



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

New Zealand National  
Commission for UNESCO

Te Komihana Matua o Aotearoa mo UNESCO



# ANNUAL REVIEW 2012

“Te whakatairanga i te maungārongo me te tika ā-tangata ki Aotearoa, ki te Moana nui ā Kiwa hoki – mā te mātauranga, mā ngā pūtaiao, mā te ahurea me te whakawhitihwhiti whakaaro kore here”

“Promoting peace and social justice in NZ and the Pacific through education, the sciences, culture, and the free exchange of ideas”



Secretariat and Members of the National Commission at work: Left to right: Susan Isaacs, Vicki Soanes, Edna Tait, David Thorns, Andrew Matthews, Elizabeth Rose, Neil Walter, Brian Pauling

## INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIR

**Former career diplomat and Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Neil Walter, takes a moment to reflect on his first year in the role of Chair of the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO.**

Looking back over the last year, Charles Darwin’s thoughts on adaptability to change being vital for survival come to mind.

Like many organisations around the world facing new challenges over the past couple of years, the National Commission has taken the opportunity to refresh its efforts on behalf of New Zealand and New Zealanders. While our mandate remains the same, we have narrowed down our wide array of activities to a more focussed set of priorities that will constitute our workplan for the coming year.

In 2011 the National Commission’s Secretariat was placed in the International Engagement Team of the Ministry of Education. This move involved a number of changes in roles and responsibilities. A new Constitution and revised Memorandum of Agreement between the Commission and the Ministry encapsulate those changes.

The New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO continues to fulfil its primary role of providing expert advice to the New Zealand Government on all UNESCO related matters. It is also the ‘face’ of UNESCO in New Zealand, charged with ensuring that UNESCO is kept up to date on what is happening in New Zealand. A third key objective is to help the Pacific region to derive maximum benefit from its association with UNESCO. To discharge these responsibilities requires the Commission to maintain a strong network of relationships in New Zealand and around the Pacific, to participate in a range of offshore meetings and to support New Zealand’s participation in various UNESCO programmes.

Our long history of close partnerships with our Pacific Island neighbours continues to strengthen. This was demonstrated most notably this year when New Zealand’s National Commission was mandated to represent the Pacific’s 16 National Commissions at the 2012 meeting of a Working Group to explore ways of strengthening cooperation between UNESCO’s Secretariat and National Commissions. New Zealand was subsequently elected to co-chair this working group along with Egypt.

New Zealand and the Pacific continue to be held in high regard at the international level - something I was privileged to witness first hand when New Zealand was appointed as Rapporteur General at the UNESCO Regional Consultation of Asia/Pacific National Commissions in Thanh Hoa, Viet Nam in June. This biennial meeting helped shape UNESCO’s medium term strategy for the coming 8 years (2014-2021) and four year work programme (2014-2017).

Back at home, as this Annual Review illustrates, we have continued to deliver a substantial work programme with our many partners across all of the UNESCO areas.

## Voices of Youth



Verenah Pedro and Inangaro Vakaafi listen to a fellow participant’s experience of natural disaster at the Christchurch LBD.

**The National Commission has an on-going commitment to empowering young New Zealanders and young people in the Pacific through its programmes.**

A special feature of the National Commission’s support for youth programmes is that responsibility for designing and leading the activities has been handed over to teams of young people. This approach reflects a fundamental change in the way that UNESCO globally is relating to youth.

UNESCO recognises that young people carry the greatest burden of change across the world in the shape of poverty, unemployment and lack of opportunity.

But they are also driving change and setting the pace for key transformations in our societies and to be able to do this they must be equipped with the necessary skills and values.



Young people at the first ‘Looking Beyond Disaster’ forum in what would become a typical ‘group pose’ at every forum thereafter; collaboration in action.

*Continued on back page*

## YOUTH INNOVATION CREATES UNIQUE MODEL OF DISASTER RESILIENCE AND RESPONSE:

### ‘LOOKING BEYOND DISASTER’ FORUMS

**“It has taken many natural disasters to bring us all together, but now that we are all here let’s go forward together.” The parting words of 100 international young leaders at the world first ‘Looking Beyond Disaster’ Youth Forum in Christchurch 2011, set the scene for two further international youth forums in 2012.**

Shortly after the 2011 earthquake in Christchurch, the NZ National Commission for UNESCO recognised that enabling young people to be part of the response was vital. The reaction to the initial one-day forum that the National Commission facilitated in May 2011, the ‘Christchurch Youth Voices Challenge’, affirmed both the appetite of young people to have their voices heard and the success of a forum model as the basis for dialogue.

