

## **Edna Waddell Undergraduate Scholarships for Women in Technology and Engineering**

Professors Emeriti Dick and Mary Earle made a huge contribution to developing the biotechnology and food technology degrees, respectively, at Massey University in the 1960s. At the May 2018 graduation, the university awarded both Dick and Mary an honorary Doctor of Science. This recognises, amongst other things, the huge contribution each made in their field while developing the technology programmes at Massey over 30 years, their vision that New Zealand needs technologists to transfer science information into commercial success, and, since retiring, their philanthropic work supporting engineering, technology and the creative arts, via their various scholarships and travel awards.

One of those scholarships is the Edna Waddell Scholarship, established in 2008, to encourage women to study engineering and technology. Dick and Mary know that expansion and innovation in technology is vitally important to the New Zealand community. More people need to be technologically educated and it is desirable to have wider participation of women in the technological professions.

The scholarships are for women beginning their undergraduate degree in engineering or technology and are open to school leavers and mature women. The first three scholarships were awarded in 2009, and to date 35 young women have been awarded scholarships of \$5,000 for their first year of study. Of those, six chose to study a Bachelor of Food Technology (Hons) at Massey University.

**Valencia Ngadi** from Carmel College was awarded a scholarship in 2017, to study at Massey in Auckland. When she chose her degree, Valencia had a good idea about what it involved and the careers it could lead to. She participated in the 2015 NZIFST/CREST Student Product Development Challenge, as a member of the *Sweet Scoops* team. She had also participated in a Massey University Engineering & Food Technology Winter Camp and had work experience at Sherratt Ingredients.

Valencia is now in the second year of her degree.



*Vidya Vijayakumar*

*Valencia (second from left) at the 2017 Challenge judging*

**Vidya Vijayakumar** from Taihape Area School was awarded a scholarship in 2016 to study at Massey in Palmerston North. She's now in the third year of her degree, and looking forward to making a real difference in New Zealand's food industry.

**Ashleigh Weir**, from New Plymouth Girls High, received a scholarship in 2015. She's doing her BFoodTech (Hons) programme at Massey Palmerston North. Now in the fourth and final year of her degree, Ashleigh made the decision to change majors from Product Development to Process Engineering. She says "The focus on engineering concepts, as well as the chance to design a food factory as part of the group year-long project, were some of the deciding factors for changing my major, and, although it is challenging, I am grateful that I made the change". For her fourth-year individual project, Ashleigh is investigating the rheological characteristics of meat extract at a range of concentrations and temperatures.

**Morgan Christy-Jones**, from Wellington High School, was awarded a scholarship in 2013, and completed her degree in 2016. Morgan did the 2010 NZIFST/CREST Student Product Development Challenge and was a member of the *C-Monster* team, which won the Lower North Island Challenge. She went on to do a Gold CREST project, mentored by Steve Flint from Massey.

Morgan reports: "Studying food technology opened my eyes to the complex world of applying science to real world problems. A highlight of my studies was my honours project, looking how to better utilize low grade ginger in Fiji, which broadened my knowledge of international trade, and gave me the opportunity to spend a week in Suva speaking to a variety of food processors in Fiji.

After graduating I was accepted into the Fonterra graduate program, getting to work at a variety of Fonterra sites across the North and South Islands. Through this I completed my Masters of Dairy Science and Technology. I'm now working on helping to deliver and commission a new plant, worth \$150 million, and aiming to bring New Zealand dairy into new and innovative products in overseas markets."



*Morgan Christy-Jones*



*Kimberly Gregg*

**Kimberly Gregg**, from Botany Downs Secondary College, received a scholarship in 2012 and completed her degree in 2016. She is now working at Sanitarium Health Food Company in the Product Development team.

Kimberly says: "Food technology is not the easiest of fields. It can be discouraging when you have to study subjects such as chemistry, microbiology and mathematics, yet your peers think you're studying to be a chef. However, what I've learnt since starting work is that the wide range of disciplines we have to learn as Food Technologists eventuate into a career that is full of variety. Every day comes with a different challenge. I have no regrets pursuing a career in technology and can see myself in this industry for many years to come. I would strongly encourage others to jump on board as well and make a mark on the New Zealand Food Industry."

**Hannah Hayes** (nee Easton), from Palmerston North Girls High, was awarded a scholarship to commence study in 2011. Hannah was a member of the *Lactose up Close* team from the school which entered the 2010 NZIFST/CREST Student Product Development Challenge. Hannah completed her degree in 2014, and is now working as an Account Manager in Industrial Sales at Davis Food Ingredients in Auckland. In this position, Hannah works directly with food manufacturers – sourcing new ingredients, assisting with their quality requirements, and providing technical support. She particularly enjoys the fast pace and helping customers with their new product development.



