

# ANNUAL REPORT

2012

## **Table of Contents**

1.	Introduction	3
2.	The ICDC Team	3
3.	Staff Profiles	4
4.	Major Research Projects	6
5.	Major Research Activities	8
6.	Supervisions	10
7.	Teaching	12
8.	External Research Income	12
9.	Research Outputs	13
10.	Awards	14
11.	Plans for 2013	15

## 1 Introduction

The Institute of Culture, Discourse & Communication (ICDC) engages in research that is cross-disciplinary in nature and collaborative in process. Research focuses upon critical perspectives in communication, culture, identity, discourse, media, the Internet, and language in society. Since 2011, ICDC has been integrated into the School of Language and Culture, allowing closer links with research staff in the school. ICDC's working objectives are:

- developing research capability in the School, Faculty and AUT, through mentoring, conferences, supervisions and research groups;
- collaborations with researchers within the School, Faculty, AUT and elsewhere in New Zealand and internationally, through joint projects and publication;
- publications, including staff research outputs and journal editorships;
- seeking external funding for ICDC projects.

#### 2 The ICDC Team

At the close of 2011 the Institute's staffing had been reduced to 2 FTEs owing to lack of Faculty funding support. This was well below a critical mass, but during 2012 staff numbers were increased again towards a sustainable level with the agreement of the School of Language & Culture. The complement will rise to 3 FTEs in 2013. At the end of 2012 staff positions were:

- Professor Allan Bell, Director, Professor of Language and Communication (.8; plus
   .2 in School of Language & Culture)
- Dr Philippa Smith, Research Manager, from June 2012 (.5; plus .2 in School)
- Kristie Elphick, Research Administrator (.4)
- Trish Brothers, Editorial Assistant (.3)
- Andy Gibson, WIPNZ Co-ordinator and Analyst, Journal of Sociolinguistics Editorial Associate (.5 until June 2012, then .2)
- Alwin Aguirre, Graduate Assistant, PhD candidate

#### 3 Staff Profiles



#### Professor Allan Bell, Director

In 2012 Allan Bell submitted the manuscript of his major international text *The Guidebook to Sociolinguistics* for publication. It will appear in 2013 with Wiley-Blackwell. During the year he gave numerous presentations, with conferences in Berlin and Melbourne, including a number of keynotes and plenaries. He was a Distinguished Visiting Scholar in residence at Monash University, Melbourne, in November. Allan edits the *Journal of Sociolinguistics* and is Director of the World Internet Project NZ. He sits on the editorial boards of six journals, and was a member of the Social Sciences and Other Cultural and Social Sciences panel for the 2012 PBRF assessment. In 2012 he took on the role of Head of Research in the School of Language & Culture, and set up the the School's new Research Committee, facilitating research activities throughout the school. Allan supervised to completion one PhD during the year, took on two new candidates, and continued with five ongoing supervisions.



#### Dr Philippa Smith, Research Manager (since June 2012)

Philippa has been a key member of ICDC since 2003. Her focus in early 2012 was her PhD thesis, which she submitted in June, with graduation in December. From June she took on the position of ICDC Research Manager. Her main responsibilities lie in managing projects and funding applications, liaising with stakeholders and funders, together with a leading role the World Internet Project NZ. She also plays an active part in the day to day running of the Institute and the building of its research culture. Philippa has been part of the WIPNZ research team since 2007. In July 2012 she was a plenary speaker at InternetNZ's second Nethui Conference in Auckland. Philippa also lectures on the English and New Media Studies programme within the School of Language and Culture.



#### Kristie Elphick, Research Administrator

Kristie has worked as Research Administrator in ICDC since 2008, supporting the Institute's research activities and PhD students. Kristie assists with key tasks such as expenditure management, recruitment processes, meeting organisation and minute taking. Kristie has been the Coordinator of ICDC's conferences, including the NZ Discourse Conference, since 2009.



#### Andy Gibson, WIPNZ Analyst, Editorial Associate

Andy had several roles in ICDC in 2012. He continued as Editorial Associate for the *Journal of Sociolinguistics*, liaising between the editorial team, publishers Wiley-Blackwell, authors and reviewers. He was project coordinator and lead analyst for WIPNZ in 2012, as well as a researcher on several sociolinguistic projects, both independently and in collaboration with Allan Bell.



**Trish Brothers, Copy Editor** 

Trish provided copy editing services to the *Journal of Sociolinguistics*, and the *Journal of Educational Leadership Policy and Practice*. Her proofing and copy editing skills are also available to researchers in the Institute and School.



