

WelTec is pleased to bring you the October issue of our Connection magazine, linking industry and our stakeholders with the latest WelTec news and achievements.

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Training in the Workplace Really Pays off for Employee and Boss



Armed with a new Level 4 National Certificate in Carpentry industry cadet Marcus Hand is now set for a career in the construction industry. Marcus who placed second in this year's New Zealand Carpentry Apprentice Challenge 2014, a national competition which tests the skills of apprentices and cadets says his WelTec training has really paid off.

Marcus is no stranger to study having completed both a Bachelor of Arts and Geography, and a Bachelor of Commerce at Otago University. Marcus is now pursuing his passion - working on building projects as a qualified carpenter. "In my final year at secondary school I really didn't know what I wanted to do next. The advice was to go to university. I had worked as a labourer for my brother-in-law and also as a plasterer and tiler for holiday jobs while I was at secondary school, but didn't think too much about a career in the construction industry. I didn't really know about the opportunities.

"At the end of my degrees I was still questioning what I wanted to do. I moved to Wellington with my partner and saw the carpentry programme advertised at WelTec. That's when it clicked for me. I completed a pre-trade qualification and during the year I asked WelTec if they knew any local builders I could do work experience with. My tutor suggested RHR Construction. I approached the manager Rick Mawby and started straight away. Now I have been working for Rick for the last four years. I have my own work truck and the work is great," says Marcus.

Wellington Educationalist Recognised by International Education Body



Dr Linda Sissons, CNZM and Chief Executive of the Wellington Institute of Technology has been named Chair of the Board of Governors by the Commonwealth of Learning (COL).

Dr Sissons has headed up the Wellington Institute of Technology since 1999 and been a member of the Board of Governors on the Commonwealth of Learning since 2008. She has held a number of influential education posts within New Zealand including being a Commissioner on the Tertiary Education Advisory Commission; Chair of the Metro Group of ITPs from 2009 to 2011; and representing education interests on numerous business and industry bodies including the Wellington Employers' Chamber of Commerce; the Electricity Supply Industry Training Organisation; and the Hutt City Council's Economic Development Advisory Group.

"As Chief Executive of WelTec, Dr Sissons is leading innovations in skills development and forging partnerships with institutions in developing countries," said Professor Asha Kanwar, COL's President and C.E.O. "As head of a large educational institution, she understands the reality of organisational challenges and I look forward to working with her to take COL to the next level."

The Commonwealth of Learning's core business is open and distance learning. The key priorities for the New Zealand Government in relation to COL while Linda Sissons was on the Board were to ensure a proportionate spend of COL's budget in the Pacific region and to see an increase in COL's support for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and skills development initiatives in the Pacific.

"I am very pleased to accept this role as Chair of the Board of Governors of the Commonwealth of Learning to assist this remarkable organisation which, despite its small size, enjoys the commitment of countries throughout the Commonwealth and punches well above its weight," said Linda Sissons.

Wellington set to compete on world stage as new Creative Technologies and Arts Centre gets the go ahead



A new deal has been signed between the Wellington Institute of Technology, Whitireia Community Polytechnic and developer Willis Bond & Co which will see a truly international centre for creative technologies and arts built in the heart of Wellington by the end of 2017.

Roger Sowry, Chair of Whitireia and WelTec said, "After some 18 months of searching for a building in Wellington to house all the creative technologies and applied arts programmes that WelTec and Whitireia offer and have in the pipeline, we have signed a lease with developer Willis Bond & Co for a major new property development in Wellington. This is a turning point for tertiary education in the capital city and also for the industries and sectors of the economy that will be employing our graduates in a few years' time.

"This new build valued at more than \$80M of which WelTec and Whitireia are contributing \$20M+ will be world-class. We have deliberately chosen to invest in

Wellington as it is the creative and film production capital of New Zealand. Revenue from the film industry alone topped more than \$700 million in 2013 in Wellington (81% of all film revenue nationally), well ahead of Auckland and the rest of New Zealand. Wellington also leads the country's earnings for feature film revenue and revenue from post-production work and digital effects. 62% of the country's post-production businesses are based in the Wellington region. So it makes a great deal of sense for tertiary education institutes to be making this type of investment in support of industry and its further growth.

