

# Research Outlook

## Message from the Principal

I was privileged to be invited to the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon's presentation on 6th September on *New Zealand and the World: Sustainability and Security in a Time of Global Transition*. We know that as international communities we are faced by many challenges today, but Mr Ban made it clear that we must face these challenges as individuals as well as communities or nations. To illustrate his point he mentioned that he had just visited Kiribati, where he had planted mangrove as part of the islands' defence against erosion from rising sea levels. "Climate change is not about tomorrow," he said. But he also reminded Mayor Len Brown of his macro responsibilities on the part of Auckland!

Mr Ban has a modest manner which commands enormous respect, as does his focus and clarity of purpose. We are fortunate to have such a visionary as our global helmsman.



Research activity at ICL continues to increase. In the project with NZIM we have completed the data collection phase and moved on to analysis. Several staff have made recent conference presentations and more have been accepted for future conferences, as the following pages relate. And our monthly seminars have broadened to embrace the early days of ECE in New Zealand and the leadership and advocacy roles of counsellors.

*Ewen Mackenzie-Bowie*

### Research Project of ICL with NZIM

**Title:** Managerial Skills and Competencies in New Zealand Firms

**Progress Update:**

- **Data collection started in August 2011**
- **Literature review ongoing**

**Time Frame:** March-Nov 2011

**Staff involved in this project:**

**Dana Niko**  
Lecturer, ICL Business School  
**Dayal Talukder**  
Lecturer, ICL Business School  
**Brent Hawkins**  
Senior Lecturer, ICL Business School

### Research Seminar at ICL

**Date:** 26th October, 2011

**Time:** 1-2pm Room: 2.3

**Speaker:** *Ewen Mackenzie-Bowie*

**Title:** *A private boat – security and vulnerability in Where the Wild Things Are*

*Come and bring your lunch to attend this presentation.*

## ICL BUSINESS SCHOOL

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# Recent Research Achievements by ICL Staff

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## Research Activity

### Quantitative Methodology Workshop

**Attendee:** Dana Niko, Lecturer, ICL Business School, Auckland

Dana Niko attended a two-day quantitative methods workshop at the University of Auckland on June 20-21<sup>st</sup>. This workshop was facilitated by Dr. Arran Caza, a statistician from Wake Forest University, U.S.A. He completed his PhD in Management & Organizations and Psychology at the University of Michigan. He has taught organizational behavior, negotiations, change management, negotiations, and research methods.

The workshop covered models and hypotheses, analytic strategy, research design, data management, preliminary analysis, specific statistical techniques. During the workshop participants were given an opportunity to discuss their individual research. This opportunity was timely as ICL is undertaking a research project with NZIM investigating managerial skills in NZ. Hence, the survey design was revised with the help of Dr. Caza during the workshop. His feedback was invaluable in ensuring our survey is sound and all important factors are considered. Analysis methodology was also discussed to determine possible ways to approach the data once collected.

The ICL-NZIM survey is well underway and data collection should be completed by mid September.

### Growing New Zealand Businesses (GNZB)

Dana Niko was invited to take part in data analysis for the GNZB survey that was undertaken by the University of Auckland. For more information about the project visit: <http://tinyurl.com/GNZBUoA>

### Law into Action Seminar

**Attendee:** Tahera Afrin, Lecturer, Early Childhood Education, ICL Business School, Auckland

The 2011 Law into Action Seminar highlighted basic issues related to human rights in New Zealand featuring past and present challenges. It was divided into 3 sessions. The first session was an overview which focussed on the over-lapping areas of International Convention on Civil & Political Rights 1966 (CPR) and International Convention on Economic, Social & Cultural Rights 1966 (ESCR). The second session discussed the refugee families and children and their rights in New Zealand. The third session explained the general progress of human rights in New Zealand for the minority cultural groups such as the Asians and the Muslims.

A highlight of the seminar was mention of a cultural gap in the support system for refugees where the assessors from the authority have zero knowledge of the background of the refugee.

### July Research Seminar at ICL

**Montessori, Steiner, Reggio: Their beginnings and their position in Aotearoa in 2011.**

**Speaker:** Brynyce Owen, Lecturer, Early Childhood Education, ICL Business School, 27th July 2011.

The material for this short presentation was taken from Brynyce's on-going research that was begun and copyrighted in 2006. The content had to be diverse due to time constraints and the enormity of the subject; therefore it was a case of touching briefly upon several elements of the research.

The presentation was directed primarily at the students on the National Certificate in Early Childhood Education and Care programme at ICL Business School. The programme only touches on the philosophies of Maria Montessori, Rudolf Steiner and the community of Reggio Emilia, and so the students are not aware of them in any great depth. However they are well established as diverse or alternative educational options. Similarities were shown between the three philosophies, their origins and their implementation, coming forward in time to their links with the New Zealand Aotearoa government documentation of practice for Early Childhood Education in 2011. The presentation showed that those historical educationists were creating and practising elements which are now compulsory for our students to embrace before becoming ECE teachers in 2011. The thread of spirituality that weaves its way through all three of the philosophies was mentioned, especially that of the imagination of the individual child. This one issue has been the subject of debate relating to Montessori for over a hundred years and still is debated today. Finally the background images used were taken from photographs from the early 1900s, which showed elements that the government in Aotearoa in 2011 are encouraging practitioners to incorporate today.

