

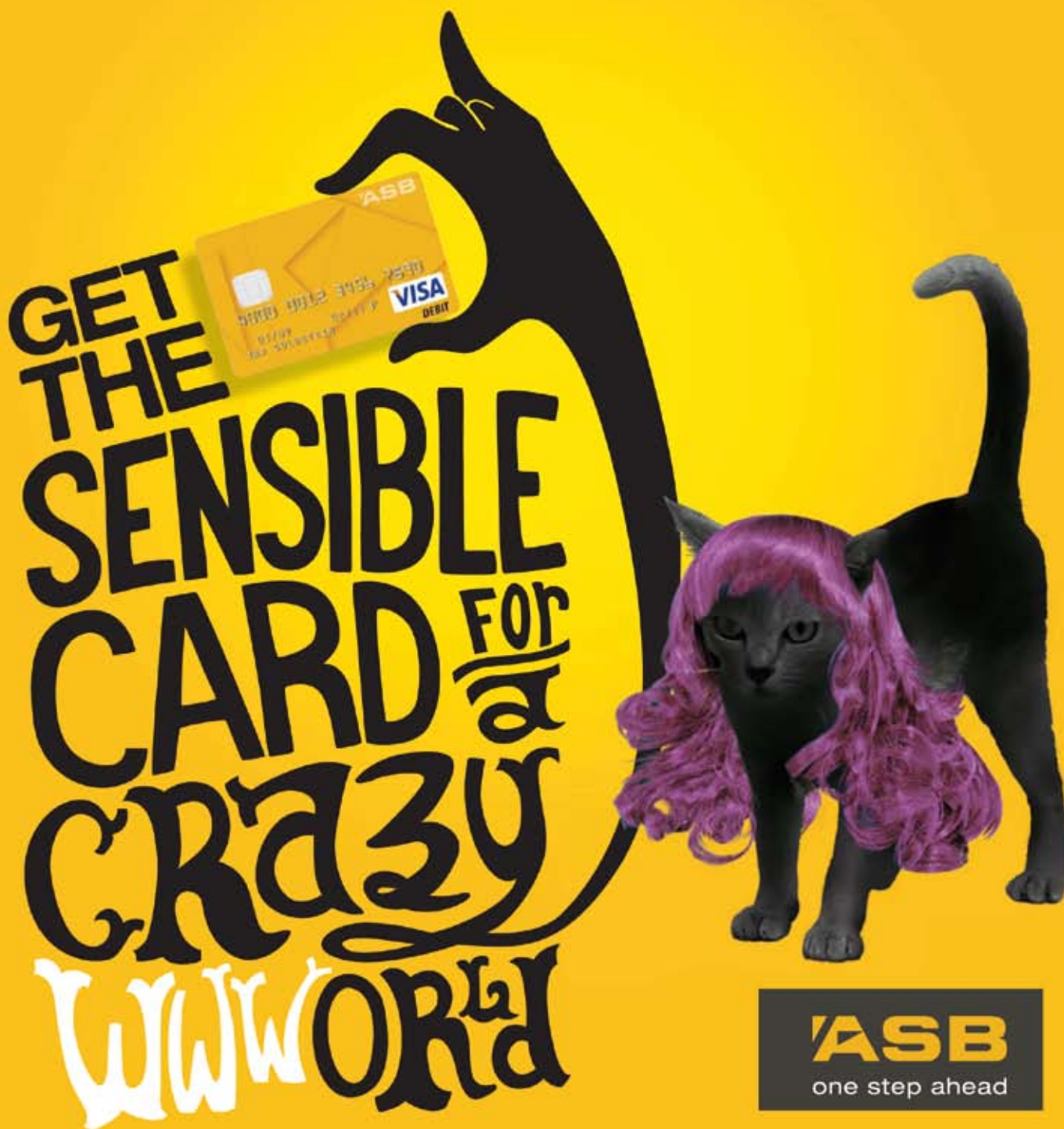


# VOS

**The Voice of SANIT**  
ISSUE 2 • 2009







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# Vos

## Voice of SANITI Magazine of the Student Association of NMIT

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Pip Bowler  
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## Da Prez Sez

Representation. It's a word that gets bandied around a lot. But what does it really mean? According to Wikipedia there are many definitions, including "the depiction and ethical concerns of construction in visual arts and literature." Not quite what we're looking for in this context.

A big part of my job as President involves "Representation." The Wikipedia definitions I like that describe what I do are: "one's ability to influence the political process" and "lobbying for a group of individuals or companies."

On the first point, an important part of what I do is make sure the NMIT Student voice is heard at a local and national level. This includes putting across student views to NMIT Council, local and national MPs, Government ministers, the Nelson Mayor and City Councillors, and the media. One of the important aspects of representation at this level is making sure I represent your views, and not mine (luckily, most of the time, they're the same!). You'll read about this later, but one of the strengths of the SANITI submission to Nelson City Council on the Nelson Community Plan was that we took the time to canvass around 100 students before writing it. Our voices are far more powerful when we speak as a collective. I know from having gone through the consultation process that the "big issue" on campus is the lack of parking and access to public transport, which makes it a priority for me in my job as President.

