commit to one another should be equal as well," said Obama. "It is gratifying to see that principle enshrined into law by this decision."

Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote the majority opinion on the ruling, just as he did in the court's previous three major gay rights cases dating back to 1996.

"No union is more profound than marriage," wrote Kennedy. The stories of the people asking for the right to marry "reveal that they seek not

to denigrate marriage but rather to live their lives, or honour their spouses' memory, joined by its bond."

In the aftermath of the decision, millions flocked to gay pride events all over America. The White House stood illuminated with rainbow-coloured lights, and over 26 million people added a rainbow filter to their Facebook profile picture to show that "love wins".

The Netherlands became the first nation to legalise same-sex marriage in 2001, followed by Belgium in 2003. Since then, the following countries have joined in: Spain, Canada, South Africa, Norway, Sweden, Portugal, Iceland, Argentina, Denmark, the Caribbean Netherlands, Uruguay, New Zealand, Brazil, France, England and Wales, Scotland, Luxembourg, Finland, Slovenia, the Republic of Ireland and Greenland. Australia is yet to legalise same-sex marriage. ●



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Political Catch Up

Last semester we ended our political coverage with National's 2015 budget. Here's an update on what you might have missed while sleeping off that exam stress.

BY POLITICS EDITOR HENRY NAPIER

Controversy for the Conservatives

» COLIN CRAIG AND HIS PRESS SECRETARY GOT "INAPPROPRIATE"

Conservative leader Colin Craig has resigned his position, leaving the party's future precarious. Craig resigned after allegations surfaced relating to the departure of his press secretary, Rachel MacGregor.

MacGregor resigned from the Conservative Party last year only days from the election. Responding to questions over her departure, she said only that leader Colin Craig was "manipulative".

Craig has come under fire in recent weeks over his supposed relationship with MacGregor, which he has confirmed was "inappropriate". However, he has publicly refuted allegations that he had harassed her. As a result of the controversy, Craig resigned from the party leadership two weeks ago.

Craig has cited a confidentiality agreement between himself and MacGregor that prevents further insight into the nature of his relationship with his former press secretary. It has been reported that a financial dispute arose following

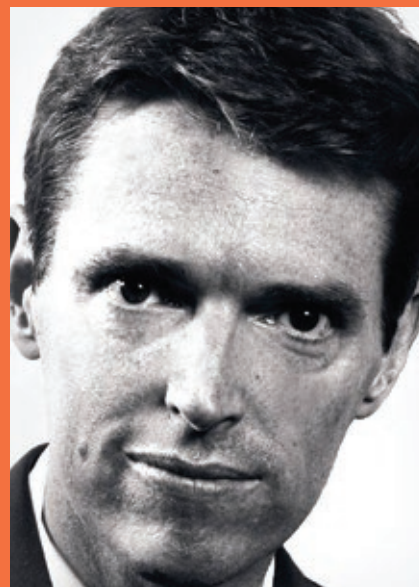
MacGregor's departure, which has been settled.

Craig said on the Paul Henry Show that he is currently seeking to dissolve the confidentiality agreement in order to clear his name. Craig said "we have requested that we get a written confirmation that that is the case from the other side ... [Dissolving the agreement] would allow us to put everything out there and the whole matter gets cleared up."

The controversy surrounding Colin Craig has prompted the resignation of most of the party's board members over the past few weeks. The only board member remaining was John Stringer, who has assumed control of the party as its self-appointed chair.

Most board members cited the disarray of the Conservative Party as their reason for leaving. However, it has been reported that Craig had loaned \$500,000 to the party, which the board is liable for.

The newly formed Board of Trustees, led by Stringer, has suspended Craig's party



membership. Craig has maintained he hopes to have a future in the party.

Craig formed the Conservative Party in 2011. The party competed in both the 2011 and 2014 general elections, earning 2.65 percent and 4.1 percent of the vote respectively. The Conservative Party is currently the fifth-largest political party in New Zealand. ●

Obama gets a Fast Track on the TPPA

» OPPOSITION TO THE TPPA CHANGES NOTHING

The United States senate has passed President Barack Obama's fast track authority for the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA).

The fast track authority was passed last week with a Republican majority of 60–38, allowing it to move on to a vote in congress. If successful, the fast track will allow the TPPA to be either accepted or rejected when the finalised agreement is presented to congress. Without the fast track, congress would be able to amend the agreement, delaying its progression.

The TPPA is a multilateral trade agreement involving 12 countries, including New Zealand. The trade agreement, which has been kept secret, has generated controversy as a result of

some of its clauses, namely the facilitation of investor-state arbitration.

A significant number of New Zealanders are opposed to the TPPA, many citing the impact the agreement will have on PHARMAC, New Zealand's pharmaceutical subsidising company. PHARMAC allows the government to buy and subsidise certain pharmaceuticals in New Zealand to the benefit of consumers. While no official copy of the agreement has been presented, a number of leaked documents indicate that subsidising pharmaceuticals may provide unfair competition to investors, which the agreement restricts.

Despite widespread public concern, the National government has maintained the

agreement will be positive for the country's economic development. Trade Minister Tim Groser told Paul Henry that New Zealand has pursued closer trade relations with the United States for more than three decades.

"In 1984, when I was then foreign policy advisor to David Lange just after the change of government, I managed to persuade David to have a go at starting an FTA with the United States — and we did. The dispute we then had over the ANZUS thing scuttled that, but we've been trying under various Labour and National governments to get this deal done literally for 30 years," said Groser. ●

Cyber Bullying Law Passes Third Reading

» BILL VOTED 116–5 IN PARLIAMENT

BY HENRY NAPIER

The Harmful Digital Communications Bill passed its third reading last week, placing it in the final stage of becoming law. The bill, also known as the Cyber Bullying Law, seeks to respond to the growing prevalence of harm created by social media and online activities.

The new law officially states that its purpose is to "deter, prevent and mitigate" harm created online. In doing so, the bill creates a new offence punishable by up to two years in prison or a fine of \$50,000.

The bill has received overwhelming cross-party support, passing 116–5 last Tuesday. The opposing votes came from four Green Party members, including former leader Russel Norman and Gareth Hughes, as well as ACT's David Seymour.

When asked why he is against the bill, Hughes told NewstalkZB the bill is overly broad and risks limiting freedom of

expression, and invites "the powerful, the vexatious, the litigious to use this to shut down legitimate comment".

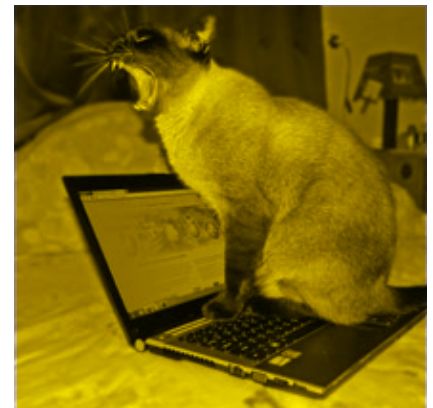
Although it has been popular in parliament, the bill has become a point of controversy after critics claimed the law will criminalise free speech. The bill refers to "digital communications", which has been argued as excessively broad, potentially lending itself to instances such as a TV report from a journalist.

Left-wing blogger, No Right Turn, has claimed that the bill would incriminate the likes of Patrick Gower, TV3's political editor, if his report on a politician were to cause emotional harm. However, Justice Minister Amy Adams, who is responsible for the bill, rejected claims that the law will criminalise all cases where someone is emotionally harmed.

Appearing on TV3's The Nation, Adams explained that only extreme cases would warrant a criminal offence. The criminal offence in

the bill is for the "very extreme end of harmful digital communications," she said.

Adams has been adamant that the bill will reasonably balance the harm created online and freedom of speech. However, the minister has promised that the law would be reviewed if problems were to arise. ●



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News in Briefs

BY LAURA MUNRO AND HENRY NAPIER



World Watch

1 QUIBDO, COLOMBIA

A woman and her baby have been found alive four days after their plane crashed in Quibdo. After unsuccessful attempts to trap rodents for food, the woman and her son survived on coconut water. The pilot of the twin-engine Cessna, which crashed on Saturday morning, has been found dead.

2 CUBA

A chemistry teacher is facing disciplinary action after being caught having drunk sex with a driving instructor while on a school trip to Cuba. She was on the trip with students from Bedford School in the UK, and was said to have been drinking at a party and ended up in the room of the instructor instead of monitoring students. The 28 year old is also being investigated for inappropriate relationships with her students.

3 SURF CITY, NORTH CAROLINA

An eight-year-old boy in North Carolina is being treated for injuries on his lower leg, ankle and heel after being bitten by a shark in knee-deep waters. This incident is the fourth shark attack in shallow waters in the past two weeks, leading to an increase in police beach patrols. All victims were children and teenagers.

4 SAN FRANCISCO

A Buddhist monk has been charged with attempted murder after stabbing a fellow monk at an East Oakland Monastery. The 30-year-old used two kitchen knives to stab the 66-year-old head monk, in the face and head because he was angry at his disciplinary tactics. Pinn is being treated at Oakland Hospital while Phen is held without bail.

5 PERTH, AUSTRALIA

A gunman accused of taking five people hostage has been shot by police in Mosman Park, Perth. Before the shooting, the man posted messages to his Facebook wall reading "Tonight I am going to die" and "I will be shot by police". Police said the man was armed with a replica pistol, though this was not used. He remains in critical condition.

6 NEW TAIPEI, TAIWAN

An explosion of an unknown powder has set off a fire injuring more than 200 people attending a party at a Taiwan water park. A liaison with the New Taipei City fire department said 83 of these are serious injuries, caused when the fire spread through a crowd of spectators. The fire department believes the explosion was an accident.

7 UNITED KINGDOM

A UK bioethicist is calling for 18 year olds to freeze their sperm, saying that problems associated with being an older father could then be avoided. The bioethicist is calling for a government-funded programme to collect and store the sperm in the form of a universal sperm bank, as it currently costs between £150 and £200 through private providers.

8 POLAND

Dutch pro-abortionist campaigners, part of the group Women on Waves, have used drones to illegally fly abortion pills into Poland. The drone was flown from Germany to Poland where it was received by two Polish women who used the pills to induce an early miscarriage. The group has also smuggled abortion pills into other European countries.

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Grapevine

"We strive to provide a great experience for the entire family, and unfortunately selfie sticks have become a growing safety concern for both our guests and cast."



– **Kim Prunty, Disney World spokesperson.**

Disney has announced it will ban the use of selfie sticks at its theme parks worldwide because of fears they are too dangerous. The ban takes place from Tuesday 30 June at Disney's four Orlando theme parks, the Disneyland resort in California and parks in Paris and Hong Kong.

"The first conversation I had with Sean was, 'I want you to know this organisation supports you, we respect who you are. We respect who you (are) as a pitcher and a person and to whatever degree you want your story told, we'll help facilitate that.'"

– **Theo Fightmaster, General Manager, Sonoma Stompers.** Sean Conroy, pitcher for the Sonoma Stompers baseball team in California, has made baseball history by becoming the sport's first openly gay man. Conroy came out to fans for the team's gay pride night last week, where he received support from the crowd and his teammates and managers.



"I think the first responders will see that as a massive improvement to their capability. Naturally, for the ambulance service getting to a point of importance of rescuing people in the shortest possible time [is crucial]."



– **Peter Coker, Chief Executive of Martin.**

At a cost of \$150,000, the world's first commercial jetpack will be available for purchase next year. After 35 years in the making, the Martin Jetpack will be able to lift humans weighing up to 120kg into the air. The pack can fly for up to 30 minutes at speeds as fast as 74 kilometres per hour. Coker says due to the pack's ability to land in confined spaces, a key selling target is emergency services.

"As we were doing the ground search in the area, there was movement detected by officers on the ground, what they believed to be coughs. So they knew that they were dealing with humans as opposed to wildlife."

