The University of Auckland’s School of Medicine Foundation was established in 1994 as a non-profit charitable trust to receive donations and bequests to support research and scholarship within the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences. Today, funds held by the Foundation are supporting academic and research staff, undergraduate and postgraduate students through scholarships plus a variety of exciting and innovative research projects.

Funds supporting the Zachary Gravatt Memorial Scholarship will be held and administered by the School of Medicine Foundation. Distributions will be made to support the Scholarship on an annual basis. The Foundation will manage the fund free of any charge.

Support this scholarship online

Support this scholarship by cheque
The School of Medicine Foundation
c/- External Relations
The University of Auckland
Private Bag 92019
Auckland 1142, New Zealand

Support this scholarship by electronic transfer
The School of Medicine Foundation
A/C # 02-0159-0414088-000 (Swift Code: BKNZNZ22)
Bank of New Zealand
Queen St, Auckland, New Zealand

The School of Medicine Foundation is a registered New Zealand charity (CC30871).

Gifts made by New Zealand resident taxpayers to the School of Medicine Foundation may receive a tax rebate.

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Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences
The University of Auckland
Private Bag 92019, Auckland 1142, New Zealand
Zac’s story

Despite being diagnosed with dyslexia while at primary school Zac was determined to join his mates at Auckland Grammar where in the first week’s streaming exams he was assigned the lowest third form class (3O). Zac was heartbroken but determined not to give up on his long-term dream of becoming a medical doctor.

That first week at Auckland Grammar however was not all disappointment as Zac was lucky enough to be selected for the novice rowing squad. This experience turned out to be the making of Zac. Hard work, unstinting commitment and teamwork coupled with off the water fun were the order of the day. Inspired by the senior rowers of his first year, Zac quickly developed an ambition to row at the Maadi Cup in both the Senior Eight and Senior Pairs. Despite numerous challenges along the way Zac was awarded *Most Dedicated Rower* three years in a row and eventually fulfilled his ambition by rowing at Maadi in both the Senior Eight and Pair events.

The values and skills Zac learned at rowing were also applied to his school work - hard work, commitment, dedication to friends and fun. Zac applied these values with passion at Grammar where he was eventually promoted to the fourth to top class.

Zac never gave up on his ambition to become a medical doctor and against the odds was rewarded with his acceptance to the University of Auckland MBChB programme. It was a dream come true when as a Year IV student he finally got his student doctor name tag and began his clinical experience.

Born in Oxford, England, Zac was also proud of his rural roots near Pakiri in Northland where his ancestors first settled in the 1860s. Zac was therefore ecstatic to be amongst the 20 student doctors selected into Pukawakawa for his Year V clinical training based in rural Northland.

Zac was a strapping young man who lived life to the full, loved his chosen career and had the makings of a fine doctor. Surrounded by his loving family (Lance, Jennifer and Madelaine) and many friends, Zac was tragically taken from us by meningococcal septicaemia on 8 July 2009 just 5 days after his 22nd birthday.

Lance, Jennifer & Madelaine Gravatt
Auckland 2009

Zachary Gravatt Memorial Scholarship

Zac’s achievements speak volumes about his spirit and enthusiasm for life. With strength and determination he conquered his dyslexia and joined other top achievers in his class at the University of Auckland School of Medicine.

Now, Zac’s family and friends would like to support medical students who have overcome a significant personal challenge to realise their full potential through the Zachary Gravatt Memorial Scholarship.

The Scholarship will fund $5,000 of professional development and training for a Year IV to VI medical student in the MBChB course who has overcome a significant personal challenge to succeed with their studies and who shows excellence in clinical skills. Selection will be based on clinical skills achievement rather than purely academic merit.

This valuable Scholarship will help students facing difficult odds to succeed in their chosen medical career.

To honour Zac and to help us give deserving young people the chance to achieve as he did, we need the generous support of people like you.

Lance, Jennifer & Madelaine Gravatt
Auckland 2009

We sincerely appreciate your support to help us establish the Scholarship and to reach our target to make it a long-term sustainable resource for future student doctors.