I'll rephrase the second definition to read "advocating for students; both groups of and individuals." Myself and the team at SANITI go into bat for you - the student - on a variety of issues. These can range from things like the bathrooms smelling or being too cold, through to significant academic advocacy issues. It's a real buzz helping people sort their issues out, and I get to meet lots of great people while I do it!

There is a way you can help. At the moment, we don't have enough Class Reps from across the various courses and year levels. Class Reps get to meet with me as a group once a month (with free pizza) to feed back to me about their time at NMIT. The Class Rep system is a great way to tell me what you like on Campus, and what you'd like to see

improve. This semester we're also going to have a lunchtime training session for Class Reps. It's not a huge amount of work, but it's incredibly rewarding, and looks great on your CV. I'll be going around the various classes without reps at the start of the term to encourage your classes to get their representation sorted out. You don't need to be the most eloquent, or the loudest talker. Just a hard worker, good listener and willing to learn.

In all of this, we mustn't forget our Distant Campus students, based at Marlborough, Richmond and the 12 flight schools up and down the country. We have some great Exec members and Class Reps from the regions, and they do a great job keeping you linked in with your association.

All sound a bit boring? Honestly? Sometimes it can be. But mostly it's a hell of a lot of fun! And important. Representation is what got us students interest free student loans, fee and course cost maxima, and is what continues to keep the student voice in the ear of people who make important decisions about our education.

Sooooooooo....after all the heavy stuff, welcome to semester 2! SANITI will of course be providing the FUN for the start of the semester, as well as the usual soup days, BBQs and morning teas throughout the rest of the year. Hopefully some games and prizes too. It's been wicked getting to know some of you, and I'm looking forward to another semester of being your representative here on campus.

Cheerio,

*Rachel*

Ps: just because I used Wikipedia in this column doesn't mean you can use it in your essays! Wikipedia is for lazy people or people in a rush (which was me - Fraser locked me in my office and wouldn't let me leave till I finished the column).







## NEW STUDENT VICE PRESIDENT

At the SANITI Executive meeting on Friday 12 June Exec member Pat Ahern was elected to Vice President of the Association. Pat is a current Employment Skills student and life member of the Association. Pat says he is "pleased to accept the position and is looking forward to working with President Rachel Boyack and supporting the work of the Association."



## PREVIOUS PREZ HAS BABY

The SANITI office is delighted to announce the arrival of Noah Dylan Thomas-Fisk on 1st of June at 3.19am weighing 9 pounds 6 ounces (ouch!). Both Mum and Baby are healthy and doing very well.

## SANITI PRESENTS NCC SUBMISSION

Student President Rachel Boyack presented a submission to the Nelson City Council representing NMIT Students in response to the council's Draft Community Plan. The submission was written by SANITI Advocate Pip Bowler from information gathered from students canvassed during a lunchtime event on Nelson Campus at the end of April (see "Pancake Day" opposite). Copies of the draft were available to students to view and two councillors were also present for students to quiz.

The Community Plan outlines the Council's intentions for the future. A draft is presented for the community and interested parties to respond to. Once the feedback from Students had been collated, it appeared that parking in Nelson was a major issue. Other issues were proposed rate hikes, diversity in the local job market, the lack of consultation regarding the performing arts centre, the downscaling of recycling in Nelson and the large increase in debt the NCC planned to accrue.

SANITI received positive feedback regarding the submission from the Mayor and Councillors regarding its presentation and suggestions.



## NEW ARTS BLOCK CONFIRMED

Work is continuing towards NMIT's new Visual Arts and Media block, after confirmation from the Tertiary Education Commission that the National Government will honour the previous Labour Government's 2008 promise. Pres Rachel Boyack says she is "delighted that NMIT students will get new digs, after spending years in tired prefab buildings." The new Tourism, Hospitality & Wellbeing building has seen an increase in student enrolment numbers at NMIT, and it is hoped the latest building development will have a similar effect, as well as delivering high class teaching, learning and performing facilities for the nation's arts capital.

# Events

## trainee ranger mid-year graduation

In what is turning into a regular event on the NMIT social calendar, a mid-year party was held for the graduating Trainee Rangers. The next batch of Rangers were also welcomed onto campus. The mini-graduation was a collaborative effort by SANITI, DOC and the Rangers themselves, led by their awesome tutor Kelvin Tuck and Head of School Jeff Wilson. After a certificate ceremony, students and their family members chowed down a hangi and enjoyed a slideshow of photos from their course and music performed by the Students.





## matariki



SANITI in conjunction with NMIT celebrated Matariki this year with a fish BBQ with fish donated by Sealord. Student Executive Member Matua and his brother provided some live music. Thanks Sealord for helping us celebrate such a great Kiwi event!



## pancake day



The 30th of April brought two Nelson City Councillors onto Nelson Campus to provide an opportunity for students to look over their Draft Community Plan. SANITI whipped up some pancakes for students to munch as they perused the plan. Students were canvassed of their response to the plan and a submission was presented to the NCC.



## nelson soup days

Nelson campus was lucky enough to have two soup days in May and June. The soup was a real hit and what made it even tastier was that it was made by Nelson Cheffing students. Thanks to James and the gang for their efforts.