– **New York State Police Superintendent Joseph D'Amico.**

Richard Matt, a convicted killer who escaped maximum-security New York Prison, has been shot dead in the woods after police heard him coughing. Matt, who was himself armed with a shotgun, escaped with fellow convicted murderer David Sweat. Sweat is still at large.



FACTS & FIGURES



Relentless

Amazon's originally intended name and the URL relentless.com still redirects to the company website.

2.5 million

seagulls would have been required to lift James's giant peach, contrary to the **501** suggested by Dahl in the book.

Aunt

the most popular pornographic search term in Syria.

2%

of Europeans lack the genes for smelly armpits.

Walkie-talkie

called a talkie-walkie in France.

Literally

The first recorded incorrect use of the word was in **1769**.

One sneeze

is described in the Bible.



Golden State Warriors win the NBA Finals

» COCKINESS BY THE CAVALIERS DOESN'T CUT IT

BY SPORTS EDITOR **DANIEL LORMANS**

Expect to see a lot of new Golden State Warriors jerseys around campus this semester as the team from Oakland, California, just won its first NBA title since 1975. In doing so, they scuppered the dreams of long-suffering Cleveland Cavaliers fans, who were confident of winning their first ever championship following the return of hometown hero, LeBron James. It was looking good for the Cavs, who won two of the first three games of the series, but the Warriors came back strong, winning 4–2 and clinching the championship on the Cavs' home court with a game to spare. The Warriors were helped to the title by finals MVP, Andre Iguodala, and the regular season MVP, Stephen Curry, who broke many three-point shooting records along the way.

This was a well-deserved title for the Warriors, who had finished sixth in their last two seasons, as they dominated their Western Conference with a record-equalling 67 regular season wins before going on to dominate their playoff series against the Pelicans, the Grizzlies and the Rockets to reach the finals for the first time since they last won the Championship.

It was nearly a fairytale return to Cleveland for James, who suffered a lot of jersey-burning abuse from game-loving, player-hating fans when he left the Cavs for his successful spell in Miami with the Heat. After a tough start to the season, the Cavs finished runner-up to Atlanta in the Eastern Conference before coming alive in the playoffs against the Celtics, the Bulls and the Hawks, losing only

two of their fourteen playoff games.

However, in the finals the Cavs were outclassed by the Warriors, and it quickly became clear that LeBron was carrying the team, topping the Cavs' stats for points, rebounds and assists in most of the games. He made the most headlines for accidentally exposing his penis on live TV as he "adjusted" during Game 4. LeBron's "cockiness" during this game was the turning point in the finals series: the Warriors won to tie up the series, and the rest is now history. The next season starts in October, and the Warriors will look to go back-to-back for the first time while Cavs fans may have to say goodbye to James again; he became a free agent on 1 July so he can negotiate with other teams — maybe even the Breakers? ●

NZ Warriors in the Top Eight

» STATE OF ORIGIN DECIDER ON THIS WEDNESDAY

BY **DANIEL LORMANS**

Could this also be the year for our own New Zealand Warriors? It is the Warriors' 20th year in the NRL, and they have had a typically up-and-down season so far. Some big wins over the Titans and Raiders in the last few rounds came at a good time, lifting them into the top eight as they prepare for the rest of the season in what many say is one of the toughest competitions in the world. The Warriors had their final bye round last week to rest and prepare for a crucial match against the Melbourne Storm, who sit one

place ahead but on equal points on the NRL ladder. This fixture always throws up a good match, and Round 18 will see one of the top attacking teams (the Warriors) taking on one of the best defensive units (the Storm). The Warriors have a pretty good record against the Storm and will be confident of consolidating their position in the playoff spots. The Warriors may also be helped by the Storm not having some of their State of Origin players available because the Origin series decider is in Brisbane on Wednesday night.

Whether they win or lose, the Warriors will remain long odds with the bookies to actually win the competition, but the recent signings of Kiwis Roger Tuivasa-Sheck and Issac Luke have got many people quietly confident that next year will be a big year for the Warriors. However, the team will still have their eyes firmly fixed on the remainder of this season; making the playoffs should be an absolute minimum requirement for this team, given their attacking skills and the depth of talent we have in New Zealand, which has many in the game calling for a second New Zealand team. Having three of their last four games away from home isn't the best way to end the season, but the Warriors always seem to find a way to get the job done. ●



Super Rugby "Controversy"

» A BUSINESS FIRST, A SPORTING COMPETITION SECOND

BY DANIEL LORMANS /

We will have a full review of the Super Rugby season next week, but the Super Rugby playoffs and semi-finals have been dominated by incessant moaning about the "unfair" rules of the conference system, which many see as favouring under-performing teams. A lot of

the moaning came from Crusaders fans, who missed the playoffs in seventh place despite having more points than the third-placed Stormers, who managed to win a weak South African conference.

Fearing we wouldn't actually make the final, Highlanders fans also had a bit of a moan

that the Waratahs were given a week off and home advantage for their semi-final despite the Highlanders having more points, more bonus points, a better points differential and scoring more tries while conceding fewer than the Waratahs, not to mention actually beating them on the field when they played in March. As we now know, the better team ended up winning on the night to set up a final between the competition's best two sides — the way it should be. Although the biased Aussie commentators would have us believe this was all down to the referees and nothing to do with the Highlanders playing better rugby.

With the competition set to expand to 18 teams, an even more convoluted conference system is likely to favour the South African teams, who — with their poor results recently — don't seem to warrant a sixth team. So what's the deal? Unfortunately, the grim reality is that Super Rugby is a business first and a sporting competition second. Sponsorship money speaks the loudest in professional sports, and having South Africa walk away from Super Rugby would have been a financial disaster first and a sporting disaster second. ●



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WHAT ON EARTH IS DIVERSTMENT?

by
MOLLY
REYNOLDS

Molly Reynolds is a member of the Otago Uni Divests campus group. On 14 July 2015, the group will be putting forward a petition to the University Council demanding that Otago stops investing funds in fossil fuels. Read on to find out more about why this is so important.

Climate change is one of those issues that rubs everyone up in different ways. Some get fired up over even the smell of it — they stop eating anything that could be related to ruminants, tie themselves to a tree and try to get everyone else to do the same. Others really couldn't give a shit. They put all the climate change chat down to "greenie talk" that won't amount to anything. Gov. Rick Scott (45th Governor of Florida) is one of these greenie haters. His state, Florida, is one of the most threatened by climate change, with the low-lying plains of Miami no longer needing rain to flood. Governor Scott has a simple solution that should fix anyone's worries about the little issue in the atmosphere that could be causing this — in March he banned any mention of the words "climate change" or "global warming" in his departments. Scott even went so far as to remove the term "climate change" in a recent study on climate change.

What Scott, and many others, fail to realise is that 97 percent of climate scientists are telling us climate change is happening. And those who are wondering what the other three percent of scientists are up to? For those three percent, failing to publish their results on climate change can be very lucrative, with one such scientist recently being paid a tidy \$1.2 million by coal and oil companies to keep his results to himself. The 2014 movie, *Merchants of Doubt*, reveals that the same people who were paid to hide the truth about tobacco are being paid to do the same for climate change. That is, some sneaky marketers who fooled us into thinking ciggies were healthy are also creating uncertainty about climate change. Not particularly reassuring, is it? When issues as big as this arise, it's all too easy to crawl back into that comfy cave of ignorance and see yourself as a drop in the ocean of shit that is climate change.

Divestment is the opposite of investment. You get rid of stocks, shares, assets or investments because they are supporting something dodgy. This puts economic pressure on the companies involved and, more importantly, creates stigma about what they are doing and highlights opposition to that industry's moral ambiguity. It is not a new idea and has propelled some serious social change, such as the opposition to apartheid in South Africa in the 1970s to 80s. Select colleges, state governments, counties and cities pulled their money from multinational corporations that did business with South Africa to show their outrage at human rights violations. The apartheid divestment movement significantly increased public awareness of apartheid and, in the end, was crucial to its collapse.

More recently, the use of moral investment has infiltrated the tobacco, alcohol and armaments industries. Corporations are deciding they no longer want to fund companies that contribute to catastrophic health problems for the

majority of long-term users. In the case of fossil fuel divestment, it is equally simple. Bill McKibbin, a key player in this movement, sums it up beautifully: "If it's wrong to wreck the climate, then it's wrong to profit from the wreckage." In 1989, McKibbin wrote a book about what would happen to the world if we didn't pull finger and start making changes. Unfortunately, no one read that book and those who did were not yet switched on enough to take much notice. Big dog Bill changed tack and looked at other ways he could make a change — and so came about the glorious birth of fossil fuel divestment.

So far it has been the biggest divestment movement in human history; by September 2014, 181 institutions and 656 individuals had committed to divest over \$50 billion, with numbers continuing to increase in 2015.

Climate change is a massive issue, and we are up against some of the largest companies on the planet. People who support divestment aren't necessarily hippie tree huggers, but include people like Natalie Portman of the Harvard Alumni, Ban Ki-Moon, Secretary General of the United Nations, and Bishop Desmond Tutu, a social activist who fought against the apartheid regime. So some impressive names have given this divestment the thumbs up, but who isn't supporting it? Well, unsurprisingly, it's the pigheads running fossil fuel companies. For example, John Felmy, Chief Economist of the American Petroleum Institute, said that the movement "truly disgusts me" because the people supporting it are "liars". Exxon Mobil stated that the divestment movement equates to "not using energy at all" — suggesting that their company is located under a rock. They totally dismissed renewable energy, not only denying its current use but also that we have or will soon have sufficient renewable energy technologies to provide for all our energy use. Wankers.



“If it’s wrong to wreck the climate, then it’s wrong to profit from the wreckage.”

There should no longer be a debate over whether or not climate change is happening. It's like trying to debate whether $1+1 = 2$. The heatwave in India, droughts in California, floods in Texas and the increasing frequency of freak storms in the tropics are all symptoms of a disease that we've managed to turn a blind eye to for the past 30+ years. And in our own backyard the increasing frequency and severity of droughts is putting serious pressure on our agricultural industry.

So how would divestment from fossil fuels save us and the polar bears? All it takes is a bit of simple maths. In order to stay below a two degrees Celsius rise in global temperature (recommended by scientists to save us all), we would be allowed to emit **565 gigatons** of carbon dioxide. Not any more or we'll drown with the polar bears. But fossil fuel companies already have enough fossil fuels in reserve to put out **2795 gigatons** of carbon dioxide — and they are itching to burn it. That is a whopping five times what is safe to release into our precious atmosphere. Even more messed up, the fossil fuel companies are still exploring. Divestment brings this issue into the public eye. Our funds can instead go towards renewable sources of energy.

Not all is lost though, with positive results at the recent G7 summit in Bonn, Germany. World leaders agreed (with peer pressure from influentials like Ban-Ki Moon and Pope Francis) to commit their countries to limit global tempera-

ture warming to two degrees Celsius and reduce carbon emissions by 40 to 70 percent by 2050. They also emphasised the need to decarbonise the economy completely by the end of this century. This is a huge deal as we're just around the corner from the UN Climate Change Conference in December, at which (if we're lucky) the UN countries will hold themselves accountable for the legally binding reduction targets for carbon emissions they set. But it's hard to mobilise international movements for a long-term commitment, especially with the scale of things. Consider this, get a group of your five besties and try to decide what to have for dinner, or what movie to watch. Hard, yes? Now try getting 100 high-powered strangers to come up with a plan to change the world in an efficient, green and ethical way.

Some major players have already divested their shares from fossil fuels: AXA Insurance, the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, Costa Rica and Norway, Stanford University, Glasgow University, our sister city University of Edinburgh, along with dozens of other universities, and recently the state of Hawaii, which signed a bill to go 100 percent renewable by 2045. You know who else? The Guardian has divested £800 million from fossil fuels and, surprisingly, the oil tycoons of yesteryear's Rockefellers have given the movement a big boost with their symbolic (and substantial) US\$50 billion divestment from the fossil fuel industry. Various colleges, universities, cities, and religious

institutions around the world have also seen the light and made the move to divest. More locally, Victoria University of Wellington and our own Dunedin City Council have divested their shares from fossil fuels.