As a direct result, the first international ‘Looking Beyond Disaster’ Youth Forum was born. Just seven months after the first youth gathering, participants from around the world gathered in Christchurch in December 2011 to develop action plans they would take back to their respective communities – one of which included holding further ‘Looking Beyond Disaster’ forums. The next was to be in Sendai, Japan in August 2012.

Sendai suffered catastrophic damage from the devastating tsunami in March 2011, which claimed over 15,000 lives.

Rachael Hodge (17 yrs) who attended both the Christchurch and Sendai forums, says that she began to see issues from different angles after sharing experiences of natural disasters with youth from around world.

“Something that I will never forget is the idea that anyone can achieve change. Through these forums I have seen why it is important to have your say in the community, especially providing a youth perspective on important issues.”

The third forum, PowerShift Pacific: ‘Looking Beyond Disaster’, focussed on the needs and aspirations of Pasifika youth.

Young people from Pacific Island communities including Vanuatu, Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, New Zealand, Niue, American Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tokelau and Australia, came together in December 2012 to share their experiences of disaster and living in vulnerable island states.

Inangaro Vakaafi, a young broadcast journalist and youth advocate, who led the organisation of the Pacific forum from her home in Niue, said that the forum aimed to enable young people from the Pacific to support each other in their wish to be at the forefront of efforts to deal with the impact of climate change in their environment.

As well as the young people specifically discussing responses to natural disasters, they have learnt skills such as blogging and video-making, have been challenged by working in cross-cultural teams whilst being away from home, and have heard from many points of view across the youth spectrum, including the voice of disability.

Benazir Kumar (18 yrs) from Christchurch, who addressed the Sendai forum participants in sign language, inspired one of her fellow Kiwi participants, Jason Pemberton, to take up the challenge of cross-cultural communication.

Jason says “Benazir’s presence was an incredibly valuable addition. She not only solely represented a demographic often forgotten in disasters, but she added a layer of diversity that transcended typical language barriers, and somehow made communication with everyone easier - being hearing impaired wasn’t going to stop her so why should you and I not be able to talk?”

Vicki Soanes, Senior Advisor for Education and Youth, said the development and success of the three Forums surpassed everyone’s hopes for a single successful forum back in 2011.

## DIVERSITY IN PARTICIPATION

Benazir’s first language is sign language. Here she shares some of her thoughts on participating at the LBD Sendai forum, Japan.

“I felt empowered by the conference and enjoyed meeting other like-minded youth. It is not very often a young deaf person has this opportunity. I interviewed a lot of deaf people and recorded their stories.

We went on a field trip to the tsunami hit region. It was amazing- there was nothing left for as far as you could see. We visited a school where many children had died. I felt so sad about this. Many children are now orphans. We heard the locals speak of their experience. It was very emotional. Around 20,000 people are dead or missing.

I have made a lot of friends all around the world. We all have action plans to help people in our countries. (With thanks to Bryanna O’Regan and the Van Asch Deaf Education Centre)



Yr 13 Benazir Kumar signs her experiences of living in post-disaster Christchurch with international youth at the Sendai LBD forum, Japan.

## LINKS

**LBD Christchurch YouTube film (9min)**  
<http://bit.ly/LBD2011>

**LBD Sendai YouTube film (13min)**  
<http://bit.ly/LBD2012>

**LBD Sendai NZ Delegation blog**  
<http://bit.ly/SendaiBlog>

**Looking Beyond Disaster info**  
<http://bit.ly/YouthLBD>

**Powershift Pacific LBD (7min)**  
<http://bit.ly/LBDPasifika>



Sendai. The New Zealand delegation in Cashel St prior to departure. (From left to right: Benazir Kumar, Chloe Biddick, Jason Pemberton, Rachael Hodge, Bradley McPherson, Hohua Kurene)



PowerShift Pacific 'Looking Beyond Disaster' Youth Forum participants, Auckland, December 2012

"The 'Looking Beyond Disaster' Youth Forums used the model that was developed by young people for young people in that first Christchurch forum. The fact that there is now an international model of youth participation that is relevant and flexible enough to be applied in other settings, countries and cultures is testament to the importance of empowering young people to develop their own tools to create solutions."

