

E-pānui



NGĀ PĀE O TE
MĀRAMATANGA
Research Information Centre

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MAHURU | SEPTEMBER 2023

Kua tino māhāna te whenua.
The earth has now become quite warm.

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TE PŪRONGO O NGĀ POU MATARUA
CO-DIRECTORS UPDATE

The past month has been an extremely busy one at NPM with our network being in full planning mode for the upcoming International Indigenous Climate Change Research Summit. The virtual gathering, which will take place from November 13 – 17, is designed to amplify Indigenous voices, ideas and actionable solutions on climate change. We are privileged to have Finnish Sámi leader, artist and activist Paulina Fedoroff as our invited keynote speaker. You can read more about her mahi and legacy here in this [Washington Post](#) article. There is still time to register for [LICCRS](#) – early-bird registration closes 13 October.

Another significant gathering is also set to take place with our MAI doctoral network hui-ā-tau which will be hosted at Massey University, Manawātū campus, from 15 – 18 November. The conference is an opportunity for emerging Māori scholars and leaders to present papers, discuss key kaupapa and deepen bonds. Massey MAI co-ordinator Dr Monica Kola and the team have done an incredible job of pulling it all together. Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou!

Finally, our heartfelt congratulations to Dr Enoka Murphy (Ngāti Manawa, Ngāti Tūhoe, Ngāti Ruapani and Ngāti Kahungunu) who is the recipient of the prestigious Prime Minister's Educator of the Year award. The award recognises Dr Murphy's outstanding and sustained contribution as a reo Māori champion, and an educator who makes a difference to learners, their whānau and communities.

Kei runga noa atu koe Enoka! E poho kereu ana mātou.

Ngā Pou Matarua | Co-Directors

- Professor Tahu Kukūlā
- Professor Linda Waimarie Nikora

KAUPAPA MATUA : MĀORI NURSES AND CULTURAL SAFETY

By Cindy Simpkins-McQuade

Gaining health equity for Māori appears to be an endless battle, and while there are many different pieces to solving the puzzle, Māori nurses are crucial to addressing some of the issues, according to nurse educator, Jenny McGregor.

Jenny (Ngāti Raukawa) says having more Māori nurses in the system is an area that needs improving, and her PhD research focuses specifically on creating culturally safe spaces for Māori nurses. She has been influenced by the work of nursing visionary and philosopher, Dr Ihirapei Ramsden who developed Kawa Whakaruruhau (cultural safety in a Māori context). She says her research is important because Māori nurses report various challenges in their nursing training as well as in their working environments and they often feel undervalued, lonely, and isolated.

She believes racism and a lack of cultural safety within the system may be one factor for the problem of low recruitment and retention of Māori in the nursing sector, having witnessed it many times herself during her 13-year career as a registered nurse. She says she has seen racism at all levels of the nursing workforce including from nurse educators, from other nurses on the wards, as well as from nursing students. She says other Māori nurses she has worked with reported similar experiences. As a result, she believes it is no surprise that Māori patients do not trust the system, do not access treatment when they should, and do not receive the care they have a right to.

"I have seen nurses treat Māori patients differently to other patients and would complain to my charge nurse and he told 'Oh you're being too sensitive'", Jenny says when she was a younger nurse it felt like she needed to put on a suit of armour to keep working in the system.

Her research aims to understand how Kawa Whakaruruhau impacts Māori nurses and their practice. She wants to evaluate the philosophy to see whether it has been implemented correctly, which will then inform her understanding about how Māori nurses are affected by culturally unsafe/cultural environments.

"This research is necessary because it is important to understand why there is a longstanding disparity between the number of Māori nurses and others in the workforce and how the nursing profession needs to improve with regards to the treatment of Māori nurses."

Jenny's experience working away from the mainstream system and working in a kaupapa Māori health service was a game changer for her morale. She says she noticed the positive effect it had on patients, their whānau, as well as on her own wellbeing. "I observed a noticeable difference in the way Māori patients and their families interacted with medical staff because of the different approaches. The care and respect that you find in Māori orientated services are totally different. Māori whānau had more trust and were less guarded when dealing with staff who were approachable and who understood them. For myself, it was as if a lightbulb had gone off when I realised there was another way of engaging Māori."

The number of Māori nurses fluctuates between three to eight percent and Jenny says those numbers need to rise substantially if Māori patients are to achieve equity in the mainstream system. "Māori nurses are identified as being an essential component to the achievement of equitable health outcomes for Māori. This is because they can bridge the gap between the medical world and the Māori world. It is a big issue because our nurses must walk two worlds out there, as well as deal with racism."