So why doesn't the University of Otago follow the DCC and Vic's lead? Surely we don't want to miss the boat and divest after Auckland Uni? No doubt, it's something that improves our reputation and supports a more sustainable future for our student body/human race. It's not just students who are concerned about this. Many of our lecturers are heavily involved — yes, they do have lives beyond the lecture theatre. Of the nearly 800 people who have signed the Otago Uni Divests petition, 70 are staff.

Dr Alexandra Macmillan, Senior Lecturer in Environmental Health, is one of these people and has been heavily involved in mobilising the DCC and the University Council towards divestment. Macmillan studied medicine at the University of Auckland and went on to specialise in public health. While in Dunedin, Macmillan has been part of a group of staff at the university who are concerned about climate change. 25 members of the group are departmental heads and pro-vice chancellors — high-level signatories who have been encouraging the university to divest.

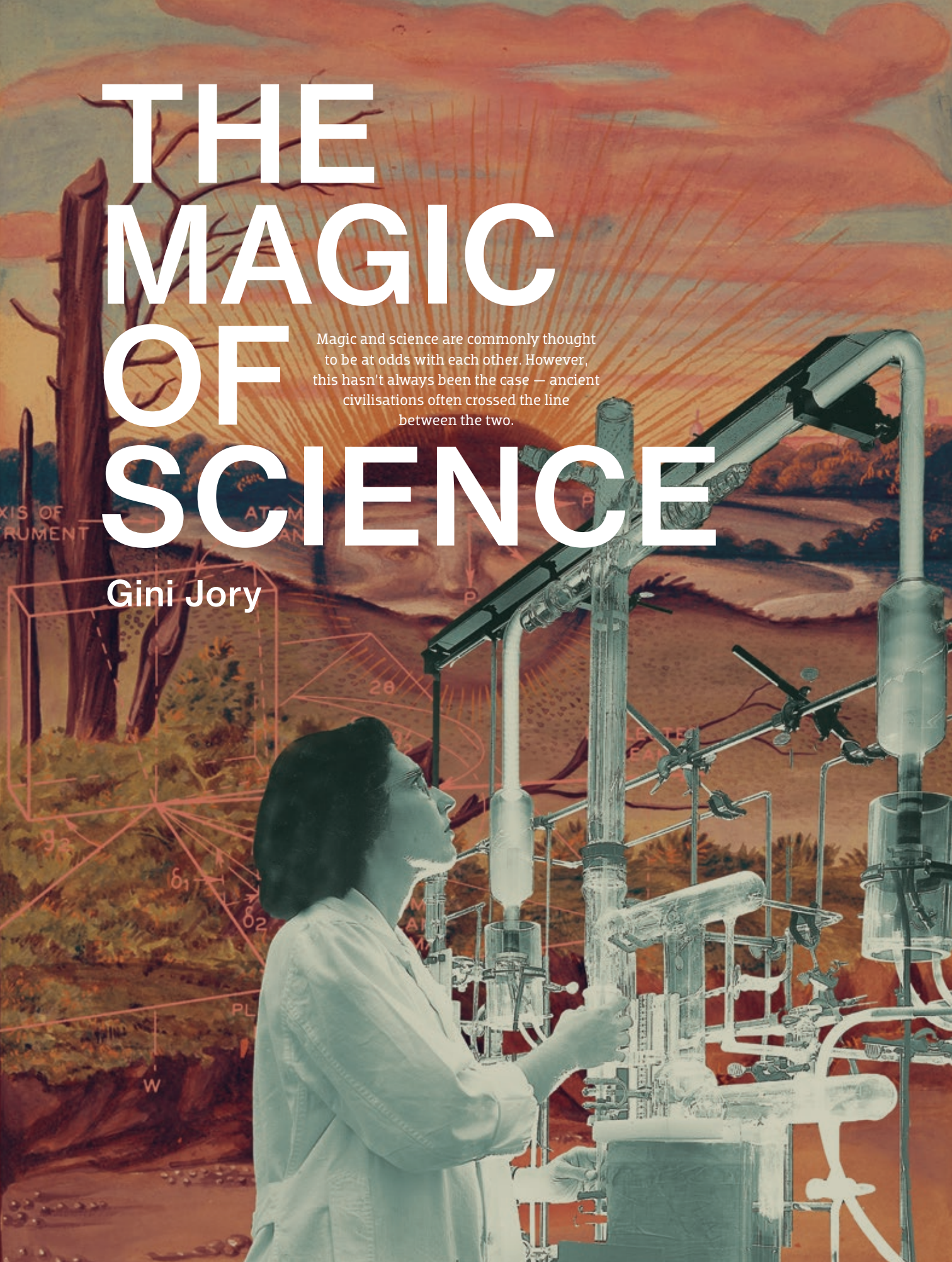
As well as staff, the Tertiary Education Union is on board. Since June last year, the group has written three letters directly to the vice-chancellor and the University Council urging "(the University of Otago) to adopt unequivocal language that commits the Foundation to cease current investments in companies that extract and sell fossil fuels, as well as avoiding future investment in such companies". The letters emphasise that divestment is an "exciting opportunity to enhance the national and international reputation of the University of Otago". The TEU is also urging the university's investment portfolio to exclude anything that has an overall negative impact on social and community outcomes, is inconsistent with the UN's policies on health and safety, children's rights or human rights, is expected to result in serious harm to life-sustaining ecosystems, or is illegal in New Zealand. It seems surprising that these issues even need to be raised in the twenty-first century. These criteria would ensure that the university's investments are ethical. Macmillan knows that this issue "goes much wider than just the 25 signatories" and that now, and in the past, "universities have led the way in making divestment choices which has meant that the rest of society then follows". Macmillan, like many others, believes that divestment "is probably the most powerful action that students can take as individuals about climate change right now". We know that the university actually only has a minuscule amount

of investments in fossil fuels so divesting would not result in any huge financial loss; what it would do is publicly acknowledge the university's duty to invest its money in ways that reflect its values and look after our future.

On 14 July 2015, the University Council meets, and this should be when it discusses divestment. Otago Uni Divests is the student-run group whose petition will feature at that meeting. One way to keep up on what's happening is to give OtagoUniDivests Facebook page a like. We will keep you posted on the latest as this movement gains some serious momentum. We are not the only group of students backing divestment. Both Auckland and Canterbury University students are making noise. Victoria Uni has already beaten us to the punch — how could we let Auckland and Canterbury sneak in before us as well?

Sign our petition to ensure your voice is heard:

<http://bit.ly/1T81jrj>



THE MAGIC OF SCIENCE

Magic and science are commonly thought to be at odds with each other. However, this hasn't always been the case — ancient civilisations often crossed the line between the two.

Gini Jory

Jane Foster, *Marvel Heroes'* astrophysicist, once quoted Sir Arthur C. Clarke in *Thor*: "Magic is just science we don't understand yet." Over history, many events have been caused because people couldn't understand science and took it to be magic, or because magical or religious elements were mixed with scientific methods to create the illusion of magic. This has been happening since ancient times, and the scientific and the spiritual factions of society are still at each other's throats today.

Most ancient magic and science was deeply intertwined with religion and mythology. In Ancient Egypt, magical healing complemented medical healing. Spells were used by doctors, Sekhmet priests and scorpion charmers to target the supernatural beings believed to be causing the illness. They would use the names of these beings to gain power over them. Speeches were also often used to let the doctor or patient identify themselves with characters in Egyptian mythology, such as the god Thoth, keeper of magical knowledge. Acting out myths ensured patients could be saved as the Egyptian god Horus was by Thoth. Often these spells were inscribed on statues for public use.

These techniques were used with traditional healing methods, which were the probably the most advanced in the ancient world. Herbal remedies were used to alleviate pain, while magic was expected to cure. Spells were also used to encourage physical remedies to do their work properly and to expel the evil within the patient. Egyptians had advanced knowledge of healing wounds from the third millennium BCE, along with knowledge of the nervous system, brain and heart. It is

generally thought that the Egyptians gained this latter knowledge from the Greeks of Alexandria.

Ancient Egyptians also had some pretty unconventional ideas around surgery and prosthetics. Prosthetics were usually used only for cosmetic purposes, or in preparation for the afterlife. Wooden prosthetic toes have been found, which would have been worn by patients who had lost their toes, most likely to gangrene. Painted eyes have also been found, although these were most likely used in mummies rather than living people. These were precursors to modern prosthetics and their uses.

The Ancient Greeks and Romans used similar methods when it came to the complementary aspects of mythology and medicine. But they had their own sciences, which were entwined with their religious beliefs, and these were often supported by the state. One such not-so-sciencey science was divination. This wasn't just a crazy old lady staring into crystal balls, reading the future in tea leaves and seeing omens in the shadows though. These were state-run institutions, and many different kinds of divination could be used to foretell the future and the outcomes of specific events. They were considered the sciences of the time, even if it was down to mere speculation and cultural tradition.

The ancient sibylline books were kept by the sibylline priests or sibyls (which is why Professor Trelawny's first name was Sybil in *Harry Potter*; there's a fun fact for you!). These books were supposed to contain prophecies referring to specific people and events and could be called upon if one suspected a hero had risen

or a terrible event was about to occur. The priests would do this and report to the senate with their findings.

Auspica was another important form of divination. This was the observation of birds and natural phenomena. Before performing any public acts, such as going into battle, a magistrate would consult with the gods by "taking the auspices". This basically meant they would sit on a hill or another appointed spot and wait for something to happen. This could be for a certain number or type of bird to fly by, for the weather to change, for thunder or lightening, and it was up to the magistrate to interpret these "signs from the gods" however they saw fit. Auspica was narrow in scope, and only showed the gods' disapproval or approval of an action.

The third type of divination was extispicy and haruspicy — sacrificing an animal to the god you needed information from and reading its entrails. This could go badly wrong and earn the disapproval of the gods easily if the animal was not exactly as specified, was the wrong colour or size, or was not correctly decorated for sacrificial duties.

Some of these forms of divination were taken very seriously by the public, while others were not. Haruspicy and extispicy were the most commonly used by the general public as they could be used for virtually any reason, although in many cases these were seen as more of a formality than an actual form of fortune telling. Auspica, or augury as it was commonly known, was taken a lot less seriously by the public. In most cases, augury was used to explain scientific phenomenon

such as lightning that the ancient Greeks and Romans could not yet conceive the cause of. If it could be explained as the will of the gods, a scientific explanation was not needed for it. This is a recurring theme in the history of religion, and many have been punished for trying to find a scientific explanation — think Galileo discovering that the Earth rotated around the sun rather than being the centre of the universe as Christian theology dictated at the time. This finding was not received well by the Church. Galileo was tried by the inquisition for being a heretic, then put under house arrest until he died.

Over the ages, mythology and magic have often melded with science to create new "scientific" fields and traditions. Probably the best (and coolest) example of this is alchemy. This was a mixture of what eventually became known as chemistry with aspects of hermeticism, a religious and philosophical tradition based on the writings of Hermes Trismegistus. His writing helped to shape and develop modern science in the Renaissance and the Reformation. While based on science and scientific methods, alchemy also had mythological, spiritual and religious aspects.

Alchemy led to the development of basic laboratory equipment, techniques, theory and experimental methods. Alchemists did not understand a lot of the modern scientific methods we use for chemistry today: they had no periodic table or atomic theory. Instead, they used the four elements: earth, air, fire and water. Symbolism and mysticism played important roles in the art of alchemy as well, which you'll probably have picked up from popular culture — especially in almost any

"People are quick to fear that which they don't understand, and unfortunately science and medicine often end up being far too complicated, especially for an illiterate population, to understand."

type of historic treasure hunt you can think of.