#### Alwin Aguirre, Graduate Assistant

Alwin received both a summer assistantship and a graduate assistantship in 2012, allowing him to contribute to the research environment of ICDC above and beyond his involvement as a doctoral student. He has been actively involved as a part of the World Internet Project team and in the development of a research project and funding application on the Discourse of Online News .

## 4 Major Research Projects

## 4.1 World Internet Project New Zealand

The World Internet Project New Zealand (WIPNZ) is ICDC's largest project. Funded by the Government through the National Library and by InternetNZ, it provides important information about the social, cultural, political and economic influence of the Internet and related digital technologies. New Zealand's partnership in the World Internet Project International enables comparison with more than 30 other countries. The team includes several ICDC members and Professor Charles Crothers (School of Social Sciences). The project's work focuses on biennial national surveys, with the next due in 2013.

This past year has seen a wide range of WIPNZ activities, including focus analyses of the 2011 survey results, release of new international comparative data, and media and industry interaction.

In February, WIPNZ was profiled in *The Listener* online. Peter Griffin interviewed WIPNZ team member Andy Gibson about the results of the 2011 survey and the changes occurring in New Zealanders' use of the internet.

The results of the 2011 WIPNZ survey also received extensive attention in May 2012, upon the release of the *Engaged Web in New Zealand* report produced by Intergen, a company that offers information technology solutions for its customers locally and overseas. Intergen's report analysed patterns of use for New Zealand's most trafficked websites, using the WIPNZ results as a reference point. This gave public acknowledgement of the value of the WIPNZ survey.

In June, the results of the 2009 WIPNZ survey appeared in an international report comparing 14 WIP international partner countries. The WIPNZ team prepared a short report of highlights from these international comparisons, looking at the results from a New Zealand perspective.

NetHui, a conference that covers a wide range of internet related topics and issues, ran for three days in July 2012 in Auckland. WIPNZ team members Allan Bell and Philippa Smith delivered a keynote address at the conference entitled: 'The internet biographies of New Zealanders'. The plenary provided a fresh perspective on the results of three WIP surveys undertaken between 2007-2011 by looking at the developing internet use patterns of individuals.

Towards the end of the year, WIPNZ team completed an analysis into the way New Zealanders engage with government online. This report had particular relevance for the Government given that Prime Minister John Key's goals for public sector achievement within the next 3-5 years included improving interaction for New Zealanders and New Zealand businesses with Government in an online environment. This report, and all the other 2012 reports, can be viewed and downloaded at wipnz.aut.ac.nz.

The year contained sustained involvement with the project's principal funders, the Government and InternetNZ, over funding for the WIPNZ 2013 survey. Major documents were prepared and provided to the stakeholders, with exchanges and meetings throughout the second half of the year. In November WIPNZ Director Allan Bell, Research Manager Philippa Smith and WIP International Director Professor Jeffrey Cole met the Minister of Internal Affairs Chris Tremain and officials to present the case for ongoing project funding by Government. This resulted in a successful outcome in 2013.

#### WIP international partners' meeting, Dubai, June 2012

The 2012 meeting of the WIP international partners was hosted by the American University of Sharjah, in the United Arab Emirates and was attended by WIPNZ team members Charles Crothers and Philippa Smith. The annual meeting, held in alternate locations in either the southern or northern hemisphere, is an opportunity for the WIP country representatives to meet, compare notes about their surveys, and discuss methodological issues.

This year there were 18 of the 30 WIP member countries represented at the Dubai meeting including the United States, Portugal, Macau, China, Taiwan, Croatia, Morocco, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Germany, South Africa, Australia, Cyprus, Iran, the United Arab Emirates, Sweden, and New Zealand. Three days were devoted to the presentation of survey results and other associated research projects from each country that attended. Topics covered included social networking, youth and family routines on the Internet, policy and regulation affecting Internet use, and mobile internet usage.

Charles Crothers and Philippa Smith jointly presented data from New Zealand including the Internet profiles of key New Zealand respondents to indicate the changes in use of media as evidenced in the comparison of data from the three WIP NZ surveys in 2007, 2009 and 2011. They also highlighted some of the New Zealand-specific questions in the survey which included topics such as language use by different ethnic groups and identity.

