LINCOLN UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONAL PLANNING PROGRAMMES
ACCREDITATION RENEWED! Hamish Rennie

LU is happy to announce that following consideration of the report of its accreditation review committee, the NZPI Council has reaccredited the Master of Environmental Policy (MEP) (with the required electives) for a further 5 years. The Bachelor of Environmental Management and Planning (BEMP) with the Professional Planning minor plus one year of specified post graduate study has also been accredited for two years. The difference between the accreditation period for the two reflects the intention of the NZPI to review its education policy, and it would seem that for consistency the NPZI would be likely to do the same for all other undergraduate programmes coming up for review.

Out of more than 100 post graduate students in the Faculty of Environment, Society and Design, there are currently 15 post-graduate students at various stages of doing programmes that would make them eligible for NZPI membership.

MERGER PUT ON THE BACKBURNER

In March an amalgamation between Lincoln University and AgResearch was mooted.

During three months of investigation, the University strongly focused their attention on ensuring that existing undergraduate and postgraduate programmes were retained. Recently Lincoln University and AgResearch decided to propose a knowledge partnership model as opposed to a full merger, and keep the two organisations as separate entities.

This was decided to be the most cost effective outcome for both parties and ensures the stability of current and future programmes of study.

AWARDS FOR LINCOLN GRADUATES

In 2008 the John Hayward Memorial Prize went to Clare Sargeant. This prestigious prize is awarded to the most outstanding Master of Environmental Policy student who has completed the degree, based mainly on academic performance in all the core/compulsory subjects of the degree. It was created after the death of John Hayward (in 1993), who was the founder, and for a long time director, of the Centre for Resource Management and of the Master of Science (Resource Management) degree, the precursor of the Master of Environmental Policy degree. It must be noted that Clare completed the required electives for the NZPI planning accreditation and is the NZPI Young Planners Branch Representative for Canterbury/Westland. Congratulations Clare!

Millie Woods has won the Brooker Prize for Lincoln University for 2008. Thomson Brookers is the major law publishing firm in New Zealand and has close connections with Lincoln University. Its online and hard copy versions of the Resource Management Act and other legislation enables students to keep up to date with relevant changes in planning law. It offers awards to planning/planning law students at universities throughout the country and the criteria for gaining the award varies from university to university. At Lincoln University the Brookers Prize in Resource Management is awarded each year to the student enrolled in the first year of the MEP who gains the highest marks in the five core subjects: ERST 630, ERST 631, ERST 632, ERST 633 & MAST 603.

THE WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CENTRE Bill Swallow*

Background
The University of Canterbury and Lincoln University are establishing a Water Resource Management Centre. The Centre is the outcome of consultation with Environment Canterbury, the Canterbury Development Corporation, the Canterbury Water Cluster (i.e. the major bodies involved in water resource management and research in the region), and the Department of Labour. Water resource management has been cited as a key area for regional initiatives in the “Regional Statement of Tertiary Education Needs, Gaps and Priorities in Canterbury 2008-2010” and was a principal economy-wide concern in the Food and Beverage Taskforce Report 2006 and the environmental sustainability goal of the Government’s 2008 Economic Transformation Agenda. The project aligns with recent government initiatives, including the Proposed
National Policy Statement for Fresh Water Management, the National Environmental Standards, the Ministry of Research Science and Technology and Foundation for Research Science and Technology research strategies for resource management and sustainability, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministry for the Environment sustainable development ‘Programme of Action’ for water.

**Our Vision**
The two Universities see the Centre as being the focal point for improving knowledge-driven water resource management in New Zealand. The Centre will be the critical link in providing improved teaching and associated research in water resources. It will serve the unique and ever increasing demands in Canterbury for improved water resource management, and as a national centre of educational excellence. The Centre will facilitate the education sector’s key role, alongside existing water organisations, in improving skills, knowledge, and awareness in the water sector. It will also encourage strong co-operation between the two universities to effect institutional change leading to better education outcomes for the country.

**Key Outcomes**
- Establish a Water Resource Management Centre between the two universities to serve as a catalyst for water action between teaching, research, regulatory, public interest, and water user organizations.
- Appoint a joint Chair of Water Resource Management between the two universities to provide integrated leadership and coordinate the disparate university resources existing in this area and identify current teaching and research gaps.
- Contribute to the Canterbury Water Cluster and the Department of Labour’s Canterbury Regional Skills Strategy.
- Work within the sector to identify specific skills needed in developing capability
- Engage in community education
- Develop undergraduate career pathways, professional training and viable postgraduate education in water management studies
- Enhance and coordinate scholarships in this area.

**Progress**
Considerable progress has been made since planning for the new Centre began in late 2008. This includes forming an Advisory Board for the Centre with representation from local authorities, Crown Research Institutes, industry, farming and central government. An establishment committee has also been created, along with joint working groups in both Universities, to help ascertain current water resource teaching courses and identify gaps. The same audit process is also being carried out in the research area. External stakeholder liaison has been a key priority over the last few months as has the appointment of the new professorial chair to lead the Centre. More information on the Centre may be obtained from our website http://waterresource.ac.nz/index.shtml

*Bill Swallow PhD, has over 30 years of experience in science and science management particularly in the field of environmental health. He was a General Manager at the Crown Research Institute ESR from 1992 until 2004. Currently he is project manager of the joint Canterbury/Lincoln initiative to develop a Water Resource Management Centre. He is also an Adjunct Professor and Entrepreneur-in-Residence at Canterbury University.*