"A lot of work will now go into designing a state of the art campus where students from many disciplines linked to the creative sectors will learn together. We have already started consulting the Wellington film, media and creative sector on how they would like to fit-out the building to ensure students are learning in the best learning environment – one that will really enhance their skills, but also mean they will enter the workforce with incredibly valuable skill levels that potentially are drawn from a range of areas such as film, media, production, photography, performing arts to name a few. More than sixty industry representatives have already indicated support for the Centre and agreed to continue to drive its industry relevance at a meeting last month.

"In this new Centre industry will be able to test ideas and offer work experience so graduates emerge with real-life skills and industry knowledge, as well as relevant formal qualifications," says Roger Sowry.

"This has the potential to be an international school with overseas students drawn to Wellington to study," says Eion Abernethy, Creative Director of Mission Hall Creative. "Graduates today have to work in an international environment and this Centre will provide an incredible opportunity for people to study and learn together. This Centre is set to really bolster Wellington's reputation as a world-leader in film, creativity and innovation."

Stuart McAra from Stirling Road and Pukeko Pictures agrees, "A very exciting feature of this Centre is its potential internationality. This major investment by Whitireia and WelTec firmly sets Wellington on the road to competing on the world stage. We are very excited to be involved."

Mark McGuinness, Managing Director of Willis Bond & Co says, "This new build at the intersection of Dixon and Cuba Streets is the cornerstone for an exciting new development we are planning for this site. It is very rare to have the opportunity we have here to enhance such a characterful part of the city. As the flagship building we are taking great care over the plans, design and appearance of the site which WelTec and Whitireia will occupy. The historical façade will be kept intact, strengthened and restored, with a new campus building behind, designed by Athfield Architects and built by LT McGuinness."

Whitireia Chief Executive Don Campbell said it was exciting for the two organisations to combine on the one campus, consolidating teaching and resources in a world-class state-of-the-art facility. "The co-location will allow students to learn across disciplines in a lively, creative environment, providing richer and broader education in industry-relevant skills," he said.

WelTec Chief Executive Dr Linda Sissons said staff and practitioners would also benefit from opportunities to collaborate. "Working in multi-disciplinary teams will enable the build-up of skills reflecting the diversity of the film and creative sectors and the need to be able to effectively apply those skills across the board," she said.

ind WelTec Graduate Exhibition



WHAT: WELLINGTON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY BACHELOR OF CREATIVE TECHNOLOGIES GRADUATE EXHIBITION 2014

WHERE: NEW ZEALAND PORTRAIT GALLERY AT SHED 11, QUEENS WHARF, WELLINGTON

WHEN: 5.30PM

Diversity is celebrated at the Wellington Institute of Technology Bachelor of Creative Technologies Graduate Exhibition at the NZ Portrait Gallery on 25 October - 3 November 2014.

Thirty two graduates from the interdisciplinary programme will display a crisp and refreshing collection that includes Interior Design, Photography, Illustration, Print Publication, Visual Arts, Animation and Screen Based Media.

The students have chosen to call the exhibition 'ind.' which was chosen to suggest multiple interpretations and meanings; independent, industry, individual, indefinable, indication, index. These talented students see ind. as appropriate to the work that will be displayed as well as showcasing their broad skills that are relevant across all areas of the creative sector. Wellington Institute of Technology students pride themselves on their collaborative and multi-disciplinary approach to creativity. Students stand by this process of creative practice and are excited to share their values with Wellington's creative community and those interested in new and emerging talent. These new graduates are poised and prepared to give you an exciting presentation of what's to come as they launch full force into their futures.

Please visit the ind website for more information and sneak previews. <http://www.indexhibition.com/>

Stars out for tech firms



WelTec Bachelor of Creative Technologies "on the job" at Polytronik Cuba Street Wellington.

Wellington tech firms continue to shine on the world stage, writes Fran Wilde, WelTec and Whitireia Counsellor.

THIS WEEK two intrepid Wellingtonians have been in Hollywood – not wannabe film stars, but part of the frontline of our digital creative sector.

At the first ever Oculus Connect conference in downtown Hollywood, Brendon King and Joel Floris have been mixing with international digerati, pitching a virtual reality application that has been developed by Wellington firm Polytronik.