#### Visit by Professor Jeffrey Cole, WIP International Director

While in New Zealand as plenary speaker at the ITEX Conference in Auckland in November 2012, Professor Jeffrey Cole gave presentations in both Wellington and Auckland. InternetNZ hosted a public event in Wellington where Professor Cole spoke to a large audience on *Trends, Fads & Transformations: The Impact of the Internet*. Allan Bell and Philippa Smith presented comparative data from the three WIPNZ surveys since 2008 in their talk on *New Zealand – An Internet Nation? Online Engagement with Government*. Professor Cole's presence and support were crucial in our advocacy to Government for funding in 2013.

## 5 Major Research Activities

#### **Journal Editorship**

Journal editorship and production are major undertakings within the Institute.



#### The Journal of Sociolinguistics

The *Journal of Sociolinguistics*, published by Wiley-Blackwell, is one of two leading journals internationally in its field. It is edited and produced from ICDC, with Allan Bell as Editor, Andy Gibson as Editorial Associate, and Trish Brothers as Copy Editor. In 2012, the journal received well over 150 submissions, and published 25 articles in five issues, amounting to some 720 pages. The April issue was a theme issue co-edited by Joseph Sung-Yul Park (National University of Singapore) and Adrienne Lo (University of Illinois at

Urbana-Champaign). The issue proposed a new direction for the sociolinguistics of globalization in the process of transnationalism, using multiple perspectives on new modes of Korean migration as a case study.

The academic editorial team consists of Lionel Wee (Singapore), David Britain (Bern), Devyani Sharma (London), Bonnie McElhinny (Toronto) and Rakesh Bhatt (Illinois). The *Sociolinguistics Symposium* held in Berlin in August 2012 provided a rare opportunity to bring the team together in person. This resulted in a fruitful meeting which allowed the team to look at both the current state of the journal and its processes, as well as facilitating a discussion of the long term goals and vision of the journal, now in its seventeenth year. As well as this gathering of the core editorial team, the conference in Berlin also allowed a meeting of many members of the journal's editorial board.

Monica Heller retired as one of the Associate Editors in August. Monica joined the Journal four years ago and has added a great deal to its standards and character. The moves that have been taken in the past three years towards multilingualism in the Journal, starting with bilingual abstracts, have been Monica's initiative. Now a majority of published papers carry an abstract in another language as well as English. In addition to the expected suite of international languages, there have been Swahili, Korean, Dutch, Finnish, Italian, Danish. In some cases, publication of even an academic abstract is a notable marker for those languages which are either endangered or usually confined to non-written or non-formal registers — Cellese, Maori, Low German. Monica leaves the Journal after being elected Vice-President and President Elect of the American Anthropological Association.

#### The Guidebook to Sociolinguistics

In August 2012 Allan Bell completed the manuscript of his textbook, to be published in 2013 by Wiley-Blackwell, the major international social science publisher. The text targets students of all levels and introduces them to both the content of the field and to how to conduct sociolinguistic research. Numerous examples and exercises illustrate the discipline and its findings, and students are led through the steps to undertake their own research projects. The book includes examples and case studies from Allan's own research experience.

#### **PBRF** panel

Allan Bell was a member of the 2012 national PBRF Social Sciences and Other Cultural and Social Sciences panel. This involved a month's work assessing submitted portfolios and contributing to panel discussions and decision making at the December panel meetings.

#### **Participation in Summer School on Computer Mediated Communication**

Philippa attended the University of Basel Summer School, Switzerland, Ascona, Switzerland, in June 2012 to expand her knowledge on methodologies used in the linguistic examination of computer-mediated communication. This was organised by the University of Basel linguistics department and proved to be invaluable for Philippa's teaching within AUT's School of Language and Culture in 2012.

Computer Mediated Communication is an increasingly popular topic of teaching and research at academic institutions given the rapid global development of new media technologies. The six lecturers running the summer school were from European and American universities and had backgrounds in the areas of linguistics, social media, qualitative methodologies, and ethics. The 31 participants were predominantly linguistically-focused, though there were several like Philippa whose main interests lie in media, communications and discourse.

## 6 Supervisions

Thesis students are a major part of the life of the Institute, all co-supervised by Allan Bell. These are primary supervisions except where noted.

#### Philippa Smith (PhD)

#### New Zealanders on the Net: discourses about national identities in cyberspace

Philippa submitted her doctoral thesis for examination in June 2012. After successfully defending her thesis in an oral examination by three internationally known discourse academics in Australia, the United Kingdom and New Zealand, she graduated in December.

#### **Kevin Sherman (PhD)**

A clash of nations? An investigation into the interrelationship of real world and virtual world national identities

Kevin's thesis work on issues of identity in the virtual world Second Life is ongoing.