### August Research Seminar at ICL

**Dimensions of Counselor Leader-Advocate Roles**

**Speaker:** Dr. Maria Concepcion V. Umali, Lecturer, ICL Business School, Auckland

Dr. Umali discussed leadership and advocacy roles of counselors and identified the dimensions of each role from the perspective of professional counselors themselves. Almost 47% of the active members of the New Zealand Association of Counselors (NZAC) served as respondents to the survey. The survey employed the Delphi processes in gathering data, SPSS text analysis for qualitative data, and multidimensional scaling techniques for non-metric quantitative data. The research seminar discussed the vital leadership role that counselors have in reaching the profession's accountability standards as their profession experiences a paradigm shift from ancillary service provider to full partner in the organisational process. Findings revealed six dimensions - context, competencies, concerns, challenges, practices and relationships.

### ICL Business School ASSR Memeber

We are pleased to announce that Ewen Mackenzie-Bowie is now a full member of the Association of Social Researchers (ASSR) organisation. Please see the newsletter on our server under [X:NZDBIRESEARCH\Ethics\ASSR](#)

## Events Attended

### The European Union: The President of the European Commission's speech

**Attendee:** Dana Niko, Lecturer, ICL Business School, Auckland

Dana attended the President of the European Commission's, José Manuel Barroso, speech on the role of the EU in global affairs and its closer relation with the Pacific region. The talk also addressed the direction Europe is heading in terms of democracy and sustainability. President Barroso emphasized how Europe is looking to further integrate, rather than separate. Therefore, it is not a question of how to slow or dissolve the EU but how deep should the relationship between European states be. President Barroso also touched on the 42<sup>nd</sup> Pacific Islands Forum that he attended this month in Auckland. He noted on the huge economic potential of the region due to its vast control over territorial waters (more so than the European control zone) this leverage should give, according to President Barroso, the region a stronger voice in the international arena to address climate change as it affects this region more than any other area in the world. He further claimed that geographical distance should not stand in the way of embarking upon strong economic and social ties with Europe; only because Europe is geographically far away does not mean both regions cannot be "good friends".

However, it is yet to be seen if there are real actions behind these inspiring words. And of course how this relationship is going to take shape: for the benefit of Europe or the Pacific region?

By Dana Niko

## Upcoming Academic and International Conferences (Updated)

As a part of the development of research culture, the ICL Business School encourages staff to get involved in research and participate academic conferences. Staff are encouraged to prepare papers and attend conferences and support will be given.

Therefore we list some of the up and coming academic conferences in NZ and Australia so that staff may wish to consider which areas interest them and discuss this with Dayal, Dana or Brent. An application can be made to the Principal and there is funding available for this activity.

### Conferences in New Zealand

#### 1. Ulearn11

19-21 October 2011, Christchurch, New Zealand

For more information:

<http://core-ed.org/ulearn>

#### 2. 4th Biennial International Conference on Task-Based Language Teaching

18-20 November 2011, Auckland

For more Information:

<http://www.confer.co.nz/tblt2011/>

#### 3. Australasian Business Ethics Network (ABEN) Conference

2-3 December 2011, Auckland, New Zealand

For more Information:

<http://www.aut.ac.nz/business/aben2011>

#### 4. Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management Conference

7-9 December 2011, Wellington, Auckland

For more information:

<http://www.anzamconference.org/>

#### 5. Business & Economics Society International (B&ESI) Conference

7-10 January 2012, Queenstown, New Zealand

For information:

[http://www.pdfdownload.org/pdf2html/view\\_online.php?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.besweb.com%2FBESICall112.pdf](http://www.pdfdownload.org/pdf2html/view_online.php?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.besweb.com%2FBESICall112.pdf)

#### 6. New Zealand Resources Conference 2011

1 December 2011, Wellington, New Zealand

For more information:

<http://www.iir.com.au/conferences/mining-resources/oil-gas/new-zealand-resources-conference>

#### 7. Learning@School 2012

26 to 27 January 2012, Hamilton, New Zealand

For more information:

<http://core-ed.org/learningatschool/>

#### 8. NZEALS Conference 2012

11 to 13 April 2012, Bethlehem College, Tauranga, New Zealand

For more information:

[www.nzapep.co.nz/newsletter.htm](http://www.nzapep.co.nz/newsletter.htm)

### Conferences in Australia

#### 1. Knowledge/Culture/Social Change International Conference

7-9 November 2011, Sydney, Australia

For more information:

[http://www.uws.edu.au/centre\\_for\\_cultural\\_research/ccr/events\\_and\\_news/kcsc\\_conference](http://www.uws.edu.au/centre_for_cultural_research/ccr/events_and_news/kcsc_conference)

#### 2. LIHE'11 Australia - Turning University Teaching into Learning via Simulations and Games

27 November 2011, Sydney, Australia

For more information:

<http://lihe.wordpress.com>

#### 3. 1st International Australasian Conference on Enabling Access to Higher Education

4-7 December 2011, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia

For more information:

<http://www.plevin.com.au/ncee2011/>

#### 4. Quantitative Methods in Finance 2011 Conference

14-17 December 2011, Sydney, Australia

For more information:

<http://www.qfrc.uts.edu.au/qmf/>