## rape awareness week

4-8 May was 'Rape Awareness Week'. Nelson Rape Crisis were on Nelson campus providing information for students while SANITI did what it does best and had a BBQ! As a special bonus Matua brought his guitar along and sang some Kiwi hits to celebrate New Zealand Music Month.





# Marlborough Open Day '09

On the 14th of May, it was all 'go' on the Marlborough Campus for their annual Open Day. The day promotes NMIT Schools and Courses to future students and is also an opportunity for industry representatives to promote themselves to potential students.



# NMIT Student Finalist in Creative Thinkers Competition

When NMIT student Mike Vickers went looking for holiday work this July, he was aware that work for students is a little "thin on the ground." It was timely then, that the Year 1 Arts and Media student found something he could put his creative bent to, while also helping other students to find work.



Vickers, who is also a SANITI Executive member, is one of 12 national finalists in the Student Job Search (SJS) "Creative Thinkers" Competition. The competition is designed to generate ideas from students to encourage employers to use SJS during difficult times. Vickers submitted his creative idea back in June, and was given a brief to develop in detail on 1 July. He is being paid for one week's work, and will submit his brief to SJS on Sunday (12 July). As part of his brief, Vickers recorded some radio jingles at Fresh FM.

Two of the 12 finalists will be chosen to deliver their ideas to a high-powered panel in Auckland, including representatives from Advertising Giant Saatchi & Saatchi. SANITI Prez Rachel said she would be "stoked" if Mike went further in the competition, and if his ideas helped generate work for students.

## Soup and Pastries

A crisp May 7 Blenheim morning was the perfect start for the first of a number of SANITI Soup Days. Cafe manager and campus mum Leone, and a number of tutors, did an awesome job of preparing six steaming pots of the best soup in the world - ever! Marlborough Student Executive Member Deone helped dish the soup out. While in Marlborough, Student Prez Rachel and SANITI Staffer Fraser served up some tasty pastry treats to the boys at the Woodbourne Base.



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# NMIT TO GO SMOKEFREE IN 2010



**NMIT CEO Tony Gray  
announcing the new policy**

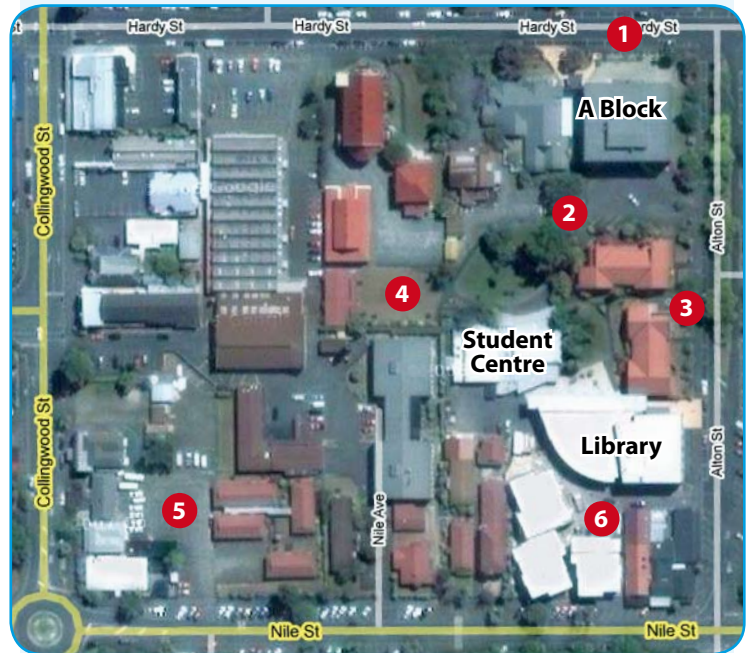
NMIT has introduced its new smoking policy making its campuses, leased grounds and premises smokefree in 2010. For the remainder of 2009 the Nelson, Marlborough, Richmond and Woodbourne campuses will have designated smoking areas while also retaining the current 7 metre policy. Other NMIT 'Places of Learning' are

out of NMIT's jurisdiction and will operate according to their own specific regulations.

It is hoped by NMIT that changing social attitudes, 'encouragement' and 'leadership' will provide the motivation for compliance rather than enforcement. There is an expectation that staff and students will regulate the policy themselves. Infringements will be dealt with through verbal reminders and written material. Recidivism will be dealt with according to NMIT's Complaints Policy. If required, the Smoke-free Environments Act 1990 will be the last course of action.

Staff, students and visitors will be educated about the policy through general publicity, gentle reminders and appropriate signage. There will be promotion of Smoking Cessation support plans and other resources such as Quitline to help current smokers give up the habit.

The interim policy on Nelson Campus will be reviewed in early 2010 before the total smoking ban is enacted. Interested parties will be able to provide feedback to NMIT during this period.