Floris is the lead computer generated imagery (CGI) artist at Polytronik and King is a Kapiti Coast businessman with 25 years' experience in high-end creative IT, now collaborating with Polytronik in a business development/producer role. Polytronik is an exciting venture, at the leading edge of animation and visual effects.

At its poky, cramped office upstairs in a very anonymous building near the Cuba Mall bucket fountain, owner and creative director Tony St George is working with a team, including a bunch of young interns from Wellington Institute of Technology (WelTec), to perfect animated visual effect applications that he hopes will transform gaming and other viewing experiences.

As a recent appointee to the WelTec council and Whitireia I visited Polytronik a couple of weeks ago and was blown away by what I saw.

But the most exciting part of the story is that this small Wellington startup was spotted by leading US virtual reality company Oculus VR, who were so impressed that they invited Polytronik to be part of what is effectively the Oculus "trade show" in Hollywood.

Oculus VR is itself an interesting phenomenon – a US virtual reality company founded to develop "the" headmounted display unit, then earlier this year subject of a US\$2 billion buyout from Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg, which gave the company enough cash to attract and assist other entrepreneurs such as Polytronik.

What does all this mean for Wellington?

Well, first, it is absolute proof that creativity is still flourishing here and that we have developed various smart ICT niche companies that are capable of taking on the world. Two examples that spring to mind are PikPok and Green Button.

Second, the Polytronik story is evidence of how wider business and community eco-systems can operate for the benefit of our economy.

King is a Kapiti Coast resident who didn't succeed in an attempt to set up a digital creative hub at Raumati Beach, but he did meet fellow Kapiti local Teriu Lemon who is the head of the WelTec creative technologies school and St George, who now trains the next generation as a WelTec tutor.

Finally, the Polytronik story is also about how formal collaboration between education/training and industry can work for us.

WelTec and Whitireia are both closely connected with industry, with course content designed to provide industry the talent it needs and a healthy crossover in terms of talent at student and staff level. Internships such as those at Polytronik are a regular part of many courses.

Both Polytronik and the WelTec- Whitireia partnership will be much more visible in the CBD in future.

Polytronik is just about to formally launch Cafe Polytronik in Manners St across the road from James Smith corner. You'll be able to drink your coffee while sitting in a chair and having a virtual reality experience courtesy of the locally developed software.

And, in a slightly bigger project, WelTec and Whitireia are establishing a joint centre of excellence in creative technologies and arts in Cuba St, planned to be operating in January 2018. The new facility will be a dramatic change for industries associated with digital and performing arts. It will replicate industry standard working environments and provide linkages for students, staff and industry that Wellington has never before experienced.

Sport and Study Success combine to make for a great year for Scholarship Students



Winning the Wellington Rugby League Reserves Grade Final has meant 2014 has been a great year for young sports star Fabian Kimiora. Fabian who plays for the Randwick Rugby League Club – the Kingfishers – was part of the winning team that beat the University Hunters to become the season champions. Fabian who has his sights set on being selected for the Wellington Orcas next year is studying with WelTec and only has one month to go until he has completed a Certificate in Electrical Engineering.

Fabian who along with fellow student Reuben Grant are studying with WelTec with a Scholarship courtesy of the Maori and Pasifika Trades Training initiative – a

new programme to support young people to achieve a trades qualification, get a job and go onto further study via a NZ Apprenticeship or equivalent.

Fabian (Cook Island Maori) and Reuben (Ngati Porou) started their Certificate in Electrical Engineering (level 3) in March this year and have the finish line for their study in their sights. Both young men say having a scholarship has enabled them to focus on their study “without the stress of a student loan” and that their study has helped to confirm the career they want as electricians. “This year has given me an insight into what it will be like to be an electrician. I’m very grateful for this opportunity,” says Reuben Grant.

Prior to starting their study at WelTec neither Fabian nor Reuben had been in a tertiary environment before and both young men found the prospect fairly daunting. With the support of mentor Errol Weston (employee of Te Runanga O Taranaki Whanui) who is based at WelTec as part of the Tamaiti Whangai team (Maori mentor and support team) both students were introduced to the campus, student life and provided with support to settle into their studies. This is all part of WelTec’s very successful Tamaiti Whangai approach to learning and pastoral care of students.