Alchemy had a few main disciplines. These were turning common metals into noble metals (silver and gold) and the creation of an elixir of life, which leads us to the endless search for the creation of the fabled philosopher's stone! As described by Paul-Jaques Moulouin, alchemy is "the chemistry of the most subtle kind, which allows one to observe extraordinary chemical operations at a more rapid pace; ones that require a long time for nature to produce". Alchemy has been around since the time of the Ancient Greeks and Romans, but is probably well known by most of us for its work throughout the medieval period and those that follow. During this time it was also praised by the Church for its spiritual symbolism, as the searches mentioned above

symbolised the regeneration of the human soul. Even Martin Luther praised it for its consistency with Christian teachings. There has been a history of alchemy schools universally, including throughout China, India and the Mediterranean, in both Islamic and Western worlds, where the spiritual elements were adjusted to suit the different faiths.

There is, however, one great lie many people believe about alchemy, and particularly about the philosopher's stone. This, of course, surrounds Nicholas Flamel. Firstly, for you ardent Harry Potter readers, I hate to break it to you, but he was not invented by JK Rowling.

Flamel was a real person, who lived in fourteenth- and fifteenth-century Paris. Secondly, he wasn't actually an alchemist at

all. He was a scribe, and during his life he ran two shops as a writer. He died in 1418, and his will gave no evidence that he possessed any legendary alchemical wealth.

The legends painting Flamel as a great alchemist who had succeeded in creating the philosopher's stone did not appear until the seventeenth century. Despite this, the tombstone he designed himself is still preserved at the Musée de Cluny in Paris, and one of his houses still stands at 52 rue de Montmorency. There is also a street called rue de Nicholas Flamel by the Louvre Museum.

Flamel was referred to as a great alchemist by many famous writers, including Sir Isaac Newton, Victor Hugo and, of course, JK Rowling, although the latter probably knew, while it would still have been up for debate during the lives of the former two. And it's all because a mysterious alchemical text, published in Paris in 1612, *Livre des figures hiéroglyphiques* or the *Exposition of the Hieroglyphical Figures*, was attributed to Flamel, with the publisher's introduction detailing his search for the philosopher's stone. This was first questioned by Etienne Villain in 1761, who claimed that it was all the work of the publisher, P. Arnauld de la Chevalerie, under the pseudonym Eiranaeus Orandus. This was highly contested at the time, and further stories and sightings did nothing but embellish the legend that has now become synonymous with alchemy.

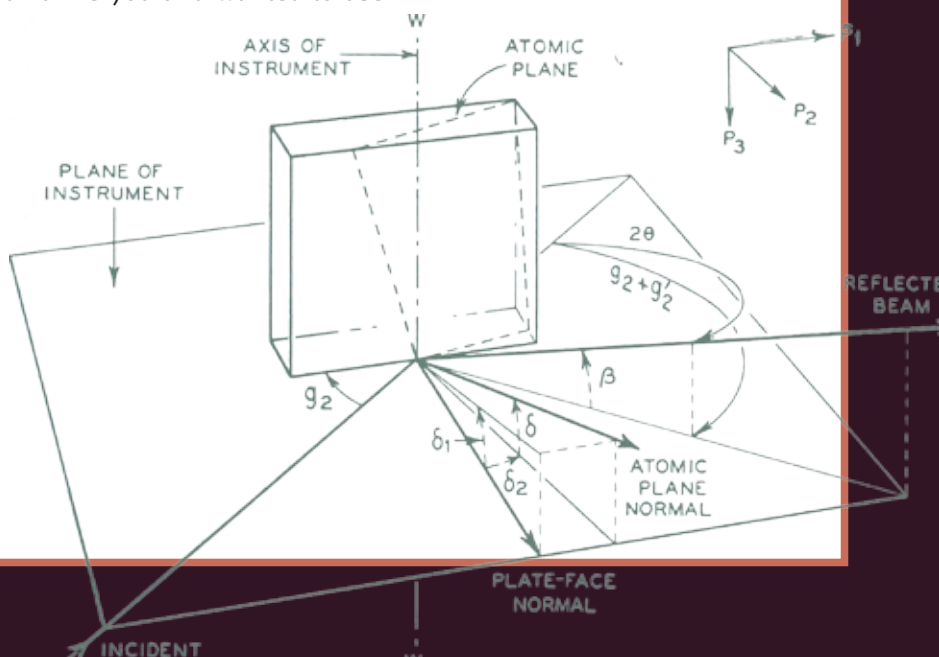
Science and magic have historically been friends, especially when it was endorsed by ancient rulers. Religion was a magical thing, and their spells and science were conducted simultaneously as a way of pleasing the gods. Alchemy was the tipping point of

this previously harmonious relationship. Alchemists began to gain a more scientific viewpoint in how they go about things in everyday life, but they were still trying to achieve magical things. At the time what they did was considered science, but now with the power of hindsight we see the search for the philosophers stone as a magical quest, rather than scientific. With the rise of Christianity, magic has become associated with the devil and is no longer acceptable. Now, magic and science are seen as mutually exclusive – unable to be combined or complimentary to each other.

Magic was mostly seen as a pagan tradition, and Christians, who were in power in most of Europe after the fall of Rome, weren't particularly happy about paganism being around anymore. Witch hunts were prolific over Europe in the medieval period, particularly around the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. You could be burnt, drowned or stoned as a witch for any number of reasons; peasants often didn't understand advanced medical knowledge and so any advanced healing could be explained away as magic, or the heretic work of the devil. It could also be because enough people didn't like you and wanted to use

you as a scapegoat for a bad crop failure or bad weather. People are quick to fear that which they don't understand, and unfortunately science and medicine often end up being far too complicated, especially for an illiterate population at that time, to understand.

It's been a complicated relationship for science and magic throughout history. While they can blend well and find balance, if something is too advanced for the general populace to understand, magic can take on a whole new sinister and potentially life-threatening meaning. State-approved "magic" was okay, but if it went against those holding power – the Church in most cases – you'd better watch your back, or your scientific dabbblings might see you burnt at the stake. Arthur C. Clarke said: "witchcraft to the ignorant ... simple science to the learned". While science and magic worked harmoniously for centuries, it unfortunately doesn't look like we will be returning to this combination any time soon ■





Fresh and Fruity

» **INTERVIEW** | BY LOULOU CALLISTER-BAKER

Fresh and Fruity present #gallerygirls
filmed and edited by Phoebe Mackenzie.

Fresh and Fruity is not just a gallery space up the stairs at 140 George Street – it is also a social media endeavour with its own manifesto. Critic interviewed two members of the collective who run Fresh and Fruity, Hana Aoake and Mya Middleton, to hear more about the project.

What is Fresh and Fruity? And who are the people behind it?

Fresh and Fruity is a sexy new look. It is a social media spectacle with a physical location run by a collective in Dunedin. The collective consists of Hana Aoake, Mya Middleton, Severine Costa, Alannah Kwant and Kimmi Rindel. We are constantly challenging the relevance of having a hierarchy or 'directors' and finding new ways to work as a collective. Although, currently, Mya and Hana are our joint brand strategists and content editors.

How is Fresh and Fruity both original and a sexy new look?

Fresh and Fruity is a reflection of lifestyle imagery. It is a simulacra of capitalist ideals and the problems within the art world. Fresh and Fruity is intended to offer a challenge to the white cube gallery system which is inherently faux progressive and exists between the same power structures which operate within corporate spheres. Fresh and Fruity is an appropriation, a copy and will never be concerned with being 'original' because originality does not exist.

How is it different to gallery spaces in Dunedin? Did you start it in response to a gap or frustrations with the typical gallery process/display?

It was formed in mid-2014 by Hana Aoake and Zach Williams in response to issues around branding and lifestyle imagery and the way corporate motives merge onto art spheres. It also happened because of chance or rather the availability of the space within their studio. It has morphed into a bridging space — offering young women the chance to gain skills and experience by having shows and hosting them. Fresh and Fruity aims to create space for people who are both excluded and exploited within the art world and market, especially under a neo-colonial capitalist framework.

What challenges you as a space and a concept?

Finding ways to negate corporate art markets while maintaining a space and practice with zero budget is always a challenge. However, having a heavy online presence is incredibly useful in terms of constructing Fresh and Fruity as a space for contemporary art, a collective and a 'lifestyle brand'. We are interested in the disappearance of 'capitalist subjectivity' through the use of language and imagery in social media.

What part does social media play in your practices and the running of Fresh and Fruity?

Corporatised social media is key to Fresh and Fruity's practice. Our shows are all heavily documented to alleviate geographical distances

between audiences and artist. Fresh and Fruity is also committed to having an expansive audience that operates between a url and irl format. We are interested in social media as a tool for communication. Online engagement makes up around 65 percent of our audience and allows for an experience of an artwork regardless of location and in intimate spaces such as one's bedroom.

Are there artists and/or galleries that really excite you in New Zealand? Why/why not?

The Blue Oyster Art Project Space really excites us — we may sound biased as they have been a big helping hand in our ongoing existence, but they are consistently facilitating intriguing shows and open to challenging and critiquing the art system. They are also one of a few non-commercial galleries in Dunedin. We are also interested in North Projects in Christchurch, Enjoy in Wellington, Gertrude Contemporary in Melbourne and projects like Hapori in Auckland. We are interested in curatorial practices which operate between, yet challenge and critique, the ways in which art functions.

Are you able to describe current/upcoming projects?

One of our upcoming projects is with artist Sarah Kelleher (Misfit Mod), an electronic musician from Christchurch who will be holding an electronic music workshop for women in late July at Fresh and Fruity. We have a project at YES Collective in Auckland this month called Title title what's a title and will be part of an event at St PAUL St Gallery, also in Auckland, called Prepersonal, transpersonal and personal, which has been organised by Georgina Watson. In November we are participating in two projects; one is in the participatory section of the Feminisms in Aotearoa show at Enjoy Gallery in Wellington, and the other is the trans/forming feminisms: media, technology, identity conference at the University of Otago. ●

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DAVID SHRIGLEY I'm Dead 2010 Mixed media. British Council Collection.
Image courtesy Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum © The Artist



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INGREDIENTS

SERVES 4

- **1** onion, diced
- splash of olive oil
- **4** cloves garlic
- **1/4** **teaspoon** cayenne pepper
- leaves from three sprigs of thyme
- **1 medium sized** kumara (sweet potato), diced into 1cm cubes
- **3** courgettes, halved lengthways and sliced
- **2 teaspoons** vegetable stock
- **3 cups** hot water
- **1 large head** of broccoli, chopped up including the stalk (save a few florettes for decoration)
- **50g** blue cheese, crumbled plus extra to garnish
- **1/4 cup** sunflower seeds
- **1/4 cup** plain, unsweetened yoghurt (optional)
- salt and pepper

Broccoli and Blue Cheese Soup

BY SOPHIE EDMONDS

Broccoli soup came up on my Instagram feed the other day, and the vibrant bowl of green caught my eye. I just had to have some. Conveniently, the Universe agreed and made all the greens required super cheap at my local vege shop.

Junk Free June continues, and while the lack of cake has been soul destroying, it has forced me to experiment with new healthier recipes. I know this says blue cheese in the title, but I am going to claim that cheese in small amounts is healthy. Eliminating it altogether would make life just not worth living. Let's not forget what a great source of calcium it is too. The great thing about buying a good blue is that a little goes a long way in terms of flavour impact. The creaminess and flavour given by the blue just adds that extra oomph to the soup — without it, this would just be a hot and salty green smoothie.

I used a golden kumara rather than an orange or a red. I didn't want to dull down the green from the broccoli, but worst-case scenario just use whatever you have on hand. The kumara makes it lovely and slightly sweet, which complements the cheese nicely.

My vege shop often has bruised or damaged produce and sells it on the cheap. I managed to get a bag of four courgettes for a little under \$3. Sure, I had to chop the end off one

of them, but they didn't need to look pretty — they were about to be blended into a soup.