## DESIGNATED AREAS ON NELSON CAMPUS UNTIL 2010

- 1 The two public seats on the pavement front of A Block
- 2 The smoking hut between A and K blocks
- 3 The grassed area between L & K blocks
- 4 The grassed areas in front of the SANITI offices
- 5 Car park area behind Facilities
- 6 Behind the Nikau apartments student accommodation block

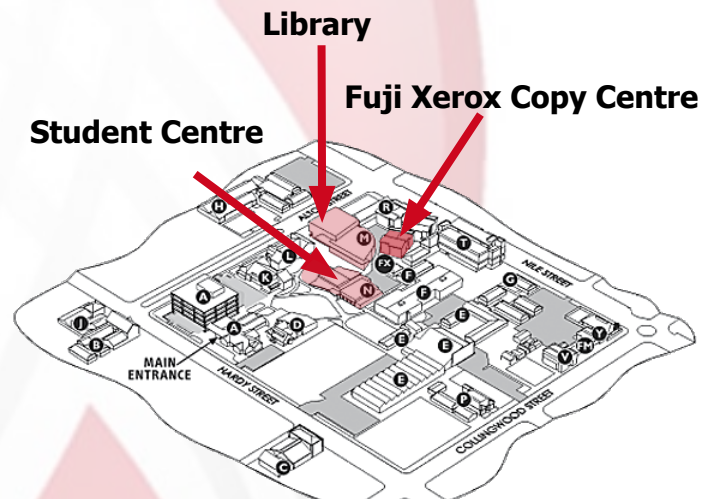
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# WAS THE BUDGET, BUDGET?

## Student President Rachel Boyack gets stuck into the finer details of a lengthy document with the power to change everything...(with apologies for any jargon)

Who gets shivers down their spine when they hear the word "budget"? I do. My husband loves to sit me down at least once a week to discuss our "budget." Living on two student wages means we have to watch our sums very closely. Thankfully, our household budget is limited to one excel spreadsheet with a few different tabs for good measure (lately I've been lobbying for a tab dedicated to "shoes" but to no avail – watch this space).

Pity the Government's annual foray into financial predictions couldn't be quite as straightforward.

### THE Budget

On Thursday 28th May, Hon Bill English, Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister for the National-led Government, delivered the 2009 Budget. In the budget, Tertiary Education suffered a few blows to its funding.

According to Hon Anne Tolley, Minister for Tertiary Education, "The previous (Labour) Government made a number of significant promises in tertiary education that they did not fund in last year's (2008) Budget. This (National) Government has not been able to fund all of these initiatives and Budget 2009 reflects that.

"These include 'capability funding', scholarships for domestic and foreign students, increases to industry-training funds and the development of some new training programmes."

### So what are the details?

According to Anne Tolley, "Budget 2009 delivers a quality investment in tertiary education and will assist polytechnics and universities to meet cost pressures. The total amount of funding for tertiary education in Vote Education will increase from a 2008/09 baseline of \$2.66 billion to \$2.78 billion in 2009/10."

However, while things look fairly ok for the short term, according to the Tertiary Education Union "...institutes of technology and polytechnics.....have some security of funding in the immediate term, but face significant cuts from the end of 2010."

According to Tony Gray, Chief Executive of NMIT, the biggest disappointment of the Budget is the signalling of a "significant reduction in funding from 2011. We reckon that we are probably looking at circa 10% reduction on 2009."

From my point of view, the biggest change to the funding of Tertiary Institutions in New Zealand is that

from 2011 many of the funding components will no longer be CPI adjusted – which means adjusted to match the cost of inflation. This is important because it means that the institutions will have to absorb any increased costs in delivering education to us, the students. Such costs include staff wages, teaching materials, power and phone charges, to name a few.

Jordan King, Co-President of the New Zealand Union of Students' Associations (NZUSA) states, "The amount that the Government has increased spending in the tertiary education budget for 2010 is below predicted inflation levels and is effectively a cut."

What makes the issue even trickier, is that institutions currently operate in what is called a "Capped Environment." This means that institutions have a "cap" on student numbers, and if they go over their cap they don't receive any more money to fund the extra students. This has the potential to seriously squeeze an institution financially.

For NMIT, that magic number is 2775 EFTS (Equivalent Full-Time Students). NMIT is allowed to go below or above the 2775 EFTS cap by 3%. According to Tony Gray, "2775 EFTS +3% is about right for NMIT – knowing that there could be some flexibility for 2010 based on the 'claw back' of unused EFTS in the sector in 2008."

Nationwide the picture isn't quite as pretty. Dave Guerin, Director of ITPNZ, predicts that 6000 - 8000 New Zealanders will be turned away from training at a Polytech. That's a lot of people sitting on the dole who could be undertaking useful training.

Hon Maryan Street, Labour Spokesperson for Tertiary Education is not happy. "How can a university or polytechnic cater for growth when their future funding is being cut? The institutions will simply have to turn people away because the Government is not funding them adequately" she says.

### What does this mean for students?

My biggest concern is the potential impact on student fees. We've seen in the past that if techs and unis don't have enough money to deliver their courses, they look to students to make up the shortfall.

I asked Tony Gray if the funding changes could see an increase in student fees for NMIT students. "Possibly," he replied. "But I don't think there is an appetite for this at the moment; certainly at NMIT we would want to avoid this, outside the annual Fee and Course Cost Maxima approach."



My response: "good."

### So, this all sounds very bleak...what can we do about it?

I think we need to be pragmatic, and we need to get our evidence sorted. Unfortunately for students, many industries face difficult times and we need to prove why the education industry requires increased (or at the very least, stable) funding. Looking at examples from Australia (\$9 billion increase in tertiary funding) is a good start.

