



PMC launches new current affairs website AsiaPacificReport.nz



Pacific Media Centre director Professor David Robie, Pacific Cooperation Foundation CEO Lau Lu Mac Leauanae and Multimedia Investments CEO and *Evening Report* editor Selwyn Manning at the launch of *AsiaPacificReport.nz*. Image: Del Abcede/PMC

By Denise Yeo

AUT'S PACIFIC MEDIA CENTRE and *Evening Report* editor Selwyn Manning have teamed up to launch *Asia Pacific Report*, a news website that will provide a fresh "Pacific" voice to bolster Asia Pacific news and analysis in New Zealand.

PMC director Professor David Robie says the collaboration is a result of a gap in the media market for an independent Asia-Pacific voice that addresses issues of equity and justice.

"AsiaPacificReport.nz will feature in-depth current affairs news stories focused on telling the 'untold stories'. It will be a public space for no-froth journalism examining real pressing issues," he says.

Postgraduate student journalists, academics and journalists around the region will contribute to analyses, news reports and features on the website which was launched in January at AUT's City Campus.

The idea for *Asia Pacific Report* was developed from Professor Robie and Manning's desire to bring the Pacific Media Centre's work beyond the university, to serve a greater global audience.

Asia Pacific Report will work closely with Manning's company Multimedia Investments for an industry-academy partnership to enable the publishing of



Pacific Cooperation Foundation CEO Lau Lu Mac Leauanae turns the new AsiaPacificReport website "live". Image: Del Abcede/PMC

content into other global media outlets such as Dow Jones Factiva, Lexis Nexis, Moreover and Acquire media.

"Multimedia Investments will provide significant reach for the PMC's reportage and analysis," explains Manning. "We are confident *Asia Pacific Report* will be a significant outlet."

Pacific Cooperation Foundation CEO Lau Lu Mac Leauanae did the honours of launching the site, and a 15 minute documentary, *The PMC Project*, by Pacific Media Watch journalist Alistar Kata was also screened at the launch. She has just joined the *Tagata Pasifika* team.

The documentary was about the work of the Pacific Media Centre, including interviews with staff, student journalists and their projects.

The new website includes a section called PMC On Demand where student videos are given a high public profile.

Academics, African leaders, youth call on police to apologise over 'profiling'

PROMINENT Auckland academics and community leaders have called on the New Zealand police to formally apologise for “rubbishing” new research alleging that police are racially harassing and assaulting African youth.

The two-year research project was led by Auckland University of Technology associate professor in social sciences Dr Camille Nakhid, who is also a longstanding advisory board member of the Pacific Media Centre.

New Zealand police issued a press statement claiming that the research was nothing more than “unsubstantiated claims from anonymised individuals” made online.

But at the official launch of the research in Mt Roskill, Auckland, about 400 people called on the police to acknowledge that the research was credible and legitimate.



Auckland deputy mayor Penny Hulse; Kizito Essuman, president of African Communities Forum Inc (ACOFI); and researcher Dr Camille Nakhid launching the African youth and the police research report. Image: Del Abcede/PMC



AUT associate professor of public policy Dr Love Chile said the police had been “completely dismissive”. “This research went through a stringent ethics approval. We are demanding an apology,” said Dr Chile.

Dr Chile called on police to issue everyone they stopped with a leaflet advising them of their human rights, similar to those displayed in hospitals. – *Anna Majavu*

- Full report on PMC’s news website [Asia Pacific Report](#)

PMC director appointed to PBRF panels

The Pacific Media Centre director, Professor David Robie, is one of three AUT staff among those initially selected for the Performance Based Research Fund (PBRF) assessment panel for the 2018 Quality Evaluation.

Evidence portfolios submitted as part of the PBRF quality evaluation process are assigned to one of 13 peer-review panels to be assessed and evaluated.

The Tertiary Education Commission has released the names of the initial panel members and three professors from AUT are included in the list.

Dr Robie has been selected for the Social Sciences and Other Cultural Studies panel. He is the first panel member to be appointed from any journalism or communication studies school in New Zealand for PBRF reviews.

He was one of 14 global contributors to a special edition of *Asia Pacific Media Educator* last year about quality journalism as a research methodology when impact factors, scholarship and research outcomes are involved.