METHOD

1. Sauté the onion in the olive oil in a large saucepan over a medium heat for a couple of minutes. As it starts to soften, add in the garlic, cayenne pepper and thyme and continue to cook until the onion becomes translucent. Add the cubes of kumara, courgette slices, vegetable stock and water, then bring to the boil for twenty or so minutes until the kumara has softened.
2. Toss the broccoli into the broth, pop on a lid and continue to boil away for another ten minutes until the broccoli has turned bright green.
3. Pour the contents of the saucepan into a blender and blitz until smooth. A stick blender will also work. Return the soup

to the saucepan and, over a low heat, crumble through the cheese and let it melt into the soup.

4. Toast the seeds in a dry frying pan until lightly golden and crisp. Slice a couple of the leftover broccoli florettes into flat pieces then cook in boiling water for no more than two minutes. Plunge into cold water to stop them from cooking further.
5. Serve up the soup into bowls, swirl over some yoghurt, place the broccoli slices on the top, sprinkle over the seeds and crumble over a little more cheese.

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Muse **Drones**

» **ALTERNATIVE ROCK, SYMPHONIC ROCK** | WARNER BROS; 2015

REVIEWED BY **BASTI MENKES**



Regardless of whether we asked for one, Muse are back with a new album. Believe it or not, *Drones* is the seventh full-length LP from the English trio. When Muse first emerged in the late nineties, they were just another Radiohead clone. Over the next few years they forged an identity of their own, mixing progressive-rock pomposity with pop melodies to decent effect. As they grew in popularity, however, Muse also grew in vanity. To match the scale of their histrionic live shows, the songwriting became almost painfully over the top. By 2009's *The Resistance*, the band itself could barely be heard above the sea of strings, orchestras and synthesizers that Muse insisted on piling atop every song. Muse's "more is more" philosophy had utterly backfired. One would be hard-pressed to find even a Muse diehard who will defend *The Resistance* or its dubstep-infused follow-up, *The 2nd Law*.

After the grotesque grandiosity of their recent work, Muse promised a back-to-basics approach on their new album, *Drones*. As its name suggests, *Drones* fancies itself as a politically charged concept album. According to egomaniacal frontman, Matt Bellamy, *Drones* details "the journey of a human, from

their abandonment and loss of hope, to their indoctrination by the system to be a human drone, to their eventual defection from their oppressors".

To nobody's surprise, this album is no 1984 in its political commentary. The anti-establishment narrative of *Drones* has all the subtlety and depth of a Michael Bay movie. Groan-inducing lyrics include "Yeah, I'm free from society, you can't control me" and, well, just about any line from "Psycho".

For fans of CGI bombast, however, *Drones* is also as generous with its explosions as a *Transformers* film. Songs like "Psycho" and "Dead Inside" deliver blockbuster riffs and choruses with aplomb. Thankfully, Muse sound less like a Queen cover band this time around. While *Drones* certainly aims for enormity, the emphasis on riffs rather than operatic grandeur makes for a more corporeal album.

Unfortunately, the fact that *Drones* is more focused than Muse's last decade of material is hardly saying much. And for most of its twelve tracks, the songwriting just isn't inspired. Many songs feel like pale imitations of previous Muse numbers, from the pathetic



"Starlight" rehash, "Mercy", to the sprawling mess of "The Globalist", which is really just a poor man's "Citizen Erased". That isn't to say that it's all bad. There is fun to be had with the pelvic-thrusting opener, "Dead Inside", and "Reapers" actually warrants repeated visits. With blistering guitar riffs and a catchy, Collective Soul-esque chorus, "Reapers" is far and away the best song here. One can't help but wish the rest of *Drones* were as compelling.

Drones isn't a deplorable record, but it is far from a great one. Muse have been shockingly inconsistent since *Black Holes & Revelations*, a result of trying to please too many people at once. You're into progressive rock? Right this way. How about dubstep and Queen homages? We've got you covered. What Muse really needs is a solid, creative, nuanced record to restore our faith in them. As much as I'd like it to be, *Drones* is not that album. ●



Third3ye

» INTERVIEW | BY DANIEL MUNRO

Third3ye are not your average hip hop collective — instead of your typical bars they bring a spiritually-conscious form of hip hop. Third3ye are part of this year's Re-Ori line up, so Critic music reporter Daniel Munro caught up with Bronson, one half of Third3ye, to talk all things from influences to the illuminati.

CRITIC: First up, tell us about yourself and give us your top three songs on your iPod at the moment.

BRONSON: I'm MeloDownz, aka Bronson, member of Third3ye cult. My top three songs I've been jamming to lately are Nickelus F — "Cigarettes", Mick Jenkins — "Shipwrecked", NxWorries (Anderson Paak and Knxwledge) — "Suede".

CRITIC: Nice! So you guys break the mould of typical hip hop, touching on philosophy to environmental issues. What has influenced your content?

BRONSON: Mostly my background growing up, my mother was into her crystal healing, meditation and readings, etc. I never used to acknowledge it until I got older and, as an artist, I like the approach and ideas of open-mindedness. I think there is way more going on in the universe than our planet, and I like talking about possibilities about discovering the unknown on other planets and life.

CRITIC: You both have worked on solo projects. Do you find making music as a group any different to your solo material?

BRONSON: It is definitely different than our solo stuff; Angelo and I have different stories to tell, and working on our solo endeavours enables us to have that platform to express ourselves as individuals and have a more personal take on the music we make. My solo stuff is more raw and based on my background as I narrate stories I've experienced or seen growing up in Avondale.

CRITIC: Obviously the "third eye" symbology has been used by illuminati conspiracy theorists. Can you guys clear up its true meaning and what its influence is in your music?

BRONSON: The third eye to me is the inner eye and self-intuition. In your brain you have a pineal gland that releases dimethyltryptamine (DMT) naturally, which secretes sleep and also allows you to get to a higher platform of consciousness — it's also the ajna chakra, which are energy systems within your solar plexus. When you hear us say "open up your third eye" at our shows, that's a metaphor for saying stay open to the possibilities, drop the ego and open up your mind. I don't really understand why they relate the third eye to illuminati. We are far from what they represent. We are just some poets from the light side spreading the love and being human.

CRITIC: Red Bull have given you guys a lot of help with recording and shows. How did that relationship come about?

BRONSON: It all started from a phone call from Tom Scott — at the time we were kinda just doing our own thing. He was chosen as a curator for the Red Bull Sound Select platform and given the responsibility to choose three decent acts from the YGB collective to be a part of the New Zealand roster; we were lucky enough to be chosen. Red Bull have been really helpful to push our music to the masses and get some pretty big shows, and were also generous enough to give us some studio time to master our last album, On3ness.

CRITIC: It's been a year since your last project, On3ness. Can you give us any insights into another release?

BRON-SUN: We have been taking our time on this new project — we want it to be quality, from the vocals, beats, musicality and instrumentations. There's no release date as of yet as we keep writing new stuff, but the wait will def be worth it.

I'll be dropping a solo mixtape later on in the year though, so keep a third eye out for that too! We can't wait to come and bring the vibes to Dunters — it's been too long! ●



The Last Five Years

» DIRECTED BY **RICHARD LAGRAVENESE**



REVIEWED BY **MANDY TE**

Jason Robert Brown's *The Last Five Years* is a musical that is literally all singing and no dialogue; it isn't the first theatre production that comes to my mind when adapting a stage play into a film. However, the storyline of *The Last Five Years* creates a raw and genuine experience that translates effortlessly onto the big screen.

The Last Five Years follows the demise of the romantic relationship between Cathy Hiatt (Anna Kendrick) and Jamie Wellerstein (Jeremy Jordan). Cathy is an aspiring actress,

who struggles to land roles on Broadway and ends up working at a theatre company in Ohio — a job that she ultimately finds disappointing and unfulfilling. Jamie, on the other hand, finds success with the release of his first novel and quickly becomes a famous writer. Cathy's failure to fulfil her dreams creates tension between the pair; her growing insecurities coupled with Jamie's inability to prioritise his wife over his work and his eventual infidelities result in the disintegration of their relationship. While this storyline may seem trite, their

romance and its end are documented with a slight twist — there are two timelines. Jamie's perspective on the relationship is shown chronologically, while the audience follows Cathy's point-of-view from end to beginning.

Initially, these two timelines are confusing and, though LaGravenese attempts to smoothly alternate between each character's point-of-view, at times I felt as though I was chasing after the plot and fact-checking scenes in my head so that I could fully engage with the film as a whole. As the timelines intersected, the sequences became more clear, but what remained convincingly wonderful throughout *The Last Five Years* were the lead performances of Anna Kendrick and Jeremy Jordan. The pair fitted seamlessly into their roles, and while the film's tacky aesthetics could not be unseen, their acting and vocal performances helped the audience to overlook the film's decorative flaws and focus on the emotional ups and downs that Cathy and Jamie shared.

With a powerful cast and a quirky portrayal of romance (and the end of it), *The Last Five Years* is a musical that is equal parts disheartening and endearing to watch. ●

Jurassic World

» DIRECTED BY **COLLIN TREVORROW**



REVIEWED BY **ALEX CAMPBELL-HUNT**

Like many of us, I was looking forward to a triumphant revival of the franchise that pretty much defined my childhood, but, deep down, I knew I was probably setting myself up for disappointment. My eventual reaction fell somewhere between those poles. *Jurassic World* doesn't measure up to the original *Jurassic Park*, and I often found myself wondering what it would have been like in the hands of Spielberg and the original creative team.

Twenty-two years after the events of the first film, the planned dinosaur park is finally up and running on Isla Nublar. The dinosaurs that we all know and love are back, along with some newbies, including a genetically engineered dinosaur called *Indominus Rex*. Two brothers, Zach and Gray Mitchell (Nick Robinson and Ty Simpkins), visit the park to see their aunt, Claire Dearing (Bryce Dallas Howard), who is the park's operations

manager. Alongside the park's trainer, Owen Grady (Chris Pratt), who has a rapport with the dinosaurs, Claire examines the *Indominus Rex*. Owen believes that creating genetically modified dinosaurs is dangerous and, of course, he turns out to be right.

Jurassic World delivers with its action and visual aesthetics, even if it over-relies on digital rather than practical effects. However, it is less successful with its characters and dialogue compared to earlier films, in which the franchise had carefully made its protagonists well-rounded and relatable people.

In the latest instalment, Trevorrow resorts to a stock-action hero trope through Owen's character and some unnerving (but

hopefully unintentional) anti-feminist undertones in Claire Dearing. Believe it or not, the little kid, Gray, is probably the most likeable character, which might be a first for this genre.

What *Jurassic World* ultimately lacks is the original *Jurassic Park*'s ease and gentleness, which never came into tension with the more action-heavy scenes of the film. By contrast, *Jurassic World* seems tailored to the dubstep generation; it's more hyperactive and visceral with less breathing room, and even the dialogue feels overwhelmingly rushed. However, when taken on its own, *Jurassic World* stands as a slick and entertaining action film. ○





Man Up

» DIRECTED BY **BEN PALMER**

REVIEWED BY **JAXON LANGLEY**



Unfortunately, the title is not ironic. But don't let this be off-putting: *Man Up* is an entirely self-aware film and doesn't set out to subvert genre tropes but, instead, fully embraces them. For the most part, *Man Up* entertains due to its sharp script delivered by strong lead performances, which creates a frivolous but ultimately endearing story of accidental love.

Man Up begins with Nancy (Lake Bell), a cynical, socially awkward and commitment-phobic thirty-four-year-old, meeting a young woman named Jessica (Ophelia Lovibond), who sees through her negative personality. After a conversation on a train, Jessica leaves a self-help book with Nancy, who has fallen asleep. When the protagonist wakes up, she storms off the train and tries to return the book to Jessica but, instead, she is approached by Jack (Simon Pegg), a man who mistakes her for Jessica because the book was supposed to be a signal for their blind date. Nancy decides to take a chance; she pretends to be Jessica and

goes on the blind date in a plot that could be described as the *Catfish* of romantic comedies.