Jenny is hopeful that an understanding of what makes environments culturally safe/unsafe, will translate into changes that can be made to support Māori nurses while training and working in the workforce. Māori nursing is recognised as a speciality of nursing as they possess dual competency. "Culturally safe environments should facilitate the development of Māori nursing. I want to understand how training impacts their practice and their ability to flourish as Māori nurses," she says.

Jenny is currently recruiting participants for her study and would like to hear from Māori nurses with clinical experience willing to participate.

She needs:

- Māori nurses who have;
- Completed nursing education in Aotearoa
- Practiced as a nurse for more than 2 years in Aotearoa
- Interested in sharing experiences of Kawa Whakaruruhau (Cultural Safety) in clinical practice?

For more information or to express your interest, please contact: Email jennyreg@gmail.com
Research Supervisors: Dr. Alayne Mikahere-Hall, Professor Denise Wilson. Taupua Waiora Research Centre, Faculty of Health and Environmental Sciences · Te Ara Hauora A Pūtaiao School of Public Health & Interdisciplinary Sciences, AUT

RANGAHAU | RESEARCH

NEUROSCIENTIST TELLS US ABOUT HER PATH AND FUTURE PLANS

By Cindy Simpkins-McQuade

Neuroscientist Nicole Edwards (Ngāti Tahu, Ngāti Kahungunu) has barely been home three months, and she has hit the ground running with the task of establishing her own research lab in the School of Biological Science at Waipapa Taumata Rau.

Nicole is a Fulbright Science and Innovation recipient and recently returned from her mahi at the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard where part of her work looked at new genomic technologies to identify how brain and immune cells dynamically respond to each other and their environment at a genetic level.

She says genomics research has the potential to help understand the dynamics of development and disease progression and this is one strand of research she intends progressing in her lab. "The emergence of these next generation sequencing technologies is a powerful means to gain high resolution insight into the complex mechanisms underlying disease. Given the fraught history of genetic research and Indigenous communities, it is also an opportunity to question how we might best utilise next generation genomics tools without creating more inequity," she says.

As a developmental neurobiologist by training, she is excited by this technology's potential to uncover new insights into fundamental biology and improve understanding of both neurodevelopment and age-related neurological degenerative conditions such as Kate Wareware (Alzheimer's), which will be another strand of her research plan.

"There is so much that we don't know. Genomics and new sequencing technologies are powerful tools to help us understand the drivers of disease. So, once we understand what's happening at a fundamental genetic level, in a cell-specific way, we can develop treatments from there. Genomics is only one tool in a huge research landscape – you need people looking at it from many different angles in lots of different areas".

She says when she was in the USA, there was a growing recognition that there is a loss of diversity in genetic datasets which largely represent those of European ancestry, with less than 1% being Indigenous. There is therefore a significant gap in our knowledge about other genetically diverse people. Nicole believes it is important to update our body of knowledge to ensure it is inclusive and representative. It is also important that this is done appropriately if we are to include Māori and Pacifica in research, which she hopes to do.

Another important aspect of her research therefore needs to encompass data sovereignty to ensure participant data is safeguarded.

"The new generation of genetic sequencing tools are cutting edge and I'm hoping to use them here. However, if I want to involve our communities in my research, it's important to work in an ethical and culturally responsive way that safeguards the rights and interests of participants."

Before Nicole finalises her research strategy, she is trying to better understand the Indigenous data landscape and is looking at issues such as who controls data, who holds it and who can access it in the future. "It's a tricky area, but it is important in the early stages of setting up my lab to do everything properly and that includes maintaining Māori data sovereignty principles. If we can develop the right tools that are safe for us, then we are enabling Māori more choices and removing barriers of access to better health outcomes. Ensuring that Māori are present throughout the entire lifecycle of the data is important. However, it is not simply a case of putting more Māori in the room, but making sure the room is fit for purpose," she says.

After establishing her research plan and securing funding, Nicole will begin lecturing next year. Eventually she will be bringing her own students into the lab. She says it's important to nurture future early career researchers (ECRs), and she is hoping to create a rūpū of Māori neuroscience ECRs who will feel more supported in their research journey in what might otherwise be an isolating environment.

One of the many positive aspects of studying in the USA was the tautoko she felt from other Māori. "There was an amazing community of Māori at MIT and Harvard who were not only achieving at the highest level, but who were also empowering each other to excel and uplift everyone around them. I didn't realise how much I needed that support from a community with shared values until I experienced it there. It can be quite isolating when you are the only Māori working in an academic arena."

Nicole says there is a lot to love about neuroscience and she encourages other Māori with an interest in health to explore the area. "It is kind of like the last frontier. There is so much we don't know about the brain and how it works. The answer is probably not in one cell – but it is part of the story. It's a beautiful mystery. The brain is a great example of a dynamic ecosystem, or a super-city built on relationships. That mystery of what makes us fundamentally us is fascinating to me."

