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Award of the Nayacakalou Medal

The Nayacakalou Medal was presented to Patrick Vinton Kirch, Chancellor’s Professor Emeritus at University of California, Berkeley, on 23 May 2018 at the Auckland War Memorial Museum. His public lecture, “Voices on the Wind, Traces in the Earth: Integrating Oral Narrative and Archaeology in Polynesian History”, was delivered to a nearly full house, despite the inclement weather. The lecture was videotaped and also presented at the University of Otago in Dunedin, and a written version will appear in the September issue of the JPS. During his week-long visit Prof. Kirch gave generously of his time, meeting with graduate students at both universities and presenting a second seminar on his Mangarevan field studies to the University of Auckland’s weekly Anthropology Research Seminar series. Special thanks is given to the School of Social Sciences, University of Auckland, who assisted with travel costs and to the Auckland War Memorial Museum who partnered with the Polynesian Society on his public lecture.

Contributors to this Issue

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Richard Moyle has spent more than a decade of fieldwork in Polynesia and Aboriginal Australia over the past half-century, producing music ethnographies, bilingual editions of oral tradition in three languages, and most recently an ongoing series of books on the Polynesian Outlier of Takū. Although formally retired, he holds an Honorary Research Chair in Pacific Studies at the University of Auckland and an Adjunct Chair at the Research Centre of Griffith University’s Conservatorium of Music. He is a former JPS Editor and Honorary Life Member of the Polynesian Society.

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Michael Webb lectures in ethnomusicology and music education at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, The University of Sydney. His article on Melanesian hymnody won the Journal of Pacific History best article prize for 2015.

Camellia Webb-Gannon is a Research Fellow with the Digital Research Group at Western Sydney University and is the Coordinator of the West Papua Project at the University of Sydney. She is the recipient of the Australian Research Council Linkage Grant (2015–18), Music, Mobile Phones and Community Justice in Melanesia.
The Bruce Grandison Biggs Postgraduate Research Fellowship Trust Awards 2018
(Contributed by Emeritus Honorary Editor Judith Huntsman)

The Polynesian Society presented the inaugural awards of the Bruce Grandison Biggs Postgraduate Research Fellowship Trust (BGB Trust) at its 2018 Annual General Meeting to five postgraduate awardees (the sixth recipient was unable to attend). The notion of some kind of award for postgraduate research was first proposed as a new initiative of the Society in 2015, to mark its 125th year, and came to fruition in 2017.

The name of the Trust honours the late Professor Biggs who established the disciplines of both Māori Studies and Oceanic Linguistics at the University of Auckland and who trained at least two generations of scholars (too numerous to list). He was a staunch member of the Polynesian Society Council from the 1950s, and from 1979 to 1993 served as the Society’s President. (For a generous account of Bruce’s life, times and accomplishments, see his obituary by Andrew Pawley in the December 2000 JPS.)

That the awards support postgraduate research and consequently “promote scholarly study of past and present New Zealand Māori and other Pacific Island peoples and cultures” both echoes the aims of the Society and the mission that Bruce pursued in his scholarship and teaching. For the 2018 awards presentation Bruce’s daughter Susan was present to congratulate the students and help present their certificates and checks. The following listing both honours the award recipients and notes their discipline, degree pursued and research topic:

- **Jacinta Forde**: for an Anthropology PhD on Māori fishing knowledge and practices,
- **Moeata Keil**: for a Sociology PhD on separated Pacific parents “doing family” in New Zealand,
- **Kim Moore**: for a History MA on Māori experiences in Royal NZ Navy after the Second World War,
- **Brittni Smith**: for a Linguistics MA on morphological features of the Naasioi language in Bougainville,
- **Michelle Thorp**: for an Anthropology MA on PNG experiences of wealth,
- **Edgar T.P.W. Wallace**: for a Health Science PhD on Māori perspectives regarding “informal caregivers”.

Three awards were in support of research and three were to attend conferences and present research findings. The students will report on their accomplishments at the 2019 AGM, when the 2019 awards also will be presented.

The BGB Trust is drawing for its awards on income from funds conservatively invested: the more funds invested, the more awards. Donations to the Trust are tax deductible in New Zealand and the awards are restricted to postgraduate students at New Zealand tertiary institutions. For more information contact Judith Huntsman (j.huntsman@auckland.ac.nz) who is managing the BGB on behalf of the other Trustees and the Polynesian Society.
Clarification to Volume 127 (1)

In the March 2018 Special Issue, *Sāmoan Landscapes Through Time*, two articles describe archaeological geodatabases. We wish to clarify that there are two distinct databases, which have developed independently and with different aims and scope. Jackmond, Fonoti, and Tautunu describe and contribute to an archaeological geodatabase that is hosted by the Centre for Samoan Studies (CSS), National University of Samoa. A long-term goal of this database is to assist the Government of the Independent State of Samoa with heritage protection policies and legislation. Morrison, Rieth, DiNapoli and Cochrane describe a second archipelago-wide archaeological geodatabase, developed for the purposes of their research on settlement patterns and chronology, and the landscape distribution of portable artefacts. We apologise for any confusion and highlight the important contributions both initiatives are making to heritage management and research in the Sāmoan Archipelago.
The Journal of The Polynesian Society

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