We also need to point to examples of Government funding that appear wasteful – where the money could be better spent by investing in tertiary education training. Examples include the \$50 million national cycle way and increases in funding for private schools.

We also need to work alongside the institutions as best we can and 'sing from the same song sheet.' At the moment, most student and institution leaders appear united about the Government's funding changes, so we might as well work together. The more voices we have, the stronger we are!

Here at SANITI, the Executive is planning to lobby and engage with Government over the funding changes. Later this term, we will host a forum here on campus with Tony Gray where you can come along and ask all the questions you want! We hope to have local industry members and politicians along too. Keep an eye out for details. In the meantime, if you have a burning budget question, you can email me at [pres.saniti@extra.co.nz](mailto:pres.saniti@extra.co.nz)



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# PIP'S TIPS

## SANITI Advocate Pip Bowler Takes A Look At Aspects of Social Behaviour In New Zealand



Being a student can be GOOD TIMES a-plenty with all the great people you meet and good learning you get... oh yeah, and the work you have to put in! Of particular fun are the mix of cultures we have in tertiary education which makes life even more interesting and offers up plenty more opportunities to learn. Socialising can also lead to making social stuff ups - eeeek! Each country has its own social norms or things that are acceptable socially.

Here are some aspects about New Zealanders when it comes to socialising, partying and general GOOD TIMES:

- We like to be friendly, greet and chat to people even if they are at work eg. At the supermarket checkout or in a clothes store.
- We tend not to like people being too loud or in-your-face with their opinions or ideas particularly when we first meet.
- We might wave or say "G'day" or "Kia Ora" to a stranger down the street but we don't usually stop for a chat with a stranger.
- The roles of women and men are not so fixed in New Zealand eg. A woman might buy a drink for a man, a man may ask out a woman or a woman may ask out a man, a woman may go out while her partner babysits children, a man may do the baking and cleaning at home.
- In comparison to some countries when New Zealanders socialize they have a larger personal space, eg. They don't hug or kiss when they first meet someone but may do once they know them better.
- We try to treat people fairly and with respect. This is across age groups, cultures, work places, sexuality, religion and what course they might be studying!
- When someone says 'NO' they are not interested in a social outing or in YOU. It is accepted that 'NO means NO' and that is where you bow out gracefully. In New Zealand if you even hug or kiss someone without their consent it can be classed as indecent assault and is a crime.

So have fun out there: learning about your NMIT subject matter and about others in our wee Nelson melting pot. Just remember to respect others and that different rules apply in different countries. Ask first and respect other peoples' choices. Let's keep the GOOD TIMES GOOD.

If you think you or a friend has been sexually assaulted please remember it is NOT your fault. Call the following numbers for advice, help or to lay a complaint.

**Rape Crisis** 548 2407(24 hours)  
**Nelson Police** 546 3840(24 hours)

# YOUR VIRTUAL LEGACY

## What you say on the internet on such websites as Facebook, Bebo, MySpace and Twitter may come back and bite you in your virtual butt.

By definition of being 'social', social networking websites are designed to share content with other people. While you may think that your provocative status updates and humorous photos of you sculling beers are for a select group, you may be leaving a trail that could harm your future employment chances.

When you post photos onto Facebook you are essentially signing away all control of them as those photos are never deleted. Some people also do not realise that everything on the internet can be downloaded and copied. This also applies to photos that your friends post.

More and more employers are searching the internet looking for information on potential employees. There have been cases of people getting busted throwing sick days by posting contradictory status updates (usually involving a hangover rather than a cold) and being doxxed in by other employee 'friends'. Remember that Facebook, for one, tells other people when you are online. Workmate 'friends' may not take well the fact that you are online at work when you should be working.

It is worth considering that your opinions may also change. How many times has our current Social Welfare Minister had her disparaging comments about the National Party from her previous life as Student President parroted back at her? (Not enough, some might say!)

There are some things that can be done to avoid leaving skeletons in your closet that may come back to haunt you:

- The most obvious, and least fun, don't post it.
- Use a pseudonym (fake name).
- Make sure that you max out your privacy settings.
- Keep your friends to a minimum and only give people you know well and trust access to your pages.



# JOB INTERVIEW TECHNIQUES

## VOS does a bit of research about techniques to use when going to a job interview

Having a job interview can be very stressful. Especially when you have invested so much time, effort and money into getting qualified and all you get is 15 minutes to convey how awesome you really are and impress potential employers. Nervous tension can turn the most capable person into gibbering jelly. One slip of the tongue can leave you red-faced and wanting to run from the room screaming. What can be done to avoid falling apart at a crucial time?

### Be Tardy and Calm

Be on time. If you turn up late, you can most likely kiss the job goodbye. Get yourself into a confident and relaxed headspace before you head into the interview. Do not have a wine to calm your nerves! Small talk is important. Don't fall into the trap of just talking about yourself. Ask questions about the job and about the interviewers themselves: how long have they been working there? What parts do they love about their role? Act as if you already have the job, this will help your self confidence.

### Do Your Homework

Make sure you have the appropriate qualifications or experience for the position. Emphasise any skills, experience or outside activities that you think might be relevant.