As well as a qualification the Maori and Pasifika Trades Training initiative provides students at WelTec with the opportunity to gain a driver’s license, Site Safety certification and to have other key attributes that employers look for recorded in a Passport to Work.

As for the next steps for Fabian and Reuben they want to finish their qualification and get straight into an apprenticeship or cadetship as electricians. WelTec will also help them into employment via our Jobs Broker.

WelTec Jobs Broker

With the bulk of WelTec graduates ready for work in October, Arnold Lomax has plenty of skilled recruits for your company’s needs.

Job brokerage is a free service offered by WelTec to support graduates with employment opportunities.

<http://student.weltec.ac.nz/Pages/JobBrokerPage.aspx>

Employers please get in touch with Arnold if you require graduates.

Arnold Lomax
WelTec Jobs Broker

📞 04 830 0704

✉️ arnold.lomax@weltec.ac.nz

Companies and Local Authority Take Action on Engineering Shortage

The Hutt City Council joins engineering companies to provide scholarships for students to study diplomas and degrees in engineering.

“There is an urgent need to address the shortage of engineers regionally and nationally. Here in the Hutt City we have 150 engineering companies, part of a thriving technology sector that makes a significant contribution to the economy. Hutt City Council views investment in young people who wish to study engineering at an advanced level as critical to making sure our innovation-led companies can continue to grow. It is also fantastic to be providing opportunities for our young people to have highly successful careers here in their hometown,” says Hutt City Mayor Ray Wallace.

“Research undertaken by the Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand (IPENZ) clearly backs up the current and future skills shortage for tertiary trained engineers,” says the Wellington Institute of Technology’s Chief Executive Linda Sissons.

“Our School of Engineering produces around 50 engineering diploma and degree graduates each year. This is nowhere near enough for the growing requirements of employers particularly in the Hutt Valley and across the Wellington. The major infrastructure projects currently underway and on the horizon involve millions of dollars of investment and require highly skilled engineers. 100% of our 2013 engineering graduates went straight into or back to jobs. Our challenges are to hold onto the students until they graduate and also to let school leavers know that employers need talented young engineers to join their workforce.

“With this investment by the Hutt City Council and employers such as KiwiRail contributing to the cost of a student’s engineering qualification we hope to see more young talented men and women choose engineering as a career. The prospects and opportunities are excellent,” says Linda Sissons.



Michael Kerr is Beca’s Wellington Regional Manager and Chair of the Engineering Advisory Committee at the Wellington Institute of Technology. “The announcement today by Hon Steven Joyce Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment Minister of the new Engineering Education to Employment (E2E) programme really puts the spotlight on engineering bringing the opportunities to the attention of young people and their families.

“The New Zealand engineering job market is highly resource constrained and we need engineering technician and technologist graduates to meet the massive shortfall the industry is facing. A Polytechnic engineering qualification is an absolutely credible way to get into engineering. We know this because we employ graduates of the New Zealand Diploma of Engineering and Bachelor of Engineering Technology degree.

“Graduates of the School of Engineering have achieved widespread recognition including beating out University PhD candidates to win national awards including the IPENZ Ray Meyer medal for Excellence in Student Design for both 2013 and 2014. With investment by the Hutt City Council, KiwiRail, Fraser Engineering, Beca, Spencer Holmes, Opus and others who support students to study at WelTec we are confident there will be a boost in the number of students pursuing a career in engineering. Increasing the pipeline of people studying engineering is critical to meet the current skills shortage for people with an applied engineering qualification,” says Michael Kerr.

KiwiRail spokesperson Rick Van Barneveld said, “We have operations in the Hutt Valley and across the Wellington region and trained engineers are a necessity for our business. Supporting this initiative through sponsoring four scholarships in 2015 is a fantastic opportunity for KiwiRail as a potential future employer of these prospective engineers.”

The Wellington Institute of Technology’s School of Engineering is the only Engineering School in the Wellington region to provide Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Majors in the very applied Bachelor of Engineering Technology and the New Zealand Diploma in Engineering. A major new investment by the Wellington Institute of Technology of \$3M to completely redesign the School of Engineering started this month.