The film's strongest component is Lake Bell — she channels Bridget Jones and pulls off a very convincing British accent, one so convincing the majority of the crew didn't even realise she was American until production was over. However, not all of the characters are as likable — Sean (Rory Kinnear), a creep from Nancy's past who appears to be comedic relief, often left me feeling uncomfortable rather than amused as he attempted to blackmail Nancy into sexual favours in exchange for keeping her identity a secret.

Man Up could have been a generic and predictable drag if not for the brilliant chemistry and tension between Lake Bell and Simon Pegg, whose on-screen presence overcomes a lot of the film's flaws. The two leads keep the film at a consistent rhythm with their well-delivered dialogue, which manages to make this overnight journey through London a mostly enjoyable one. ●



Inside Out

» DIRECTED BY **PETER DOCTER**

REVIEWED BY **RACHAEL HODGE**



In an interview, Peter Docter once said "when people go to a movie, they want to see some experience of themselves on the screen", but when I watch a film where the target audience is under the age of twelve, I don't have high expectations. However, Walt Disney and Pixar's animated film, *Inside Out*, went above and beyond what I had anticipated.

Inside Out follows the emotions and thoughts of Riley Anderson (Kaitlyn Dias), a

happy-go-lucky eleven-year-old girl who has recently moved to San Francisco with her parents. At first, Riley finds it difficult to remain positive due to her new school environment, the loss of her friends and leaving her hockey team. The main heroine of the story is Riley's emotion, Joy (Amy Poehler), who tries to guide Riley through this difficult and confusing period. However, when Joy and Sadness (Phyllis Smith) are accidentally ejected from headquarters and thrust into the darkest realms of Riley's

subconscious, chaos occurs as Fear (Bill Hader), Anger (Lewis Black) and Disgust (Mindy Kaling) are left to guide Riley. As the protagonist continues to struggle with her new life in San Francisco, she contemplates running back to old hometown, which ultimately fuels Joy and Sadness's determination to make it back to headquarters so that Riley can be "happy" again.

Following a classic adventure plot, what could go wrong does go wrong, but the film ends with a flawless resolution. What sets *Inside Out* apart from other children's films is Docter's creativity and visualisation of the mind. The audience is shown unconventional, and at times hilarious, aspects of the mind: imagination, long-term memory, abstract thought, dream production and the subconscious. The director also manages to express a clever metaphorical message that we can relate to: the concept that one needs to be in touch with all of one's emotions.

The director's development of Riley's emotions provides not only laughter for the audience but also a sense of delicacy. It invites an audience of all ages to be entertained and to see old issues in a new, thought-provoking way. ●



Interview with Lara Macgregor

» DIRECTOR OF PUNK ROCK

BY MANDY TE



psychological background of this piece, marrying it with instinctual movement and attempting to honour the playwright as best we can through our interpretation.

What has it been like working with students from the University of Otago Theatre Studies Programme?

The third-year acting students have been a dream. They are completely focused and committed. The energy they have all brought to this project across all disciplines — performance, directing, wardrobe, education, production, marketing — has been inspiring for us all.

Could you describe what your role as artistic director of Fortune Theatre entails?

I am responsible for conceiving, developing and implementing the artistic vision of the theatre. This encompasses programming all shows, casting, directing, sometimes acting, implementing new initiatives, overseeing brochure design, marketing collateral, public speaking, writing press releases, developing budgets alongside the general manager, overseeing every production in the season, overseeing new play development ... plus more.

What advice do you have for students wanting to get professionally involved in theatre — whether it be behind the scenes or centre stage?

DO IT! Get out there, try and fail, get involved in your community with theatre groups, acting classes, creating your own work. Aim big. Shoot for the stars. But know what your plan is. Look at all the ways you can shape the career you want. Drama schools, acting agents, auditions, open days ... look around, absorb and see what the right fit is for you as far as a theatre degree goes. Don't be afraid to ask questions if you don't know where to start. Research, take risks, plunge in and never give up on that voice inside that says this is your calling ... ○

Critic had a chat to artistic director, actor and director Lara Macgregor about directing *Punk Rock* and what it's like to work both behind the scenes and on stage.

Punk Rock will be showing from 27 June to 18 July at Fortune Theatre.

You've acted in several theatre productions and you are the director of *Punk Rock*. Is it difficult to transition between actor and director?

Acting is my first language; directing came much later in my career, so I don't find it too difficult switching from one to the other. As I do far more directing these days, the biggest challenge is not being "match-fit" when it comes to acting. It takes me a bit longer than usual to find my optimum vocal and physical fitness.

I find the transition from artistic director to actor difficult, as I cannot take off my artistic director hat. The company still has to run, I still have a whole season of productions to plan, cast and conceptualise. None of this can stop, so learning lines and being in rehearsal full time, as well as my AD job can be a challenge.

What drew you to direct the play, *Punk Rock*?

I have admired Simon Stephens' writing for some time, and had been looking for the right opportunity to include him in

our season; this particular play lent itself to a collaboration with the University of Otago Theatre Studies Programme, which I had been wanting to collaborate with for some time, and, most importantly, the central themes to this play are ones that move me to want to elicit discussion in our community.

What do you like most about the play?

Its central themes of pressure and pressure's effect on our mental health. I also like the clean writing style — there is nothing extraneous — and the fact that it is inspired by a tragically memorable event in our recent history. It has reminded me of the highs and lows of adolescence. The play has also brought together a great group of people into the theatre.

How would you describe the directorial process for *Punk Rock*?

My process is very collaborative and actor-centric. That old adage that your success as a director is 90 percent casting is so true. I held out for the cast I wanted and it paid off in spades. They're a fantastic group of dedicated and talented individuals. We have worked intricately on the





New York Times Bestselling Author

SEANAN MCGUIRE

Sparrow Hill Road



Sparrow Hill Road

» WRITTEN BY SEANAN MCGUIRE

REVIEWED BY BRIDGET VOSBURGH

Sparrow Hill Road, by Seanan McGuire, is an urban fantasy story with horror elements. The narrator, Rose, died in the 1950s, murdered when she was just sixteen, and went on to become an urban legend to the living and a guide into the afterlife for the dead and dying. Bobby Cross, the undead

man who killed her, still pursues her around America; his state of being is sustained by souls, and Rose is the only soul that ever got away from him. Over the decades of her afterlife, Rose becomes increasingly determined to end Bobby Cross's unnatural existence, to save not only herself but countless others.

Rose is based on one of the more famous urban legends, "the girl in the prom dress" motif, which is a common subset of the larger "vanishing hitchhiker" category. In brief, a guy lets a girl wearing a prom dress hitch a ride, he gives her his coat to wear, she vanishes and the coat is found on a tombstone in the nearby cemetery. There are countless variations on this story, and even the tale about the coat is a removable sub-plot. I mention it because it's one of the many cool things about McGuire's world-building. When Rose is wearing a borrowed coat, she takes on life of a sort and can eat and be touched like a living human being. The afterlife as McGuire presents it is filled with interesting details (at one point Rose has to help kill a highway), but my favourite thing about Sparrow Hill Road is how it gives the reader a very vivid picture of what it might be like to be an urban legend.

Rose works to help the living escape death and the dead escape fates worse than death, but she doesn't always succeed. Her narration is an excellent combination of down-to-earth practicality and weighty statements about the nature of life and death: "I died on a hot summer night in my junior year of high school, driven off the road by a man who should never have been there. My body was battered almost past recognition by the accident. My spirit fared a little better, sweet sixteen for the rest of time, missing the warm coat of life's embrace. I was alive, and then I wasn't. Someday, they'll say the same thing about everyone. Someday, they'll say the same thing about you." She also manages to be a fundamentally good person, a hero who helps people without credulity-straining selflessness. Rose is amusing and tough and good company. As a main character and the soul and centre of this book, she's almost all you could ask for.

The only real issue I have is that she calls men gentlemanly when they are disinclined to rape her, and presents a character who threatens to rape her as sympathetic simply because he's dead, does not realise it and can't find his girlfriend. These are circumstances that do not alleviate fundamentally unforgivable behaviour.

Sparrow Hill Road excels at conveying that atmosphere of late-night-truck-stop-romanticised-sordidness so unique to road trips. It's immensely entertaining and often has a lot of imaginatively bad-ass fantasy concepts. ●



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The Best of E3

» **ELECTRONIC ENTERTAINMENT EXPO**

BY **BRANDON JOHNSTONE**

A couple of weeks ago, the video game convention juggernaut E3, or "Electronic Entertainment Expo" came and went, leaving gamers all over the globe squealing at their computer screens (or in person if they were lucky/rich enough to be at the convention). Essentially, E3 is a huge conference where 90 percent of the year's gaming news is unleashed upon the world. We know deep down that it's a huge money-making marketing effort, but we suckle from that corporate teat anyway because ... video games! So if you were too busy working or holidaying instead of lying in bed and watching live streams of press conferences, here are five of this year's biggest announcements.

1. **Fallout 4**



Sure, "best of E3" is an extremely subjective title, but this is arguably the big one: the hugely anticipated follow-up to the insanely popular *Fallout 3* and *New Vegas*. It's essentially post-apocalyptic *Elder Scrolls* with guns. *Fallout 4* is sure to sell millions of copies in the first week alone, causing a spike in sick days and a drop in gamers' collective social lives. If this game wasn't being released right at the end of exam period (10 November), you'd all be doomed, and you know it. Bonus: Bethesda also just released an addictive mobile game called *Fallout Shelter* that's just fun enough to make us wish that we were playing *Fallout 4* instead.

2: **Final Fantasy 7 — Remake**

Oh yes, Square Enix is remaking the legendary, industry-shaping role-playing game,



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Final Fantasy 7, for PS4 (and potentially other platforms) — and it looks gorgeous. We don't get to see a whole lot in the reveal trailer, but fans have been screaming for this remake for a good decade. Helmed by the great Tetsuya Nomura, creator/director of the Kingdom Hearts franchise and character designer for damn near every Final Fantasy in the last fifteen years, this game is destined for greatness ... unless something goes horribly wrong, in which case Square Enix should probably flee back to the Lifestream before the angry mob gets it. Original director, Yoshinori Kitase, is signed on as a producer, so fingers crossed.



3. The Last Guardian



Another huge, long-awaited title, The Last Guardian is the spiritual sequel to Fumito Ueda's critically acclaimed Shadow of the Colossus and Ico. The game has been in development for eight years, and it looked like bickering between Sony and the creative team might have killed the project for good. But just when all hope was lost, Team Ico drove viewers into a frenzy with this surprise announcement. The trailer is stunning, almost a short film in its own right, and establishes the awe-inspiring sense of scale that we experienced in Shadow of the Colossus, but with an intimate friendship story at its core.

4. Uncharted 4



Naughty Dog can seemingly do no wrong. From the creation of our favourite orange marsupial, Crash Bandicoot, Naughty Dog has held a solid foothold in the gaming market, and gamers' hearts, for nearly 20 years. This was only solidified by the obviously perfect pinnacle of humankind's creation that is Last of Us in 2013. Now they've once again come out swinging with the final instalment of Nathan Drake's adventures — Uncharted 4: A Thief's End. For those not familiar, the Uncharted series are popular action-adventure games taking a lot of inspiration from the Tomb Raider series. Given their track record, this game is shaping

up to be a thrilling finale to the adventures of Nathan, his father figure Sully and wife Elena.

5. Star Wars: Battlefront



If you need the appeal of a large-scale Star Wars game explained to you, you might be overdue for a good force-choking. Developed by DICE (the team behind Battlefield 4) and set in the Star Wars universe, you can pretty much predict what you're in for here: an epic, militaristic war scenario played out in famous Star Wars locales such as Tatooine, Endor, Sullust and, of course, the snow-ridden Hoth. From gameplay footage shown so far, taking command of (or destroying) Snowspeeders, TIE fighters and even freaking AT-ATs has never felt so visceral or looked so spectacular.