Extra points can be given for learning more about the company. Read their website and any printed material you can get your mitts on. Even better, track someone down who either works there or has some knowledge about them. If you know someone you studied with who now works in the industry, quiz them. What kind of questions might they ask? What skills are important to emphasise?

### Act Like You Will Fit In With Their Company

If you are appropriately qualified, the thing interviewers are wanting to know is will you fit in with their current team. Such things as dressing appropriately will help. Find an excuse to do some reconnaissance of the place before your interview and check out what other people are wearing.

### Don't Panic!!

The interviewers may try to throw you off guard by asking a question to deliberately shock you to see how you act under stress. If they do this, remember that they might not have a specific answer in mind. What is important is how you react. Firstly, think about it and try to give a measured and thoughtful response.

Only one person can get a job, so don't get downhearted if you are unsuccessful. Try to learn from your mistakes. Keep supplementing your CV with any experience you can get - take initiative! Remember that a job is more than a qualification, try to get experience working in a team, get supplementary skills, do a night course in computing, or join Toastmasters to build up your public speaking skills.



# JOB HUNTING IN 'LEAN' TIMES

VOS caught up with two men to discuss their take on job hunting.

## Mark Woodhouse



Mark is a highly experienced aviation instructor currently employed as an international pilot with Air New Zealand, recording over 14,000 hours of time in the air.

### **1 Take All Opportunities That Come Your Way.**

The boom of the past few years may have

slowed, but your aviation opportunities are still far brighter than those of your forebears. You may have to 'sweep the hangar floor' for a while, but so did many who went before you. Whatever opportunities you create, no matter how modest, do your best to impress. The industry, even internationally, is too small not to.

**2 Get Qualified In Times Like These.** At the end of the day, because of the extended time required to train pilots, the very time to be doing your qualifications is during a downturn, in order that you are well placed to take advantage of opportunities that will inevitably arise. Get your qualifications before you need them, because once you need them it's too late.

While the world economies are certainly struggling and demand for pilots has slowed, I have noted a number of things that lead me to believe that there is still a strong future for professionally trained pilots. Airlines, especially around the Asia-Pacific region, are going out of their way to avoid making their pilots redundant, preferring the allocation of long service and backlog leave, and of leave without pay. At a recent ICAO training conference it was found that the predicted demand for pilots still far exceeds the output of the world's training industry.

## Matt Lawrey



Reporter, columnist, film reviewer, radio host and Lotto presenter.

### **1 Keep things in perspective and keep an open mind.**

There aren't many people out there still doing the same job they had when they left tertiary education so don't worry if you're not living the dream straight away. Any job – fulltime, part-time or voluntary – can lead to unexpected opportunities.

One of the things that gets on my nerves is when you hear

people moaning: "it's not what you know, it's who you know that counts." Yes, who you know can make a big difference but who you know is largely based on what you're prepared to do to meet people. In other words, you're more likely to meet people working on the checkout of your local supermarket than you are sitting at home watching clips of waterskiing cats on YouTube.

**2 Don't take yourself too seriously.** It's amazing how many people are held back by unrealistic senses of entitlement. Without wanting to sound too 'old school', the world does not owe you a living and just because you think you're pretty special doesn't mean anyone else necessarily will – apart from your mum, of course. Chances are you're not going to get very far in any career unless you knuckle down, work hard and accept that getting knocked back occasionally is all part of it.

I once asked Nelson's own Academy Award-winning art director from Lord of the Rings, Dan Hennah, what advice he would have for anyone seeking to follow in his career footsteps and he said: "you've got to give before you get."

The good news is that, in most situations, the longer you apply yourself at something, the more skills you acquire, the more experience you get, the more contacts you make and the more opportunity comes your way.



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# 2009 STUDENT PILOT CONFERENCE

For the sixth year running SANITI, in conjunction with NMIT, hosted the New Zealand Student Pilot Conference at the NMIT Nelson campus from July 1 to July 4. Over 80 student pilots from NMIT's 12 partnered flight training schools attended the three day conference.

Every year SANITI aims to provide students with access to key aviation industry representatives. The theme for NZSPC 2009 was 'Bridging the Gap'. The aim of this year's conference was to provide trainee pilots with information they could use to increase their chances of gaining employment after completing their training. SANITI made a special effort this year to provide more opportunities for students to network with smaller regional aviation employers.

This year SANITI was able to bring together an absolutely stellar cast of speakers, including representatives from Mount Cook Airlines, Air Nelson, Sounds Air, Air Safaris, New Zealand Airline Pilots Association as well as key industry speakers from Airways, the Civil Aviation Authority, The New Zealand Agricultural Aviation Association and the Aviation Industry Association. Other highlights included a tour of Nelson Helicopters, the Summit rescue helicopter and helicopters NZ for NMIT rotary students.

On Friday July 3 the Conference ended with SANITI's now famous fancy dress party held at the Nelson Golf Club. The theme this year was an American styled 4th of July party (minus the fireworks). Students had to come dressed as their favourite 80's or 90's American icon. Prizes were given to the best dressed students. Mount Cook Airlines sponsored two amazing prizes where the students would spend the day flying in the cockpit of an ATR passenger plane, Sun Air sponsored a weeks work experience, Air BP generously sponsored \$500 worth of fuel vouchers for the best-dressed rotary students and the Down Under Pilot shop generously provided a host of spot prizes and giveaways.