Vicki points out that empowering young people to contribute their voices to any issue that affects them, benefits not only them, but their communities, policy-makers and society as a whole.

"Throughout all three forums, I've witnessed the personal transformation of many of the participants, who go from seeing themselves through the eyes of society as inexperienced youth with little to contribute — to confident, articulate leaders who see themselves as having a valuable contribution to make, who want their voices heard, and who aren't afraid to make things happen."

Lucille Sains, participant at the PowerShift Pacific Forum held in Auckland in December 2012 from the distant Federated States of Micronesia, urged other young to "start the momentum as this is our time, let's not wait for others to tell us how to help".

### Christchurch Youth Voices Challenge, May 2011, Christchurch

**Forum 1** – 'Looking Beyond Disaster' Asia-Pacific Youth Forum, December 2011, Christchurch

**Forum 2** – 'Looking Beyond Disaster', August 2012, Sendai, Japan

**Forum 3** – PowerShift Pacific 'Looking Beyond Disaster' Youth Forum, December 2012, Auckland

## KIWI YOUTH VOICES RISE TO RIO + 20

As part of its mandate to ensure that youth voices are heard internationally, the National Commission facilitated NZ youth participation in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio + 20) process in partnership with UNICEF New Zealand.

In the lead up to Rio+20, with the support of 350 Aotearoa, Generation Zero, Global Poverty Project, P3 Foundation and UN Youth New Zealand, the Commission supported consultations run across the country and online with over 70 young people (14-26 years) who expressed their views on the seven 'priority issues' identified.

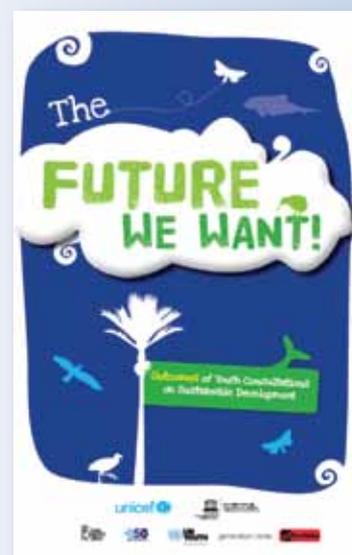
The context of Rio+20 provided an opportunity for young Kiwis to become more aware of, and involved in, issues relating to sustainable development at both a national and international level.

Participants gained an increased awareness about their right to participate and a platform for their voice to be heard.

This was supported during the consultations which emphasised the importance of the presence and voice of young people on these issues locally, nationally and globally.

The National Commission also supported the travel of four youth ambassadors to Rio+20, as part of an Envirochallenge delegation who participated in the official youth forum.

**Read more about youth at the summit: <http://futurewewant.org/>**



# THE OUTLOOK FOR SOMEDAY

**The National Commission is proud to have been a project partner for three years in The Outlook for Someday film challenge, New Zealand's annual sustainability film project for young people.**

The Outlook for Someday challenge is to make a short sustainability-related film and anyone up to the age of 24 can enter, either individually or in a team.

Each year, the Commission sponsors a special prize called the 'UNESCO Sustainable Future Award', for the film that best promotes dialogue about sustainability through a new perspective and/or critical thinking.

The 2012 UNESCO prize winner was 'Someday Everyone Will Scooter', submitted by seven students from Kauri Park School (primary) in Auckland. In their winning film, which is just over one minute long, the young film-makers aged 10 and 11 said, "Someday everyone will feel successful and good about taking a risk. Someday everyone will be encouraged to do something they never knew possible."

National Commission Chair, Neil Walter, who presented the award at the Auckland ceremony, said that the children's articulation of hope for a better world for everyone goes to the core of much of UNESCO's work internationally and the National Commission's focus in New Zealand.

"The children's hopeful voices shine through, as they dream of a world of peace based on respect and strong communities. Their vision of a world free of poverty, bullying and teasing, and where all people respect each other, goes to the heart of creating a sustainable society and demonstrates UNESCO's key value of creating peace through dialogue."

"Many of the entries emphasized the importance of society, solidarity, culture and peace, as well as the environment. The Outlook for Someday is a powerful mechanism to align young people, education and youth networking with creativity, self-expression and sustainability."

The Outlook for Someday film challenge is a great example of how the National Commission's support of a single event can engage participants simultaneously in multiple UNESCO programme areas such as Youth, Science, Culture, Education and Communications.