Honourable mentions:

- Shenmue 3
- Mirror's Edge: Catalyst
- Kingdom Hearts 3
- Horizon: Zero Dawn
- Dark Souls 3

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LETTER OF THE WEEK

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We are unsure of the reasoning, but freedom of choice is the thing.

Dear Ed,

I'm a bit perplexed. Just near my place of work are these two houses on Dundas St, not far from the corner of Castle. See pics attached. Is this some kind of post feminist reclamation of female sexuality? Or they are actual bordellos? Or are young women so immersed in porn culture that they identify happily as sluts and whores? I genuinely want to know what's going on here and hope you can assign your best investigative journalist to delve into these questions.

Thanks,
Sally Knox



Bring the sun back to us xx

To all the poor souls who stayed in Dunedin,

I'm terribly sorry to hear that it's been quite cold down south. I hope you've all been warm, and not blowing your power budget too excessively. I send you all my thoughts and hope you fill your cold bellies up with a good cup of java or hot chocolate if coffee ain't your thing :)

With love,

Happy Scarfie hanging in warm, sunny Queensland.

Chris, come start a storm at the Clocktower then!

Hi guys,

I, like many others, am concerned about political participation of us young ones. We are losing representation on the student council, OUSA seems to be holding weekly elections because its falling apart at the seams and enrolled voters for students is hovering around 50%. It's unreal - a complete mirror of what scarfie life used to be. It's about time OUSA takes its position seriously and takes a leadership role in fixing all this shit. Also, where the f@%& was the pols paper adverts in the last Critic?! Tsktsk.

Much love &, uncertainty,

Chris Christie (the guy slightly to the left of Donald)

Thanks, but we do recommend Critic in bed. It's even better. OUSA run the Kitten rooms - they are better with pets.

Dear Critic,

I love critic and have read nearly every issue over my 1 and a half years thus far at Otago. It makes my Monday lectures more productive than normal as I read critic rather than playing games on my phone. However i don't mind this because at least i am at lectures on Monday rather than my bed.

From,
avid critic mag reader

P.s - please have more kitten rooms, i am missing my cat.

P.s.s - I sent a letter after you asked on fb, can I have pizza?

LETTERS POLICY

Letters should be 200 words or fewer. Deadline is Thursday at 5pm. Send letters to critic@critic.co.nz, post them to PO Box 1436, Dunedin, or drop into the Critic office. All letters must include full contact details, even if you don't want these printed. Letters of a serious nature directly addressing a specific person or group will not be published under a pseudonym, except in extraordinary circumstances negotiated with the Editor. Critic reserves the right to edit, abridge or decline letters without explanation. We don't fix the spelling or grammar in letters. If a writer looks stupid, it's because they are.

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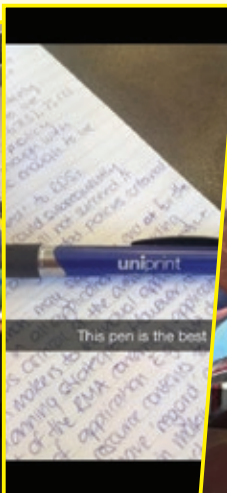
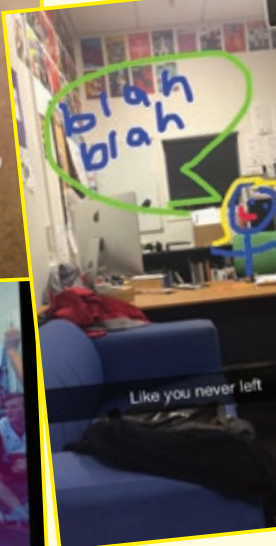
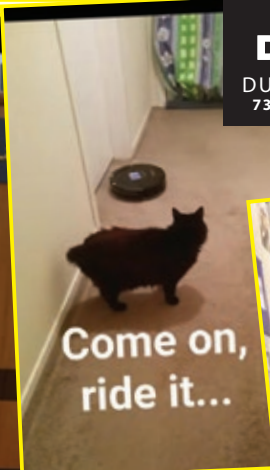
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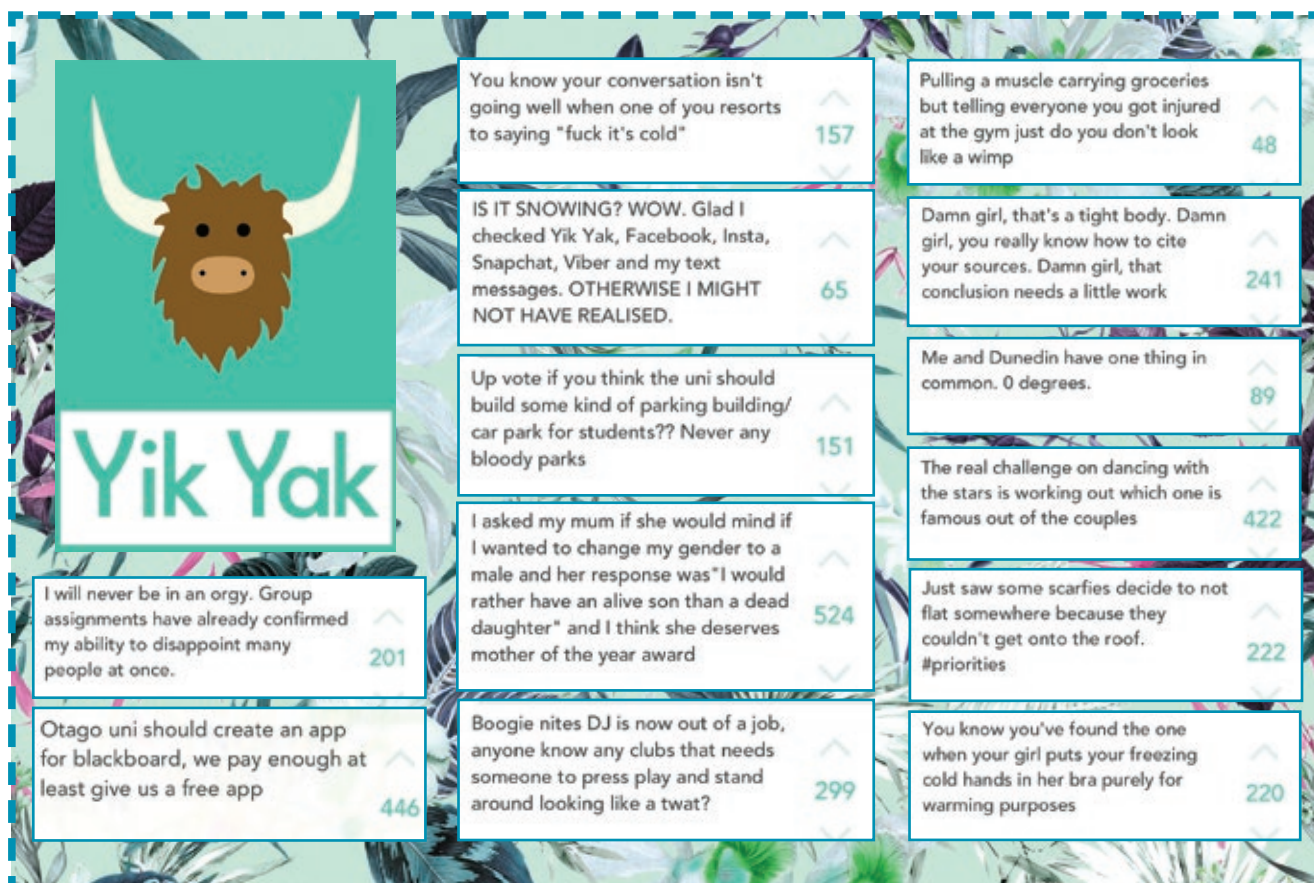
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Yik Yak

I will never be in an orgy. Group assignments have already confirmed my ability to disappoint many people at once.	201	You know your conversation isn't going well when one of you resorts to saying "fuck it's cold"	157	Pulling a muscle carrying groceries but telling everyone you got injured at the gym just do you don't look like a wimp	48
Otago uni should create an app for blackboard, we pay enough at least give us a free app	446	IS IT SNOWING? WOW. Glad I checked Yik Yak, Facebook, Insta, Snapchat, Viber and my text messages. OTHERWISE I MIGHT NOT HAVE REALISED.	65	Damn girl, that's a tight body. Damn girl, you really know how to cite your sources. Damn girl, that conclusion needs a little work	241
		Up vote if you think the uni should build some kind of parking building/ car park for students?? Never any bloody parks	151	Me and Dunedin have one thing in common. 0 degrees.	89
		I asked my mum if she would mind if I wanted to change my gender to a male and her response was "I would rather have an alive son than a dead daughter" and I think she deserves mother of the year award	524	The real challenge on dancing with the stars is working out which one is famous out of the couples	422
		Boogie nites DJ is now out of a job, anyone know any clubs that needs someone to press play and stand around looking like a twat?	299	Just saw some scarfies decide to not flat somewhere because they couldn't get onto the roof. #priorities	222
				You know you've found the one when your girl puts your freezing cold hands in her bra purely for warming purposes	220

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Masturbation

BY T. ANTRIC

Bring up the topic of masturbation around a group of (maybe slightly under the influence) boys and three of them will tell you, with nary a blushed cheek, about when their mothers walked in. Two will tell you about their first times. Another will mention the pile of tissues beside his bed.

This is great; talking about sex is healthy. But there's a bit of a double standard. You've heard the old wives' tales of masturbation causing blindness, causing hairs to sprout on the dirty palms of said sinner. You probably find them amusing in their out-datedness. But those of us who happen to be not-boys were somewhat left behind during the change from hairy, blind masturbators to it being an acceptable topic of conversation.

The rest of us are left to quietly put a finger down during "Never Have I Ever", to faux-exclaim "ew" and "gross" at the mention of it. And yet nearly everyone masturbates, allosexuals and asexuals alike. Masturbation has health benefits too, physiological and psychological.

Nicki Minaj mentioned a friend of hers who had never had an orgasm, saying, "that hurts my heart". Mine too, Nicki. Orgasms are every body's (get it?) friend, the gift that keeps on giving — but unlike the pair of socks you will inevitably get this Christmas, orgasms are a gift you actually want.

Masturbation increases blood flow, which can improve the health of your hair. It releases endorphins, and who needs to hit the gym when you can flick the bean? It can improve self (and sexual) confidence: knowing your own body can only be a good thing. It releases Prolactin in your brain, a chemical that helps you sleep. It is even shown to reduce, if not eradicate, headaches and other minor pains. It's even linked to lower rates of prostate cancer and has no downsides. Cases of people impregnating themselves are as common as those who give themselves gonorrhoea: you're pretty safe.

With all these benefits and none of the risks of sex with another person, why the embarrassment? Women, men and everyone in between — they all masturbate. It's a conversation that shouldn't be limited to guys.



King Dick and Women's Suffrage

BY FINBARR NOBLE

New Zealand women won their right to vote on 19 September 1893, a historic day that made Aotearoa the first self-governing nation to extend this right to all women over the age of 21. The signing of the new Electoral Act was the culmination of years of political agitation by the Women's Christian Temperance Union and others, which resulted in a massive petition in 1893 signed by more than 1 in 5 New Zealand women. This was a pretty outrageous feat when you stop to think about it — New Zealand was still a sparsely populated and mainly agricultural society, and yet women living out on lonely farmsteads were politically motivated enough to walk many miles to the nearest town or post box to sign the mail petition.