The party was the perfect way to cap off what was by all accounts one of the best student pilot conferences. As ever the conference could not have gone ahead without the sponsorship and generous support from NMIT, Aviation Services Limited, The Aviation Industry Association, Air BP, Sun Air, Mt Cook Airlines, Nelson Aviation College and Ardmore Flying School.





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Email: [jennyoswald@nmit.ac.nz](mailto:jennyoswald@nmit.ac.nz)



*We're looking forward  
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### Joanna Smith STUDENT ADVISOR



I'm Joanna and I work as a Student Advisor. If you are stressed, not coping, have issues at home or just want to talk through a problem, you are more than welcome to drop in and see me in the Student Support Area in N Block, or drop me an email and arrange a time. I am also

the person to talk to if you have any Accessibility issues that may impact on your ability to study and therefore your success as a student. So if you want to discuss ways of making life easier then come and see me. I look forward to meeting you.

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# Student Life

This week NMIT Contemporary Music Student Mike Vickers gives a rundown on the performance night for the course held at the School of Music in Nelson



Dude, where were you? I know, I know - you were polishing a turd or working at McD's to pay a ticket you got for parking on some old geezers prize flower garden after driving around the NMIT block for two and a half days without joy, but really dude - be where it's at!!

I'm not sure what course you were doing yet while you were busy at the end of last semester furiously memorising anatomy facts, obscure points in case law or which temperature were you meant to set the oven for your cheese souffle entree, NMITs music students were excitedly (some a bit nervously) counting down the days and hours to their first performance of the year.

With mountains of gear in place, and the sound testing side of things sorted, they ripped through a full dress rehearsal before the real deal. A last chance to remember the words, the song order and a last chance for guitar players to cut their finger nails to maximise the cleanliness of the shred attack during the final bars of the guitar solo that will burn in the collective eternal memory of all beings in simultaneous galaxies... hunt for a clean shirt and borrow a tie. That kinda thing.

Band requests. 26 green jelly cupcakes, plus two extra wobbly blue ones for Andy - check. Imported June edition of ROCK Chick magazines for Shayne and Antonia - check. Bong apparatus (for visual effect only) and two large bottles of Jack ("Wait until the second song begins then stash the remaining bottle in my guitar case for the after-



party") for Brice - denied... no alcohol on campus sorry bro! A dozen mature water lilies, a blow up doll and a jug of lime Raro. Anonymous... lime Raro? Hmm, must be for the tutors - check.

Backstage is a gas. Don't tell anyone but I can tell some folks are sweating reasonably large fatties backstage. Here's a guy practising hitting notes in the vocal harmony he is about to sing: aaaarrrgggghhh!! "No, not like that. No, not at all. Okay, lets try it again"

The five bands played truckloads of styles; rock, pop, heavy metal, the usual suspects with some great original tunes mixed in. The players had fun, everyone got a taste of something they could swallow. Brave people danced. One fella enjoyed everything with his eyes shut the whole way through!

Wanna hear a theory? Every muso in town wants to be loved by someone rich. Why? 'cos it's five bands a buck and that's a steal! 4 songs per band. That's 20 cents a band - 5 cents a tune!

See you in November and bring the posse!!



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# THE EFFECTS OF SMOKING

Shelley from NMIT student services in conjunction with Corinne Payne from the Cancer Society held a little demonstration on the effects of a lifetime of smoking in the Student Centre on Marlborough Campus on Thursday 28 May.

Three student volunteers; Lorraine Grant (hairdressing), Jackie Michie (hairdressing) and Tony Mohenoa (carpentry) and the hairdressing tutor Raewyn donated their faces to be prematurely aged to reflect the damage that long term smoking does to a person's appearance.

The demonstration was more like a reality check as make-up artist Gileen Gaughy transformed these youthful looking teenagers (and the youthful looking Raewyn) into hardened wrinkly smokers.

The aim was to show these students as well as onlookers just how damaging smoking can be to your appearance over time. As well as emphasising the destructiveness of smoking on the parts of your body you don't normally

get to see. According to Corinne 6000 New Zealanders each year take up smoking and out of those 6000 only 1% are over the age of 18. More alarming is the fact 23% of new smokers are under the age of 10!!

A fact that was typified by our four test subjects. 17 year old hairdressing student Lorraine Grant was just 11 when she started. Worse still, student Jackie Michie was only 7 years old or two years into primary school when she first started. When the three students were asked whether they intended to give up they all indicated that eventually they wanted to, 42 year old Raewyn was a bit more proactive stating that she would definitely be taking measures to give up this year.

Each year 5000 people in this country die from smoking related diseases, 25% of all cancers are caused by cigarette smoking. However those facts seem to slip successive governments minds when they earn approximately \$2.4 billion a year out of tobacco taxes and levies.



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HOUSE OF TRAVEL



# the anonymous cafe reviewer

**After a few issues of the Anonymous Cafe Reviewer refusing to review instant coffee, VOS had to do something drastic and hijack his column!!**

Instant coffee... Not many people openly admit to drinking it out of choice. But when you need that caffeine hit and the wallet says 'NO!'... you know you'll swallow your pride. With many options out there and the price ranging from \$3 to over \$10, what is good value? VOS assembled a crack team of java guru's to test five instant coffees.

