

MEDIA RELEASE

Oticon Foundation of New Zealand

Monday 3 March 2008

Local Audiologist Wins Research Award

A Palmerston North based audiologist has been recognised for her post-graduate research aimed at improving the lives of the hearing impaired.

Jeanie Morrison-Law, audiologist at [name of clinic] has been awarded the joint Oticon Foundation and University of Auckland prize for research of outstanding quality.

Ms Morrison-Law's research involved evaluating an auditory training programme which actively engaged the attention of two groups of people suffering from high frequency hearing loss.

"The research found that 'active training' of someone with tinnitus (ringing in the ears) may be effective in a shorter time than other therapies aimed at alleviating tinnitus," says Karen Pullar, Secretary, the Oticon Foundation. "Her work also showed benefits from active training for people with particular difficulties hearing speech in background noise."

The Oticon Foundation is now calling for people to apply for grants for the next round of funding for research, educational or other projects for work that helps people with hearing impairment. Grants close on 31 March 2008.

More information about this project and others is available at

http://www.oticon.org.nz/pdf/Soundscape%20Feb_08.pdf.

Applications are now invited from organisations or individuals for projects that:

- disseminate knowledge about hearing and hearing loss
- help remedy hearing loss
- improve the quality of life for hearing impaired individuals and their families

the oticon foundation

- break down the stigma of hearing loss.

The Oticon Foundation in New Zealand was established in October 1976. It is a charitable trust of Oticon New Zealand Limited and aims to improve the lives of the hearing impaired in New Zealand through communication and knowledge. It is committed to finding better solutions to hearing loss and strives to increase public awareness and understanding of hearing impairment.

More information is available from www.oticon.org.nz. Applications for 2008 Oticon Foundation grants must be in by 31 March 2008. Successful grant recipients will be notified by 30 June 2008.

Ends

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