**The winning film is available to watch here: <http://bit.ly/TheoutlookUNESCO>**



On stage having a chuckle with Chair of the National Commission, Neil Walter, are the award-winning young film-makers: Beau Wing, Jourdan Tout, Tyler Reid, Te Hau Robinson, Luke Sale, Nathaniel Sutton, Max Wilson from Kauri Park Primary School, Auckland.



Welcome Elizabeth Chan, Youth Advisor to the National Commission

## Walking the Youth Talk

**The National Commission is delighted to welcome Elizabeth Chan to the newly established position of Youth Advisor to the National Commission.**

The Youth Advisor role, with appointments to be made on an annual basis, has been created to reflect the importance that youth activities have in the Commission's work plan alongside the traditional UNESCO programme sectors.

Senior Advisor Education and Youth, Vicki Soanes, says that appointing a Youth Advisor acknowledges the desire to hear directly from young people about decisions that affect them.

"Much of the work we do across different sectors affects youth to some degree, and the creation of this role demonstrates our commitment and belief that New Zealand youth have something substantial to contribute. This is our way of 'walking the talk'! We're excited that Lizzie will be part of our team, reflecting the wide voice of youth as we plan, prioritise, partner and deliver our work."

Elizabeth (Lizzie) Chan is the immediate past-president of UN Youth and represented New Zealand at the UNESCO Youth Forum in Paris in late 2011 where she joined over 500 youth representatives from Member States around the world. The Final Report of the Forum made key recommendations that were presented to the UNESCO General Conference at its 36th Session.

## BEYOND DISASTER: A Teaspoon of Light

“How can we help students?,” “What should we do?” As well as responding to their own personal situations, Canterbury teachers faced numerous challenges in the wake of the earthquakes – physical, logistical and emotional. Knowing how best to support students in the face of such overwhelming shock and sadness was where the Teaspoon of Light project was born.

The project, which uses art-based education designed around a learner-led workshop, had an overwhelmingly positive response throughout the Canterbury region. It continues to evolve and is now spreading knowledge through ongoing activities.

Associate Professor Peter O’Connor from the University of Auckland who leads the programme, says that in the post-quake environment, a number of principals spoke about how they focussed on making schools a fun and safe place, connected into their communities.

“Having done that they then discovered their achievement levels actually were the best ever in the year following the quake. A number of principals speak eloquently about the place of love in schools.”



NZ delegate Rameka Alexander-Tui’nukuafe presents at the workshop

## Pacific Youth and Heritage meeting, Honiara

### YOUTH SPEAK! YOUTH AND HERITAGE WORKSHOP, HONIARA, SOLOMON ISLANDS, 4-6 JULY 2012

The National Commission supported 24-year-old architecture student, Rameka Alexander-Tui’nukuafe, to take part in the YouthSpeak! workshop which gave regional youth a forum to voice their opinions on issues related to the safeguarding of Pacific heritage, cultural and natural, and to promote sustainable development.

The theme of the workshop, supported by the Pacific Islands Museums Association (PIMA) and the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), was ‘Culture in Harmony with Nature’. A key outcome of the workshop, which also celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> year of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention, was participant-led action plans to safeguard Pacific heritage which can be used to promote the youth voice in sustainable development initiatives throughout the region. These plans identified not only tasks and roles, but the additional skills needed by young people across the Pacific sub-region to ensure protection of their heritage. Rameka’s studies in architecture at Auckland University demonstrate his willingness to acquire the expertise required to be a leader in the area of cultural heritage retention.

During the workshop Rameka talked about the role of culture in sustainable infrastructure and development.

“We can develop economically but not step on culture and heritage. Instead, they should be the main drivers of everything we do in the Pacific.”

## “16 YEARS WISE” WINS PRIZE - REALISE THE DREAM

The National Commission was delighted to congratulate 16 year old Minushika PUNCHIHEWA on receiving the UNESCO Outstanding Student Award at the prestigious Genesis Energy’s Realise the Dream awards in December.

Minushika, from Palmerston North Girls’ High School, set up an experiment to demonstrate principles of Mendelian inheritance in white clover. White clover based pastures underpin sheep, beef, and dairy industries that earn New Zealand \$16 billion export income annually.

Minushika’s research on trait inheritance in a plant breeding context went a long way towards showing what it takes to create a better clover plant.