Allied Workforce and WelTec partner up for student success



Arnold Lomax WelTec Jobs Broker; Richard Hoskin WelTec Project Manager for Build; Linda Sissons; Mark Sorenson; Nigel Phillipson WelTec School of Construction; Richard Wanhill WelTec Business Partnerships Manager

The Top Carpentry Student at WelTec will be awarded a \$5000 scholarship this year in an effort to ensure skilled tradespeople are retained in Wellington.

WelTec and Allied Workforce sign Memorandum of Understanding on getting construction and engineering graduates into work.

“There is a significant labour market shortage of skilled trades people in Wellington,” says Mark Sorenson of Allied Workforce. “My company has decided the best way to address this is to reward the top performing student with a \$5000 scholarship which can be put towards the student’s fees, toolkit or transportation – basically whatever helps them get into employment in Wellington and stay there.

“The Wellington employment market is buoyant with many construction and engineering jobs available. We want to encourage students to complete their qualification and we will offer the top student a job at the end of their programme. We figure this is a pretty good incentive for a young person to do well with their study and it will put them on the right path to success in the construction industry. Part of the package includes continuing on into a level 4 carpentry cadetship with WelTec so in time we’ll benefit from having a highly skilled tradesperson on the payroll.

“Investing in our company’s future workforce is a sound business decision and one that will pay off. We think other employers should consider taking the same approach. Next year we’ll look to expand the scholarship and bring in other trades across WelTec,” says Mark Sorenson.

“WelTec is committed to not just providing students with quality qualifications, but also investing in the talent pipeline that delivers to employers potential staff who have just what is needed to succeed in the workplace and in their own futures,” said Linda Sissons, Chief Executive WelTec.

“This Memorandum of Understanding that we are signing today signifies a great partnership with a local employer. We know there is strong demand for our graduates. With our new School of Construction currently being built off State Highway 2 and the major investment into our School of Engineering this year we want to get the message out that there are jobs at the end of your qualification so come and study with us and you’ll be set for an outstanding career,” says Linda Sissons.

Thomas Becker says, “It’s hard to find an apprenticeship without a pre-trade qualification. This is an awesome opportunity. I’ll be applying.”

Regional School of Construction Background Information

WelTec’s School of Construction will be completed by February 2015. Images of the build are attached. They show the concrete wall slabs which are currently being erected. The ground floor of the School is 1500m² with the mezzanine floor comprising 450m². Structural steel will be in place next week to support the upper floor.

The overall budget for the project is \$4.92M.

The building contains workshops and a theory space on the ground floor, with more theory spaces, a student break-out area and staff offices on the first floor.

Site Occupancy: 218 students and staff

Programmes to be delivered on site will include Carpentry, Painting and Decorating, Masonry, Tiling, Plastering and Landscaping.



Medals for Wellington Institute of Technology hospitality students at top culinary competition



Wellington Institute of Technology (WelTec) students Ryan Bloomfield, Maxine Scheckter and Nicolas Abril have proven that extreme ‘heat in the kitchen’ is no barrier to success, after they won gold and silver medals plus an Innovation Award at the prestigious 2014 Nestlé Toque d’Or competition.

Culinary students Ryan and Maxine went head-to-head with hospitality students from around the country to win their gold medals at the event held on 18 August. Restaurant service student Nicolas who also formed part of the competing team, picked up a silver medal.

Ryan and Maxine battled it out for over three hours against 11 other teams from around the country to create their medal winning three course menu which was served to guests by Nicolas. Throughout the live kitchen cook off, the pressure was intense as the team fought against the clock and under the ever present gaze of a team of industry judges. Any slip up by the team would be duly noted by the judges and marked as lost points.

Teams were marked against World Chefs Societies International Judging Standards which include food preparation, presentation, taste and service.

The panel of 19 judges was led by high profile chef and leading culinary figure Paul Jobin. Making up the judging panel were top hospitality industry personalities including: Geoff Scott who is the chef and owner of Vinnies by Geoff Scott; and Jeremy Schmid – former owner and head chef of the multiple award-winning Two Fifteen Bar and Bistro in Auckland.

A special Innovation Award sponsored by Moffat was presented to the WelTec team for demonstrating innovative use of Nestlé Professional products across their menu. Event organiser and New Zealand Chefs Association Ambassador Anita Sarginson, said Nestlé Toque d’Or is an exciting and fast-paced event to be involved in.