The other two appointees from AUT are:

- Professor Jane Gilbert, who will be on the Education panel



- Professor Elaine Rush, who has been selected for the Medicine and Public Health panel
- The panels began work this month revising panel guidelines for the 2018 audit.



Fiji community meeting with the Auckland Mayoral Funds Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Red Cross and Pacific Leadership Forum in the wake of the TC Winston disaster. Photos: TJ Aumua/PMC



Naca Yalimawai, president of the Fiji Community Association of Auckland

Fiji community meeting held at Mangere Centre Park Lounge.



Community members praying for people back home in Fiji.

The Mayoral Funds Committee sharing advice on efficient relief solutions.

The logo for AUT (Auckland University of Technology) is displayed in a bold, white, sans-serif font with a black outline, set against a white rectangular background. The background of the entire page features a pattern of overlapping orange circles and leaves, with a vertical strip of yellow leaves on the right side.

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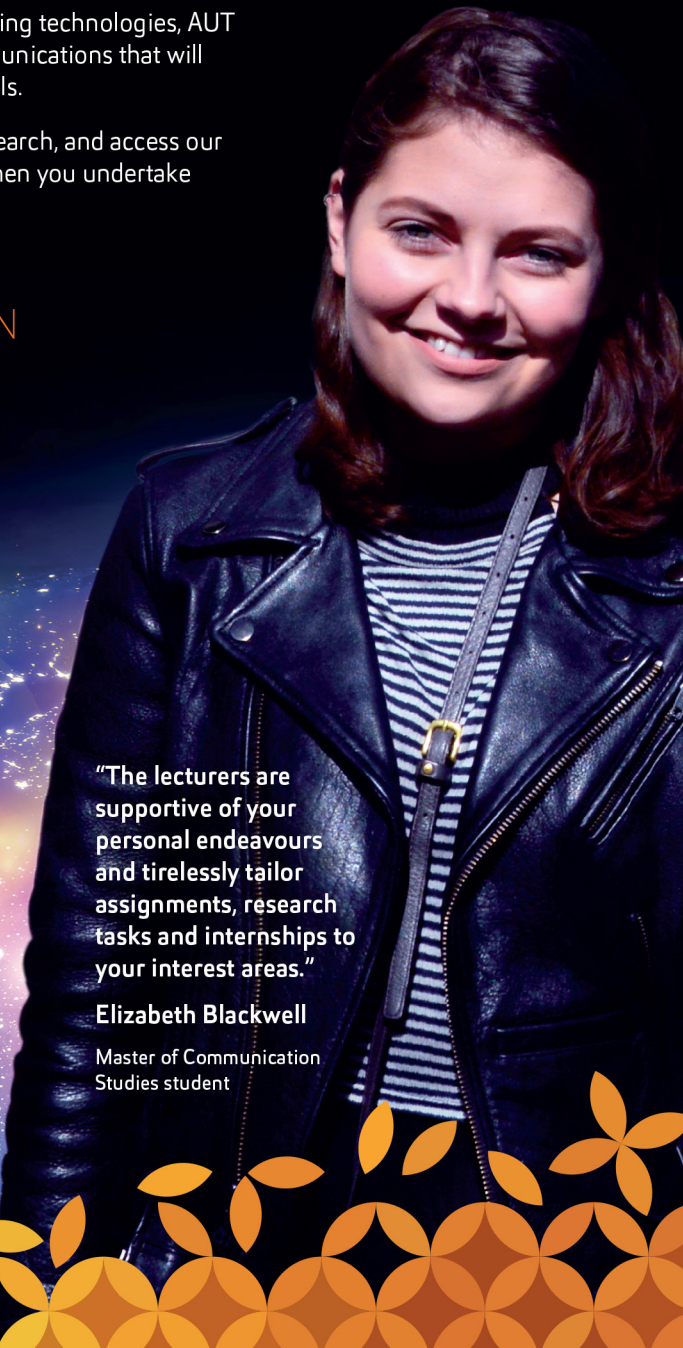
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A young woman with long brown hair, wearing a black leather jacket over a striped shirt, is smiling and looking towards the camera. She is positioned on the right side of the page, with a background of a starry night sky. The bottom of the page features a decorative border of orange leaves and circles.

"The lecturers are supportive of your personal endeavours and tirelessly tailor assignments, research tasks and internships to your interest areas."

Elizabeth Blackwell

Master of Communication Studies student