#### Alwin Aguirre (PhD)

Negotiating the Filipino in cyberspace: A study of New Zealand-based Filipinos' engagement with Internet-based media and its consequent de/construction of Filipino identity

Alwin began his doctoral studies in 2011. His thesis with the provisional title *Negotiating the Filipino in cyberspace: New media and identity construction of Filipinos in New Zealand* focuses on the affordances and limits of Internet-based media in the process of acquiring a sense of place, belonging, and identification by the diasporic Filipinos who have made this country their new home. The study is informed by theorisations of liminality, textuality, and identity. Methodologically, it is guided by online ethnography and multimodal discourse analysis. Alwin is currently drafting his analytical chapters. He plans to complete his thesis in 2013.

#### Thi Hang Nguyen (PhD)

#### A study of EFL teachers' code-switching in classroom instruction in Vietnamese universities

Thi Hang Nguyen is from Vietnam and has been doing her PhD at AUT since 2010. Her thesis is titled "A Study of EFL Teachers' Code-Switching in Classroom Instruction in Vietnamese Universities". The

study aims to identify the situations in which teachers code-switch, the form of their switches take, the functions of the switches and the effect of their switches on students' language behaviours. Hang hopes that some of the findings of the study would raise teachers' awareness of their practices in the English classrooms and make certain contributions with regard to the teachers' training and development in Vietnam. Hang plans to complete in 2013.

#### John de Jong (PhD)

#### Aspects of intertextuality in Zephaniah

John's PhD research examines Zephaniah, a small prophetic book in the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible. Drawing on insights from the theory of intertextuality John is exploring how prior texts are used in the formation of the text of Zephaniah. His first supervisor is Dr Tim Meadowcroft of Laidlaw College, whose postgraduate division is affiliated to AUT.

#### Sarah Lee (MA)

#### Spanish language maintenance and shift among the Chilean community in Auckland

Sarah's thesis deals with the degree of maintenance of the Spanish language by Chileans who have migrated to Auckland, in particular its relation to the community's sense of identity.

#### Jackie Thompson (PhD)

Jackie holds an AUT doctoral scholarship and is in the early planning stages of her PhD and is interested in the theme of attitudes towards NZ Sign Language within the Deaf Community. Jackie is a sign language interpreter who socialised with Deaf people throughout her schooling.

#### Salainaoloa Wilson (PhD)

Salainaoloa's research is concerned with the deterioration of the Samoan language in the home and focuses firstly on language behaviours and the role of the family in language maintenance, and secondly on the youth as the future speakers of the Samoan language in New Zealand. Her study will seek to identify strategies that will help to maintain the Samoan language in New Zealand today. Her research is intended to be important for the Samoan community both globally and in New Zealand by not only adding to the literature on migrant language shift and maintenance, but also in the (re)valuing of the Samoan language by the Samoan people. She hopes her research will serve as a model that can be adapted for use by other Pacific groups in New Zealand concerned with the reported declines in mother tongue use. Salainaoloa's primary supervisor is Professor Peggy Fairbairn-Dunlop.

## 7 ICDC contributions to teaching

Philippa Smith had a .2 teaching position within the School of Language and Culture in the second semester of 2012. She lectured and ran workshops in the iCommunicate course of the BA in English and New Media. Allan Bell and Philippa Smith were both guest lecturers on the *Critical Language Studies* paper in the same BA programme. They spoke respectively on *The Ethnography of Communication* and *Gender and Computer-mediated Communication*. Philippa was also a guest lecturer for Professor Charles Crothers' Masters students in the School of Social Sciences talking on *Research and the Internet*.

Allan and Philippa also gave presentations at the School of Language and Culture's research day. Philippa presented some of the findings of her PhD research while Allan joined John Bitchener to talk on *Getting Published*.

## 8 External Research Income

External research income in 2012 totalled a little under \$50,000.

The Institute received \$25,000 external funding from InternetNZ to enable it to prepare and seek additional support for the 2013 World Internet Project NZ survey. (This has resulted in confirmation of \$90,000 of Government funding in 2013).

The *Journal of Sociolinguistics* receives external funding from Wiley-Blackwell Publishers, covering Trish Brothers' and Andy Gibson's work for the Journal, amounting to \$20,000 in 2012.

Private sector funding came from First Rate Ltd, who provided \$3,500 in 2012 as website sponsors.

No Faculty grant was received.