Presenting Minushika’s award at the ceremony hosted by the Governor-General at Government House, Deputy Chair of the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO, Dr Andrew Matthews, said that the National Commission’s sponsorship of this award reflects UNESCO’s global commitment to attracting and retaining young people in science education and supporting young researchers, particularly young women researchers.

“We continue our strong commitment to promoting science education in New Zealand – as well as increased participation by young women like Minushika.”

Genesis Energy’s Realise the Dream rewards 20 students for undertaking a piece of excellent science research or engineering.

**Read more about Realise the Dream:**  
<http://www.realisethedream.org.nz/>



UNESCO Outstanding Student Award winner Minushika PUNCHIHEWA with Deputy Chair of the National Commission, Dr Andrew Matthews.

## Associated Schools Network (ASPnet) Update

**The New Zealand National Commission funds an active and committed Associated Schools Network in New Zealand, which was further strengthened last year by the appointment of Deli Connell as National Coordinator.**

Deli works directly with member schools helping them to incorporate UNESCO ideals into their school environment. This recently included facilitating several sessions of student-led inquiry in three Auckland schools, enabling students to make links between their own unique situation and the core values of the United Nations.

Deli says that ASPnet is a great opportunity for schools to tap into a global exchange.

“ASPnet delivers the best of both worlds for schools in that both learners and teachers can contribute to and learn from the international UNESCO community, whilst at the same time, there is enough space for each school to tailor the work to their school and their community’s needs.”

Deli also co-ordinates a biannual meeting where member schools can exchange best-practice information and share knowledge. New Zealand member schools recently took part in projects to produce postcards for tsunami victims in Japan and banners for display in other New Zealand member schools. Work has now started on a range of national forums in 2013 to celebrate the Network’s sixty years of work for peace through dialogue.

The Associated Schools Network (ASPnet) is UNESCO’s oldest programme, started in 1953 to promote UNESCO’s ideal of peace and to improve the quality of education world-wide.

The 9000 members worldwide comprise educational bodies (pre-schools, primary, secondary and vocational schools to teacher-training institutions) who work in support of international understanding, peace, intercultural dialogue, sustainable development and quality education in practice.

These goals reflect and support the ethical and intellectual vision of UNESCO which is to promote human dignity, equality and respect for justice, human rights and freedom by removing ignorance, mistrust, suspicion and prejudice from people’s minds.

### He Tangata Mātauranga - Adult Learner’s Week, 3-10 September

The National Commission continues to support Adult Learner’s Week which is organised annually by Adult Community Education (ACE) Aotearoa. In 2012, Adult Learner’s Week took place from 3 – 10 September, incorporating Adult Literacy Day on 8 September. The week which was once again a success, with a significant increase in participants nationally, was launched in Blenheim.

Adult Learner’s Week aims to celebrate: the efforts, achievements and contributions of adult learners, educators and providers; strengthen adult and community education and raise public awareness of the rich variety of learning opportunities for adults; widen access to learning opportunities and encourage more people to return to learning and foster collaborative and cooperative networks and pathways among those who share an interest in adult learning.

Vicki Soanes, Senior Advisor Education, says that Adult Learner’s Week aligns with the international ‘Education for All’ (EFA) goals, for which UNESCO is the lead agency.

“Education for All is a set of six goals, which aim for all people to have access to quality education throughout their lifetime. Through the highlighting of learner stories, Adult Learner’s Week promotes the importance of adult education to many people’s lives and fits beautifully with UNESCO work in this area.”

**Visit the ACE website: [www.aceaotearoa.org.nz/events/adult-learners-week](http://www.aceaotearoa.org.nz/events/adult-learners-week)  
Read more about EFA: <http://bit.ly/UNESCOefa>**



National Associated Schools Network (ASPnet) Coordinator, Deli Connell

## Oxford University and Pacific collaboration at Pacific Migration Workshop.

UNESCO’s international Participation Programme sponsored an academic workshop looking at difference scenarios of future migration likely to affect the Pacific region. UNESCO’s engagement with this activity is a contribution to UNESCO’s Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme.

Sponsorship enabled participants from Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Fiji, Tuvalu, Samoa and Tonga to attend the Mobility Futures Workshop at Massey University Auckland in late October.

The workshop, organised by Waikato University’s Professor Richard Bedford, and run by a team of researchers from Oxford University’s International Migration Institute (IMI), was part of the larger Global Migration Futures: Pacific Region project.