“It challenges competitors to achieve great things under tight time constraints and while they are being watched by judges and members of the public,” Anita said.

“Because there is no room for error, teams must be in top form on the day.”

Anita said the event provides a great opportunity for young up-and-coming students to showcase their abilities and demonstrate their skills in front of some of the country’s most highly-regarded culinary professionals.

This year was the 24th anniversary of Nestlé Toque d’Or which is New Zealand’s longest running and most prestigious student cookery and food service event. It is also held in 17 other countries around the world and has launched the careers of world-famous chefs including Jamie Oliver. The event is designed to simulate the pressure of a real working team environment.

Sponsors of this year’s event are: Nestlé Professional, Beef + Lamb New Zealand, vegetables.co.nz, Akaroa Salmon, House of Knives and Moffat.

Wellington Trades Academy News



The Wellington Trades Academy is expanding in 2015. The Wellington Trades Academy achieved great results last year with 88% of the students achieving NCEA level 2 or 3. 78% of the students went on to employment, further training or education. Some of the students went onto degree study with WelTec. These are amazing outcomes for these young students who are enrolled with the Trades Academy while still at secondary school

The Ministry of Education has acknowledged this success and has asked the Wellington Trades Academy to expand to bring in schools from other parts of Wellington. To do this WelTec is working with Whitireia to make the

Wellington Trades Academy more accessible to Porirua and other nearby secondary schools.

240 places are available in 2015 which is more than double the current allocation. There are a range of full-time and part-time programmes (two days per week) available and secondary schools across the Wellington region have a lot to choose from and can now send their students to Porirua or Petone to study. Planning is underway for 2016 with a focus on providing a wider range of part-time programmes which will include some delivered from central Wellington locations.

Programmes are wide-ranging so there is a lot for students to choose from including automotive technology, building and construction, hairdressing and beauty, hospitality, mechanical engineering, animal care, exercise science, early childhood education and health.

The Wellington Trades Academy is a great option for secondary school students who would benefit from taking their learning further in a tertiary environment with hands-on practical teaching combining with their secondary school curriculum. With such fantastic NCEA results and the achievement of a tertiary qualification the students under the Wellington Trades Academy are set on the pathway to study success. More information about the Wellington Trades Academy can be found at:

<http://www.weltec.ac.nz/STUDYATWELTEC/WellingtonTradesAcademy/tabid/958/Default.aspx>

Students overcome nerves on eve of World of WearableArt™ Awards opening



Backstage at WOW®. From left to right are WelTec students Jordan Hartley, Isobella Pozniak, their tutor Lesley Whitecliffe-Smith and WOW® Chief Hair Designer Cherie McIntyre.

50+ students have been preparing for months for Wellington's premier creative arts, design and fashion event, the WORLD OF WEARABLEART™ Awards and now it's less than 24 hours 'til showtime. Nerves are at an all-time high, but under the steady leadership of Chief Hair Designer for WOW® Cherie McIntyre the show will not only go on, it will be as the name suggests, wonderful.

"WelTec hairdressing and makeup students have been working around the clock on WOW® models. Tutors Lesley Whitecliffe-Smith and Poloa Rowe are an

essential part of the team guiding the backroom efforts that support WOW®. They manage the students well and motivate them giving them confidence to do an excellent job.

"At WOW® we love young talent. That's at the heart of the show. I personally like working with the newbies, they listen and are willing to try new techniques. It's often easier to work with fresh minds and young new talent. There are nerves of course, but we're all here to support these young industry leaders of the future. It's important that young people get an opportunity to work on world-class events like WOW®. It is an amazing opportunity for them and they get the chance to see their work when they view one of the WOW® shows which is really exciting for them," says Cherie McIntyre.

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"I'm nervous and excited at the same time. Preparing for and working on WOW is really intense," says Wellington Trades Academy student Jordan Hartley. At only 17 years old Jordan is possibly the youngest person working behind the scenes on WOW®. Jordan is currently enrolled at Hutt Valley High School and at WelTec and is well on the way to not only completing NCEA level 2 but also a National Certificate in Salon Support level 3 with WelTec.