## 9 Research Outputs 2012

#### **Publications**

- Bell, A., Crothers, C., Gibson, A., & Smith, P. (2012). 2009 International Results: A New Zealand Perspective. Auckland, NZ: Institute of Culture, Discourse & Communication, AUT University. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.aut.ac.nz/research/research-institutes/icdc/projects/world-internet-project#int">http://www.aut.ac.nz/research/research-institutes/icdc/projects/world-internet-project#int</a>
- Bell, A. (2012). Editorial. *Journal of Sociolinguistics*, *16*(1), 3-4. doi: 10.1111/j.1467-9841.2011.00530.x
- Bell, A., Bhatt, R., Britain, D., Sharma, D., & Wee, L. (2012). Editorial. *Journal of Sociolinguistics*, 16(4), 449. doi:10.1111/j.1467-9841.2012.00546.x
- Bell, A., & Smith, P. (2012). News discourse. In C. A. Chapelle (Ed.), *The Encyclopedia of Applied Linguistics* (pp. 9 pages). Oxford & Malden, Mass: Wiley-Blackwell. doi:10.1002/9781405198431.wbeal0868
- Gibson, A., Crothers, C., Smith, P., Aguirre, A., & Bell, A. (2012). *Online engagement with government: Insights from the World Internet Project NZ*. Auckland, NZ: Institute of Culture, Discourse and Communication, AUT University. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.aut.ac.nz/research/research-institutes/icdc/projects/world-internet-project">http://www.aut.ac.nz/research/research-institutes/icdc/projects/world-internet-project</a>
- Gibson, A., & Bell, A. (2012). Popular music singing as referee design. In J. M. Hernández Campoy, & J. A. C. Espinosa (Eds.), *Style-shifting in public: New perspectives on stylistic variation* (pp. 139-164). Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins. Retrieved from <a href="http://benjamins.com/#catalog/books/silv.9/toc">http://benjamins.com/#catalog/books/silv.9/toc</a>
- Smith, P. (2012). Allan Bell (biography). In Chapelle, C. A. (Ed.). *The Encyclopedia of Applied Linguistics*. (Online edition). Malden, Massachusetts: Wiley-Blackwell.

#### **Presentations**

- Bell, A., Smith, P., Aguirre, A., Crothers, C., & Gibson, A. (2012, July). The Internet Biographies of New Zealanders. In *NetHui 2012*. Auckland, NZ. Retrieved from <a href="http://2012.nethui.org.nz/programme">http://2012.nethui.org.nz/programme</a>
- Bell, A. (2012, November 22). Everybody Needs Good Neighbours: Relating Kiwi and Aussie Englishes
  [Performance]. Melbourne, Australia. Retrieved from

  <a href="http://artsonline.monash.edu.au/lcl/events/everybody-needs-good-neighbours-relating-kiwi-and-aussie-englishes/">http://artsonline.monash.edu.au/lcl/events/everybody-needs-good-neighbours-relating-kiwi-and-aussie-englishes/</a>
- Bell, A. (2012, November 20). *Deconstructing Babel* [Performance]. Melbourne, Australia. Retrieved from <a href="http://artsonline.monash.edu.au/lcl/events/masterclass-hermeneutics-and-discourse-interpretation/">http://artsonline.monash.edu.au/lcl/events/masterclass-hermeneutics-and-discourse-interpretation/</a>
- Bell, A. (2012, November). Discourse and the Interpretive Arc: Texts of Empire. In 8th Discourse Analysis Symposium @ Monash. Melbourne, Australia.