The workshop aimed to increase participants’ understanding of the complex social, economic, political and environmental changes occurring in the Pacific region that are likely to impact on migration patterns.

National Commission Secretary General Elizabeth Rose, said National Commission priorities of promoting dialogue and strategies for sustainable futures were well aligned with the workshop.

“With the world population expected to exceed nine billion by 2050 and increasing vulnerability for the relatively small populations here in the Pacific region, collaborative thinking on the issues that will affect us all is more important than ever. Feedback from workshop participants, which also included Australasian senior policy-makers, the Samoan Ambassador to Australia, and a mix of business, NGO and government officials, was overwhelmingly positive.”

**Read more at Oxford University’s International Migration Institute website: <http://bit.ly/MigrationFuture>**

## New Inscriptions on New Zealand Memory of the World Register

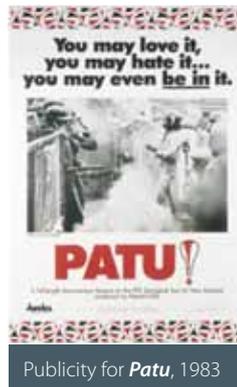
**Two new items were inscribed onto the New Zealand Memory of the World Register of documentary heritage: Māori Land Court Minute Books from the 19th century and a documentary recording the 1981 Springbok Tour of New Zealand.**

Chair of UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia Pacific Committee, Ray Edmondson from Australia, said that both the new inscriptions told stories of events from two powerful periods of New Zealand history.

"They still have an impact on society today and are highly regarded sources of research for historians, Māori researchers, educators and many others in the wider community."

Housed at Archives New Zealand, the Māori Land Court Minute Books 1862 to 1900 document the early years of the Native Land Courts and record the hearings and evidence given to establish the Native Land Court titles across New Zealand, recording tribal history, whakapapa and evidence of iwi/hapu use and land occupation. The minute books are a source of research to historians and Treaty of Waitangi claimants. They also help Māori maintain their connections to land, hapu, iwi and their history. The documentary 'Patu!' records events from the 1981 Springbok Tour to New Zealand from the point of view of those opposed to the tour. Featuring the work of many New Zealand film and documentary makers, it was created by veteran documentary maker Merata Mita. **A version of the documentary can be viewed on the NZ Onscreen website.**

The New Zealand Memory of the World Programme was established in 2010 to develop the New Zealand Memory of the World Register, propose nominations to the Asia-Pacific and International Registers, participate in selected heritage activities, and be an advocate for the documentary heritage sector.



Maori Land Court (MLC) representatives with Ray Edmondson from Australia and Sarah Falconer (far right) from Archives New Zealand at the Awards Ceremony

**LINKS Memory of the World New Zealand:** <http://www.unescomow.org.nz/>  
**Memory of the World International:** <http://bit.ly/MOTWorld>

## NEW COMMUNICATION TOOLS

**Digital communication continues to transform large and small aspects of everyday life both for individuals and organisations. Internationally UNESCO is committed to providing guidance through agreed standards and accords that seek to balance increased connectivity and knowledge freedoms with restraints on individuals' privacy.**

The National Commission has been involved in the following related initiative:

### 'Who Watches the Digital Watchers?'

New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO's Culture Commissioner, Brian Pauling, was one of the panellists in a media session that was part of the New Zealand Diversity Forum in Auckland in August. The panel was chaired by Gilbert Wong, Head of Communications at the Human Rights Commission. Other panellists were: Selwyn Manning, founder of digital news site Scoop, and Susan Freeman-Greene, Chief Executive of the Broadcasting Standards Authority.

Media writers, commentators, bloggers, journalists and academics and members of the public were invited to attend the discussion on digital media rights and responsibilities.

UNESCO places freedom of expression as one of its principal priorities and supports the right to exercise that freedom internationally. However freedom of expression needs to be balanced by responsible guidelines. This is particularly critical for digital media.

### The New Zealand Diversity Forum

Convened by the Human Rights Commission, the Diversity Forum is an annual gathering where people involved in race relations, human rights and cultural diversity come together to share ideas and good practice.

The theme for 2012 was "Aotearoa: A Fair go for All." In addition to organising the media session the National Commission funded the youth participation component of the Forum.