Although the hard graft of the WCTU meant that women's suffrage was now a live political issue, it was men who did the actual politicking. The man in charge at the time was one Richard Seddon, who represented the Conservatives and was known derisively as King Dick to his Liberal political opponents on account of his authoritarian style of governance and general dickishness. An ex-publican and self-proclaimed champion of the common man, Dick opposed women's suffrage and its sister issue, temperance. Previously proposed electoral reform bills had been defeated in part by Dick's manipulative and underhand political machinations.

When the 1893 Electoral Bill was proposed, Dick remained confident that the upper house would defeat it. When he discovered that the bill would need one more opposition vote to be defeated, he persuaded a pro-suffrage Liberal MP to change his vote at the last minute. Fed up with Dick's underhand tactics, two previously anti-suffrage MPs switched sides and voted in favour so that the bill passed and New Zealand became the first nation in the world to award women the vote.

While the campaign to grant women the vote is something we as a nation are rightly proud of, it is worth remembering that it may well have failed had it not been for the pettiness and manipulative nature of a handful of men.



Acupuncture

BY WEE DOUBT

Acupuncture is a practice in ancient Chinese medicine that involves sticking needles into the skin along the body's natural "meridian lines" where "qi", or "life-force", is traditionally said to flow. The qi flow is redirected to improve the health of the body. Current research has not supported the existence of qi or meridians. But acupuncture continues to be offered widely in many countries, including New Zealand. When practised with sterilised, single-use needles inserted shallowly into the skin, adverse effects are rare.

You would think that the last thing you need to do to an injured body part is stick needles in it. Amazingly, despite its wacky premises, acupuncture does appear to work. According to an article in the *Wall Street Journal*, "neuroimaging studies show that it seems to calm areas of the brain that register pain and activate those involved in rest and recuperation". Because the needles cause a tiny amount of damage to the body but not enough to be a threat, they can trigger the release of adenosine, a natural anaesthetic. People do feel relief from pain after the treatment.

However, the spiritual theory of acupuncture's efficacy is smashed to bits by studies of "sham acupuncture". Because it's difficult to stick needles into somebody without them noticing, standard double-blind tests with control groups are tricky. Instead, scientists set up tests in which one group of patients were given "real" acupuncture along the meridian lines, and others given "sham" acupuncture in non-meridian parts of the body. A 2014 *Nature Reviews Cancer* article reported that the "real" treatment's results were no better than the "sham" treatment. The placement of the needles, the number of needles inserted, the knowledge and experience of the practitioner and the circumstances of the sessions had no influence on the positive outcome of the treatment.

For ailments like chronic back or joint pain that may not be treatable with regular medicine, acupuncture could be worth a shot. As many acupuncturists will happily have a bash at treating cancer patients and stroke victims, however, it can be dangerous if a person decides to forego conventional medical treatment in favour of acupuncture. Thankfully, acupuncture is usually recommended as a complementary therapy alongside standard treatment.

Acupuncture is pretty safe and may even ease your pain. Just keep in mind that, for pain relief, a trained acupuncturist might be no more effective than having a trusted friend stick small, sterile needles at random into your body.



Government Choices

BY DR DAVID CLARK, MP

The government has to make choices. Limited tax revenue, increasing costs of superannuation and burgeoning healthcare expenses all add up to pressure on our country's budget. That said, politicians have the job of prioritising spending, and it should be done in a way that creates opportunities for all.

That's why I was frustrated when I discovered Minister Steven Joyce had overseen a programme of wasteful spending. \$400 hair straighteners in office bathrooms, \$70,000 street signs, \$140,000 display screens and a \$260,000 sun deck were all approved for installation in his ministry's office.

Minister Joyce approves these expensive amenities with one hand, but continues to take with the other. For example, he refuses to make an exception for medical students to complete their study when their 7 EFTS cap is reached. This means that some students will not be able to afford to finish their studies.

But does he care? I bet a \$260,000 sun deck that he won't show it if he does. His pattern is predictable and sadly one that New Zealanders have come to expect — he rolls up the ladder of opportunity for hard-working Kiwis, making it more difficult for people to get ahead.

National is prioritising the interests of multinational corporations and a wealthy few over the interests of hard-working taxpayers and value-adding entrepreneurs. Our government is making the wrong choices.

A government should prioritise people who work hard day in and day out to make ends meet. It should prioritise small businesses, which employ local people and give back to their communities.

It shouldn't be the business of government to waste your tax dollars installing hair straighteners in the bathrooms in our public service. Politicians have choices. Are you happy with the ones the government is making on your behalf?



ODT Hosts Spelling Bee

BY STEPH TAYLOR

It's all tickety-boo for these fans

In what seems like a miracle after a few seasons of twiddling their thumbs on the fields, the Highlanders have landed a spot in the Super 15 final, with tickets being snapped up like no tomorrow.

DRUNKEN, bullying young people have prompted authorities and restaurants to clamp down on BYO drinking sessions in Dunedin

Well, at least we're being acknowledged as people now rather than just students!

Mauled penguin Victory back home

The latest GC on the Otago coast is "Victory" the penguin, after he was mauled by sea snakes in the area. According to local scientists, the little fella is back on his feet catching them gnarly waves.

366 keen spellers drawn to quiz

You can tell it's the mid-year break and no Scarfie antics are happening in Dunedin when a headline regarding the record turnout at the Otago Daily Times Extra! Spelling Quiz is featured on the second page.

Annual trip to plumb icy depths takes a dive

Ahhh, you're not reading the ODT unless you find yourself some great use of a pun in a main headline. This reporter even went that extra mile by discussing how these deep ice-lake divers "got cold feet". Lolz.

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B A R

Love is blind

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Cameron Diaz

This was bad planning.
We didn't know he was her demonstrator!

JT

Things got pretty heated from his end.
Read it without cringing.

Oh shit. I knew this guy straight away. He was my demonstrator. I won't do the usual ramble about how great the food and wine was – all that was over pretty quickly, similar to everything else that night really. We bar-hopped for a while afterwards around the Octagon. No matter how many drinks we had, he wouldn't tell me my lab report grade but did say I should be very pleased with it. I decided he deserved some A-grade appreciation so we headed for his.

We stopped at Starters bar for shots on the way to his. After tequila, I don't say no to a pash. So we got back to his and pashed. Yes, just pashed. But you wouldn't believe it. Moments later, I was still fully clothed. As was he. But there was some serious grinding being had on me. Or at least hip thrusting but not really touching anything. Dealing with the intense confusion, I let him continue – after all, I'm pretty new to all this stuff and wanted to see if it was an unusual warm up. Then the noises started. "Uhhh, Uhhh, Oh Arrrghhhhhh. Yes, it's happening!"

It went from a 5 second kiss to me being object of his dry humping orgasm, which was over before I realised what was happening. If you have seen the movie "Bad Teacher", then picture the bedroom moment between JT and Cameron Diaz. Yes, I'm Diaz, with slightly less impressive hair.

As he ravaged himself back and forth, his enthusiasm got the better of him – he rolled over my head, off the bed, and landed on the floor. I was still in the same place, so I took my chance and swiftly rolled over and pretended I was asleep. He either passed out or got knocked out on the floor. In the morning I did the sneaky ditch – I heard his snoring, so he was definitely alive. JT, you will not be getting sexy back.

Don't get with your demonstrator. It turns out my grade was a B. The dry humping, the noises, and the damage to my one-night stand etiquette – that was worthy of an A+ and nothing less.

I would like to start this off by saying that this was one of very few dates I have been on since I was 15. I may have been a little rusty. After being semi-forced to do this by my flat mates (I think they were trying to get me out of the house for once), I did a little too much pre-loading. I had scored some Zambuka from my parents and decided it was a good idea to drink them while I was on antibiotics. I've had a cold for ages.

I wish I could do the whole "I arrived and the bar and this happened" blah blah but I honestly remember a big fat fuck all. I remember what she looks like and man, was she hot. I swear passers by thought I was either getting dinner with my hot older sister or trying out for Beauty and the Geek. I don't remember what the bartender looked like but I think Love is Blind code to say they were hot.

I can vaguely remember leaving the bar with the girl that become a 20 out of 10 with alcohol goggles on, we went to some other bars and then went back to my place. I'm sorry friend for making you pay – my bank account says I paid for many drinks though.

Anyway we hooked up at mine, things got pretty heated, and she stayed the night. I don't kiss and tell with details so you weirdos can leave it to your imagination. Sadly, she didn't hang around in the morning though. I had a fun night and hope she did too, but it's pretty tragic to ditch and run. All is forgiven though my love. You were a beauty and we should catch up again sometime. Pass your number onto Critic and they can play matchmaker again.

I do not recommend that you guys mix flucloxacillin with alcohol.

Cheers Critic and Di Lusso

OUSA President's Column

Saving the two Scarfie voices on University Council

Hi everyone – I hope the semester break treated you well. Semester two promises to be action packed with gigs like Hermitude and Peking Duk for Re-Ori, and lots of other exciting events, such as Art Week in early August and, of course, the OUSA elections later in the semester.

Congrats to the Highlanders on reaching the Super Rugby grand final! We'll know the result by the time you read this, but regardless of what happens, OUSA is proud of the Highlanders' great 2015 season.

We are currently running a campaign to save the two Scarfie seats on the Uni Council. This is an issue which could significantly impact our ability as students to have our say on the way the University is run. You will see OUSA executives out and about this week collecting signatures on a petition calling for two students to remain on Council. Below is some information to explain what our campaign is all about and why the decision will significantly impact students. A big thanks to everyone who made a submission to Council through our submission tool.

1. What is the University Council and what does it do?

The Council is the University's governing body. Its job is to assess and monitor progress on the University's major strategic objectives, financial position, and performance. Council is also the final body that scrutinises significant decisions.

A wide range of topics are discussed at Council – Hyde Street, academic policies (i.e. plagiarism, assessment protocol, trigger warnings), and the Code of Conduct are just a few examples.

The critical point is that issues discussed at Council *directly affect our lives as students*. The best interests of both the student body and the University are served by having student input into these decisions.

2. What are the proposed changes?

The Minister of Tertiary Education passed legislation which means Council must have a maximum of 12 members, with no mandatory requirement to include students. Two students, Jonny Martin and I, are on the current 2015 Council which has 17 members. The current Council members will decide what the final composition of the new Council is. The draft constitution proposes that only one student be on the new 12 person Council.

3. What are the main arguments in favour of having two student positions on the University of Otago Council?

Firstly, the University of Otago is the only true 24 hour, 7 day a week University in New Zealand. With the majority of students coming from outside of Dunedin, the University needs to cater to students not just in the academic sphere, but in all aspects of life: residential, social, extracurricular, and wellbeing. Having a student viewpoint on Council ensures the Otago experience remains relevant to students.

Secondly, the holistic student experience needs to account for an incredibly diverse student body. There are upwards of 18,000 Otago students, who come from a range of backgrounds and have a diversity of worldviews, preferences, and requirements.

Two students will inevitably better account for the diversity of all students. There are up to 4,000 University staff, and they have two Council seats under the draft proposal. We support having two staff representatives on Council, however if two representatives are needed to represent a body of 4,000 people, we think it is fair that at least two students represent the 18,000-strong student body.

Thirdly, financial contributors to an organisation usually have governance positions that proportionately reflect their financial contribution. The Minister rationalised an increase of ministerial appointees based on the 43% contribution taxpayers make to Universities. By that logic, students who make a direct contribution of between 21-23% to University revenue via tuition fees should have seats on Council – representation that is proportionate to their contribution to revenue. Therefore, two students on Council is a reasonable number given their fee contribution.

4. What can you do to help?

We are collecting signatures to demonstrate that two student seats best serves the interests of the University and students. Be sure to sign the petition before the July 14 Council meeting. **Come along to our BBQ at Clubs Day this Thursday 9 July**, grab yourself some lunch, have a chat about the campaign and sign the petition there.

Otherwise, petitions will be stationed at the OUSA Main Office Reception, the Recreation Centre Reception, and at the OUSA Student Support Centre.



Paul Hunt – president@ousa.org.nz

Clubs Day

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