- Bell, A. (2012, November). Leaving Home: De-standardization and re-standardization in New Zealand media English. In 13th Language & Society Conference. Auckland, NZ. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.lsnz.org/programme.html">http://www.lsnz.org/programme.html</a>
- Bell, A. (2012, August). Falling in love again and again: Marlene Dietrich and the iconization of nonnative English. In *Sociolinguistic Symposium 19*. Berlin. Retrieved from http://www.sociolinguistics-symposium-2012.de/
- Bell, A. (2012, August). Leaving Home: The De-europeanization of Post-colonial Language Varieties. In *Sociolinguistics Symposium 19*. Berlin. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.sociolinguistics-symposium-2012.de/">http://www.sociolinguistics-symposium-2012.de/</a>
- Bell, A. (2012, June). One language, many languages: Deconstructing Babel. In *2nd Auckland Postgraduate Conference on Linguistics & Applied Linguistics*. Auckland, NZ. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.postgraduateconference.com/-programme.html">http://www.postgraduateconference.com/-programme.html</a>
- Bell, A. & Smith, P. (2012). Plenary speakers at InternetNZ's *Nethui Conference* (2012). Sky City Convention Centre, Auckland. Presentation "New Zealand: An Internet Nation?"
- Bell, A. & Smith, P. (2012, Nov. 7). New Zealand An Internet Nation? Online Engagement with Government. Presentation at InternetNZ's *Stats Check: The continued evolution of the Internet*. Held at Victoria University, Wellington, NZ.
- Smith, P. (2012, Nov. 27). When is a 'New Zealander'? Contesting identity in an increasingly diverse Aotearoa/New Zealand. Presentation at School of Language and Culture *Research Showcase Day* held at AUT University.
- Smith, P., & Bell, A. (2012, November 6). New Zealand. An Internet Nation? [Performance]. Victoria University, Wellington. Retrieved from <a href="https://internet.nz/news/media-releases/2012/Internet-statistics-presentation-Wellington-6th-November-2012">https://internet.nz/news/media-releases/2012/Internet-statistics-presentation-Wellington-6th-November-2012</a>

#### **Publications submitted 2012**

- Bell, A. (2013). *The Guidebook to Language and Society*. Oxford, UK & Malden, Mass.: Wiley-Blackwell.
- Bell, A. (2013). 'Interpreting the Bible on language: Babel and Ricoeur's Interpretive Arc.' In Joel Green & Tim Meadowcroft (eds), *Ears that Hear: Explorations in Theological Interpretation of the Bible*. Sheffield, U.K.: Sheffield Phoenix Press.

#### 10 Awards

Allan Bell was appointed Distinguished Visiting Scholar at Monash University for a two-week residency the linguistics section there in November 2012. This included presenting a public lecture, a masterclass and a conference plenary.

Alwin Aguirre received both a summer assistantship and a graduate assistantship in 2012, allowing him to contribute to the research environment of ICDC above and beyond his involvement as a doctoral student. This involved doing a literature review and investigating methodologies for a project on Online News (which become the subject of Marsden application in 2013).

#### 11 Plans for 2013

#### **Marsden Application**

ICDC prepared an application to the Marsden Fund during December 2012 – February 2013. *Discourse and the Death of the Newspaper* focuses on the transition of newspapers to an online platform and the effect this has on journalistic practice. The project builds on Allan Bell's and Philippa Smith's journalistic experience as well as their research expertise. If funded, the project will involve a three-year undertaking with international collaboration.

## **World Internet Project NZ**

The fourth World Internet Project New Zealand survey of some 1500 respondents will be planned, designed and implemented during 2013. Funding was sought throughout 2012 to support the fourth World Internet Project survey of New Zealanders. Approaches made to Government in 2012 were followed up in 2013, and succeeded in securing a substantial grant, which confirms the implementation of the 2013 survey. Discussions continue in 2013 with InternetNZ to establish a longer term partnership between that organisation and ICDC. A March 2013 application to the Faculty of Culture and Society's Contestable Fund seeks support for the online component of the project design in addition to the standard telephone survey methodology.

#### **The Fourth New Zealand Discourse Conference 2013**

NZDC4 will be held at AUT on 2-4 December 2013. Three leading international plenary speakers have been confirmed, who will also conduct workshops. The conference will be chaired by Philippa Smith, and organized by Kristie Elphick.

#### **Building research capacity in the Institute**

The Institute will continue to build capacity among its own staff and students, capitalizing on the submission of three PBRF portfolios in 2012. The effort will focus in output submissions and presentations.

## **Building research capacity within the School of Language and Culture**

The Institute will continue to make a major contribution to building research capacity in the School, particularly through the involvement of Allan Bell as Head of Research and Chair of the Research Committee. This includes mentoring a part-time staff Research Fellow in the School in 2013.

#### **Supervisions**

Eight supervisions within the Institute at the beginning of 2013 include three recent start-ups, one immediate completion, two completions scheduled for later in the year, and two other ongoing supervisions.

#### **Journal of Sociolinguistics**

2013 will put in place a review of the Journal's reviews section. As well as the publication of submitted papers, a theme issue on the *Sociolinguistics of Writing* will appear late in the year.

#### International engagement

The Institute's international networking will continue to be enhanced during 2013 through our World Internet Project partnership, and the collaborative work of the *Journal of Sociolinguistics* editorial team. Allan Bell will present a plenary at the Fourth Media Language and Discourse Conference in London in September.