

Professor Hunter officially a world class kiwi

Auckland Bioengineering Institute Director Professor Peter Hunter has won the academic research category of the World Class New Zealand Awards 2009.

The Awards are organised by Kea New Zealand and New Zealand Trade and Enterprise.

They recognise the country's most outstanding 'tall poppies', who give their time, knowledge and skills help to help New Zealand companies and industries succeed internationally.

Professor Hunter won the Research, Science, Technology and Academia category. He is one of seven kiwis to be recognised, alongside such luminaries as fashion designer Karen Walker and UK business high-flyer John Buchanan.

Professor Hunter is best-known for his pioneering mathematical modelling of the human heart. He also heads the Institute's flagship Human Physiome Project, an international network of researchers developing mathematical models of all aspects of human physiology.

All eight winners will receive their accolades at an event in Auckland on April 1, when a Supreme Winner for 2009 will also be revealed.

It is the third time a member of the University has won the research category. Previous recipients were Professor Margaret Brimble (Department of Chemistry) and Professor Peter Gluckman (Liggins Institute). Professor Garth Cooper (School of Biological Sciences) won the Biotechnology category in 2008.