Emeritus Professor Janis Swan from Waikato University, herself a Massey Technology graduate, is the current convenor of the Edna Waddell selection panel. Janis says that scholars are selected not only on their academic ability, but also on their commitment to their intended field of study, past participation in extra-curricular science/technology events (e.g. Science Fairs, CREST, experience of the profession by visits and placements in companies), and their contribution / participation / leadership in their community and/or school.

**Eligibility:**

Applicants will be New Zealand citizens or permanent residents with at least three years proven residence in New Zealand.

The scholarships are for students enrolling in four year professional engineering programmes or food technology programmes.

Applicants can either currently be at secondary school gaining the entry qualifications for their chosen degree or can be women who completed their schooling several years ago, and now wish to study engineering or food technology at university.

**Value and number awarded:**

The value for each scholarship is maximum \$5,000.

Up to five scholarships are available for study commencing in 2019.

**Closing date:**

1 September 2018

For more information, application guidelines and to apply on-line, refer: <http://www.universities.ac.nz/scholarships/ednawaddell>

Here is a complete list of past recipients:

| Commenced study in    | School                            | University | Degree            |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| <b>2018</b>           |                                   |            |                   |
| Xi Yue (Cecilia) Wang | Botany Downs Secondary College    | Auckland   | BE (Hons)         |
| Denise Jarry          | Birkenhead College                | Auckland   | BE (Hons)         |
| Charlotte Turner      | New Plymouth Girls' High School   | Canterbury | BE (Hons)         |
| Kate Edwards          | Kerikeri High School              | Waikato    | BE (Hons)         |
| Catie Nettlingham     | Woodford House                    | Canterbury | BE (Hons)         |
| Sophie Reedy-Young    | Wellington East Girls College     | Auckland   | BE (Hons) / BLaws |
| <b>2017</b>           |                                   |            |                   |
| Annabelle Ritchie     | Columba College                   | Canterbury | BE (Hons)         |
| Kaitlin Te Rito       | Rosehill College                  | Waikato    | BE (Hons)         |
| Lydia Gilmour         | Tauranga Girls' College           | Waikato    | BE (Hons)         |
| Valencia Ngadi        | Carmel College                    | Massey     | B FoodTech (Hons) |
| <b>2016</b>           |                                   |            |                   |
| Aathira Mohanan Nair  | Westlake Girls High School        | Auckland   | BE (Hons)         |
| Emily Sopers          | Sacred Heart College              | Waikato    | BE (Hons)         |
| Rebecca Lilley        | St Margaret's College             | Canterbury | BE (Hons)         |
| Vidya Vijayakumar     | Taihape Area School               | Massey     | B FoodTech (Hons) |
| <b>2015</b>           |                                   |            |                   |
| Aimee Tagle           | Carmel College                    | Auckland   | BE (Hons)         |
| Ashleigh Weir         | New Plymouth Girls' High School   | Massey     | B FoodTech (Hons) |
| Elizabeth Richardson  | Thames High School                | Canterbury | BE (Hons)         |
| Emma Doolin           | Carmel College                    | Auckland   | BE (Hons)         |
| <b>2014</b>           |                                   |            |                   |
| Caroline Hope         | St Andrew's College               | Auckland   | BE (Hons)         |
| Katrina Jensen        | Palmerston North Girls' High      | Canterbury | BE (Hons)         |
| <b>2013</b>           |                                   |            |                   |
| Morgan Christy-Jones  | Wellington High School            | Massey     | B FoodTech (Hons) |
| Morgan Fahey          | Waikato Diocesan School for Girls | Waikato    | BE (Hons)         |
| Rachel Henderson      | Woodford House                    | Canterbury | BE (Hons)         |
| <b>2012</b>           |                                   |            |                   |
| Jade Leung            | St Cuthbert's College             | Auckland   | BE (Hons)         |
| Kimberly Gregg        | Botany Downs Secondary College    | Massey     | B FoodTech (Hons) |
| Leona Huang           | Wellington East Girls' College    | Canterbury | BE (Hons)         |
| <b>2011</b>           |                                   |            |                   |
| Anna McMullen         | Tauranga Girls' College           | Canterbury | BE (Hons)         |
| Carey Lintott         | Tauranga Girls' College           | Auckland   | BE (Hons)/BSc     |
| Hannah Easton         | Palmerston North Girls' High      | Massey     | B FoodTech (Hons) |
| <b>2010</b>           |                                   |            |                   |
| Keija Wang            | Hillcrest High School             | Auckland   | BE (Hons)         |
| Rachel Carpenter      | Rangi Ruru Girls' School          | Canterbury | BE (Hons)         |
| Toni Keeling          | Carmel College                    | Auckland   | BE (Hons)/BSc     |
| <b>2009</b>           |                                   |            |                   |
| Anna Fields           | Columba College                   | Canterbury | BE (Hons)         |
| Laura King            | Southland Girls' High             | Canterbury | BE (Hons)         |
| Sue-Mun Huang         | Karamu High School                | Auckland   | BE (Hons)         |