**You can find out about the 2012 Forum on:** <http://www.hrc.co.nz/race-relations/newzealand-diversity-forum-2>

# Beeby Fellowship

**Every two years the NZ National Commission for UNESCO and the New Zealand Council for Education Research (NZCER) jointly award the Beeby Fellowship.**

Completing her fellowship at the end of last year was Canterbury University Senior Lecturer, Faye Parkhill. Faye successfully trialled a literacy programme in the youth unit at Christchurch Men's Prison, working with young adults who have not responded to traditional schooling and require extra assistance to gain literacy skills. It is hoped that the resulting Teacher's Manual and research resource will be used in youth prison facilities throughout Australasia.

The recently announced 2012 Beeby Fellow is Dr Caroline Yoon, Senior Lecturer, Department of Mathematics at the University of Auckland. Caroline's focus is on designing and researching mathematical modelling activities for generating, strengthening and consolidating mathematical understanding. Caroline will use her time as Beeby Fellow to publish five full Model Eliciting Activities, which are a class of mathematical activities that encourage students to develop and communicate a mathematical model to solve a meaningful, real world problem. She will use sequences that have been developed and tested in schools over the past 5 years, and will create teacher guides for implementing these sequences and designing additional ones.

First awarded in 1998, the Beeby Fellowship is named in honour of Dr Clarence Beeby who was Assistant Director-General of UNESCO from 1948-49 and also the first Director of NZCER.

The Beeby Fellow receives \$30,000 to support the development of resources based on their research. NZCER supports the Fellow with advice and, if appropriate, will publish the resource.

**Read more about the Beeby Fellowship:** <http://www.nzcer.org.nz/about-nzcer/beeby-fellowship>

## Introduction from the Chair

*from front page*

'Building Peace through dialogue' is a key objective of both UNESCO and our National Commission. Over the last year, and notwithstanding the setbacks we have all witnessed to international peace and stability, I have seen some solid progress towards this goal. Whether it is a formalised multilateral UNESCO discussion in Paris, a group of young New Zealanders working together on a film, or a sharing of experiences with our regional partners to deepen mutual respect and understanding, constructive dialogue remains a simple but powerful tool in the building of peace.

I would like to thank the Minister of Education, our National Commissioners and Secretariat team members for their hard work and wise counsel in my first year as Chair of the National Commission. I also want to acknowledge the contributions of the Ministry of Education's International Engagement team, our Associate Members, partners and supporters in New Zealand and our colleagues in the Pacific and around the world. Your contributions and commitment are greatly appreciated. Thank you.

**Nga mihi,**  
Neil Walter

## UNESCO Contestable Activities Fund (UCAF) Funding Recipients

From time to time the National Commission provides small grants of up to \$5,000 to organisations which are undertaking activities in line with UNESCO priorities. The purpose of this funding is to expand the National Commission's reach and to promote its intersectoral focus. In 2012 funding was provided to the following organisations:

**Far North Adult Literacy** – music as a learning tool, Kaitiaki

**UNICEF Christchurch Photography project**

**Beyond Trauma Trust** – disaster resilience art programme for Christchurch youth

**Critical Studies in Education** – earthquake experiences of Christchurch school communities

**Te Aka Aratiatia** – Maori community leadership programme, Wairoa

**Ecosynergy Group Ltd** – Virtual Peer Learning, Cross-cultural Research, Victoria University

**Birdsall & Glasgow** – research into sustainability, Auckland University

**350 Aotearoa and Gen O** – Powershift Youth Forum, Auckland December 2012

**'Spirit of Rangatahi'** – Pacific cultures learning exchange, Porirua East

## The National Commission

Chair: Neil Walter  
Education: Dr Edna Tait  
Culture (Acting): Brian Pauling  
Communications: Paul Smith  
(until February 2012)  
Natural Science: Dr Andrew Matthews  
Social Science,  
(Acting): Professor David Thorns

## Associate Members of the National Commission

Department of Conservation  
Ministry for the Environment  
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment  
Ministry for Culture and Heritage  
Ministry of Education  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade  
Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs  
Ministry of Women's Affairs  
Ministry for Youth Development  
Office for Disability Issues  
Office of Ethnic Affairs  
Te Puni Kōkiri

## Secretariat - Ministry of Education

International Engagement Manager:  
Deborah McDonald

Secretary General, Senior Advisor Natural Sciences: Elizabeth Rose

Senior Advisor Education, Youth:  
Vicki Soanes

Senior Advisor Culture, Communications, Social and Human Sciences: Susan Isaacs

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**New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO**  
*Te Komihana Matua o Aotearoa mo UNESCO*