Jordan and the other WelTec students working on WOW® regard the opportunity to work with professionals on the show as "awesome". "We coloured models' hair then practiced the styles. It's so exciting to see the models with hair and makeup complete and ready to take the stage. We've had a sneak peak of the beautiful costumes and we understand why WOW® requires such exacting standards. It's amazing to be able to contribute," says Jordan Hartley

"Being able to work with industry professionals is really inspiring and makes us think about the opportunities ahead of us. I am definitely pursuing a career in hairdressing and being involved in WOW® has only confirmed this for me. I'll be realising my dream of becoming a professional in this amazing industry," says Isobella Pozniak (Wellington Trades Academy and St Mary's College).

WOW®'s General Manager Tim Launder says, "WOW is delighted to have the support of WelTec in bringing our show to life. It's wonderful that both parties can benefit by working closely together."

Another group of WelTec students working on WOW® are the make-up artistry students who have been expertly coached by their tutors for the event. Television makeup artist Caroline Adams who tutors the students at WelTec alongside Daniela Pike and Olivia Wildey – all highly respected makeup artists, nationally and internationally, have worked with the students since February. "Preparation for WOW® is really important for us. Our very talented students are very motivated to show off their skills at WOW®," says Caroline Adams.

WelTec Hosts President of Guangxi Polytechnic of Construction



In late August WelTec hosted a delegation from Guangxi Polytechnic of Construction led by President Li.

WelTec and GPC entered into an Articulation Agreement in 2012, under which Chinese students study in Guangxi for the first two years then come to WelTec for a year to complete a New Zealand Diploma in Engineering or a Diploma in Creative Technologies. The first cohort of 6 students successfully completed their studies in Guangxi and started at WelTec in July this year. Most of the students will stay in Wellington for more than two years to complete a bachelor degree from WelTec.

Staff exchange is also part of the agreement. Two WelTec teachers went to Guangxi last year and delivered two week lecturers in GPC.



The teachers are pictured above with Minister Steven Joyce at Waiwhetu Marae.

Eight teachers from Guangxi Polytechnic of Construction (GPC) recently attended a three week training session at WelTec. The teachers are from engineering, creative technology and English language areas. Linda Sissons visited GPC in June this year and invited the teachers to study in a New Zealand education institution. This is the second group of teachers from GPC to attend WelTec. During the three week training session, the teachers exchanged ideas on teaching methodology with staff at WelTec.

Business Partnerships Manager working with industry

Since joining WelTec three months ago Business Partnerships Manager Richard Wanhill has met with dozens of companies in Wellington and the Hutt Valley to discuss their workforce requirements. Richard's goal is to develop a partnership model that will see closer interactions with WelTec for the benefit of employers, students and graduates and staff enabling more opportunities to open up for businesses to link in with WelTec.

"My focus has been on developing a structure that initially identifies key issues and opportunities employers face including recruitment strategies and training for their workforce requirements and then specifying the contribution WelTec can make to these core functions.

"For WelTec's part we want to have industry closely involved in our programmes. We are looking at ways WelTec can be of more service and relevance to companies. Providing tailor made training to companies that fits their needs and production schedule is one area that is high on my priority list given the buoyancy of the Wellington economy.

"Areas employers have stated they are interested in pursuing are industry cadetships, assistance with recruiting new staff which involves WelTec providing a brokerage service for graduates into employment, business consultancy, and making WelTec's fantastic assets in areas such as engineering, hospitality and creative technologies more available to industry.

"Companies are generally unaware of the significant resources and services available at WelTec. It's my job to get the message out there to industry about what is available at WelTec and to outline ways in which WelTec can enhance their business and potentially improve productivity and make a positive contribution to the bottom line. Revitalising our research and enterprise services to companies particularly those in the manufacturing and technology sectors is also an area I am very keen to pursue.

"An Engagement Strategy that recognises the contribution of business, including measuring how well WelTec participates with industry, is another area I'm working on.

"Partnering with industry to make the most of the incredible resource that WelTec is and to contribute to the success of our students and graduates whilst benefitting companies is how I see the future.

Employers interested in making contact on any of the services outlined should contact Richard on Richard.Wanhill@weltec.ac.nz or on his cell-phone 027 289 9596



All WelTec campuses
are proudly Smokefree