Here are the coffees used in the blind taste test.

<b>Home Brand</b>	<b>\$2.99</b>
<b>Greggs Red Ribbon</b>	<b>\$3.59</b>
<b>Nescafe Classic</b>	<b>\$6.69</b>
<b>Robert Timms</b>	<b>\$6.89</b>

We did throw in a bit of a curve ball, a jar of cinnamon flavoured Jarrah Coffee Sensations 'Vienna Velvet'.

Judges prepared their own coffee to their personal preference. After much glugging and gurgling, sipping and swilling, we came up with some interesting results. Firstly, everyone spotted the *Home Brand* and most refused to drink another mouthful. Some comments included 'Tastes like yuck' and

'Bad, bad, bad'. No arguments there then... Ironically, the winner was the one that had the least like instant coffee in it, the cinnamon flavoured *Jarrah* which was only 11% coffee. The main ingredient was sugar! This was displayed in the comments: sweet, rich, spicy, although most found it lacking any depth.

The *Jarrah* and *Home Brand* aside, the two \$6 plus coffee's fought a close battle for second place with the *Robert Timms* slightly edging out the *Nescafe*. The *Greggs* was a distant but respectable fourth.

The overall impression was that the mid-range coffees were good value and that they would be the safe option when bought on special.

We shall go and untie the Anonymous Cafe Reviewer now and return to normal transmission for the next issue.



**The Instant Coffee Tasting Team, left to right: Kim from NMIT Student Services (who was walking past), Student Prez Rachel (never drinks instant coffee) Student Executive Member Dan (who was in the office at the time) SANITI Staffer Jaycob (coffee queennoisseur) and SANITI Manager Alison (who drinks "insti" at home... sometimes)**



## The Ticket Slapper

**this issue Ms. Slapper helps readers avoid social fauz paus when asked about riding styles at cocktail parties...**



believable and creditable answer, I wanted to ensure my information was both topical and factual. So I consulted a local aficionado on all things riding and equine related. My work mates 19 year old daughter, who likes ponies.

As no one has served cocktails, shown a movie or offered free food at a horse, saying I know nothing about them or the people who ride them would be a step up. As is normal with these things once again I look to expand your horizons and my own through the indulging of whims and when was the last time I actually did what I was meant to?

So my expert was quite clear on the differences. To start with there are some primary differences in the garb.

As the name implies western riding harks back to the cowboys of early America. For western riding you need; a cow boy hat (usually brown or black, measured in gallons, not really sure if that's water related), cowboy shirt and cowboy boots (absolutely must match! Think seven brides for seven brothers), you will also need chaps, made popular and slightly seedy by that nice man from the village people. And the all important western saddle. And a horse, more on that later.

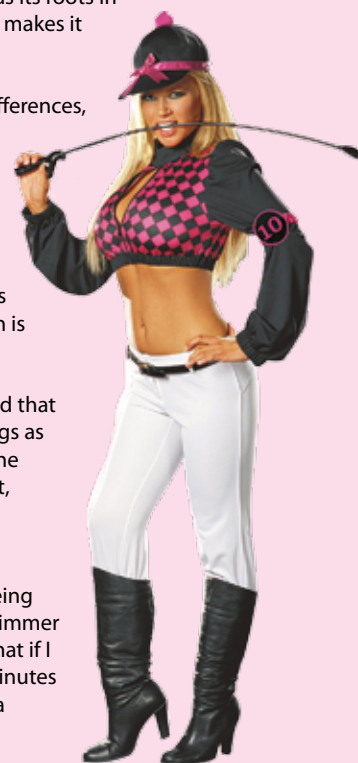
Saddlery, I am told by my consultant, is in fact an art form. Saddles can range in price from \$200 all the way up to the Rolls Royce of saddles which will set you back an easy \$3000.00 American. Western saddles also have horns (to tie things to) and distribute the weight

more evenly so both horse and rider can travel longer together, where as English riding saddles are the same seat size but slightly smaller overall, this maximizes contact between horse and rider. English riding requires helmets (black or white, think English bobby), the clothes are more formal in look, dress jackets with stock (neck thingy) and full length boots. English riding has its roots in the English Aristocracy and military, which naturally makes it slightly more posh or perceivably so.

In terms of the riding there are a number of basic differences, firstly western reins are longer, almost twice the length of normal and are split. English reins are joined and shorter. In western riding what is referred to as a trot in English riding is called a jog and a canter is called a lope. Western riding is more relaxed and laid back, whilst English riding is much less leg manoeuvred with more of a focus on reins which is the opposite to western.

Most importantly there is the horse. My expert stated that western horses are sometimes referred to as bull dogs as they are smaller and stockier than English horses. The principle being historically they carried more weight, English riding horses are usually taller.

So there you have it, a very brief forage into the equestrian arts. It's safe to say that my chances of being able to use this hard fought for knowledge is a lot slimmer than I am. Like wise my expert was of the opinion that if I could actually stay on a horse for longer than five minutes without damaging both myself or said horse it was a success.





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