RANGAHAU | KÖRERO WITH NPM RESEARCHERS

Each month we feature one of our NPM researchers. This month we talked with Dr Isaac Warbrick who led the Matakitenga research project 'Te Kōrero a te reoperepo – Understanding the connection between tohu, te maramataka and the health of te taiao.'

Ko wai tō ingoa, nō whaea koe?

Ni Ngāti Te Aua, Te Araua, me Ngā Puhī.
Ko Isaac Warbrick tōku ingoa

What are your areas of research?

I began my research career in exercise science/physiology and the connection between physical activity and Māori health. More recently though, I've been working alongside hāpori in exploring the impact of connecting with the taiao (natural environment) on hauora in individuals and whānau, and the value of the maramataka and other kōrero tohu iho in guiding the way we interact with the taiao.

What excites you about your work?

Our tūpuna knew our whenua and the taiao better than any of us, from generations of observation, experimentation, and living in harmony with our environment. They knew that our well-being and survival depended on a thriving taiao, and sought to live in-line with those natural seasons and cycles – that knowledge is woven throughout their kōrero. E hia ngā tanga e huna ana i tōku i ngā kōrero i tukuna ai e tōtū ki a tātou. Mihaoro tērā ki ahau! (I cannot help but admire the depth of knowledge and gems of insight hidden within the oral traditions of our ancestors. Truly amazing!)

Our NPM vision is flourishing Māori futures. What does that mean for you?

A flourishing Māori future is one where our reo, tikanga, kai and culture are

flourishing, and our people are setting and achieving their own aspirations. This is only possible if our taiao has a flourishing future as well – Whāngaia o tātou tinana e te taiao, whāngaia o tātou wairua e te taiao (It is our environment and the natural world which feeds and sustains our body and spirit.)

Lastly, can you tell us something surprising about you?

I studied for three years in Hawaii, lived in Rarotonga and the Navajo Nation (Utah), and grew up on Waikake Island (back when people could actually afford to live there).

Isaac brings on the next generation of NPM researchers.

TE TIRA TAKIMANO | OUR PARTNERS

NPM are collaborating with our TTT partners to celebrate the taonga and kaitiaki at Tāmaki Paenga Hira Auckland War Memorial Museum. This is a regular section of our e-pānui where we share stories of our taonga with our communities.

TE RĀ, NAVIGATING HOME

Tāmaki Paenga Hira Auckland War Memorial Museum in partnership with Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū is honoured to welcome Te Rā home from the collection of the British Museum. Te Rā is the oldest known Māori sail and is likely more than 200 years old. Tāmaki Paenga Hira is partnering with Te Rā Ringa Rauā, a group of Northland-based weavers. Through a process of research, knowledge-sharing, and hands-on experimentation, the rūpū has completed two sibling sails of Te Rā. Hine Marama is a small-scale model that shows the meticulous thought process, innovative techniques and challenges encountered in the pursuit of recreating Te Rā. Miharo 'Tu ki te Rangī' is a stunning full-sized recreation of Te Rā born of the collective skill and effort of the group.

Auckland Museum Curator Pou Ārahi, Māori, Dr Kanuhu Te Kanawa says, "To have Te Rā in Aotearoa for the first time in many generations is a huge moment for all Māori."

"Through the creation of the two sibling sails, Te Rā Ringa Rauā have demonstrated the knowledge embedded in Te Rā and how it can be accessed through study and recreation. This tells us the importance of preserving and learning from our taonga."

"Te Rā represents the preservation of wairua (spirit) of our ancestral knowledge and enduring connection of tūpuna, wisdom, creativity, and artistry through time. Alongside the two sister sails, we see the kotahitanga (unity) of the wairua, tinana (body), and hinengaro (mind) that is the strength of Mātauranga Māori," says Te Kanawa.

Te Rā and its sibling sails will be celebrated and showcased on display in Te Marae Ātea Māori Court and Te Taunga Community Hub from November 2023 until May 2024.

<https://www.aucklandmuseum.com/visit/exhibitions/te-ra>

Makers unknown Te Rā (the sail) (Mātarangi, detail) c. 1770-1800. Harakeke, kererū, kahu and kākā feathers, dog skin. On loan from the Trustees of the British Museum. ©Whakaaranga and Te Rā Kahau Te Rā Project Photo: Cultural Heritage Imaging.

Makers unknown Te Rā (the sail) c. 1770-1800. Harakeke, kererū, kahu and kākā feathers, dog skin. On loan from the Trustees of the British Museum. ©Whakaaranga and Te Rā Kahau Te Rā Project Photo: Cultural Heritage Imaging.

NGĀ MANAAKITANGA | OPPORTUNITIES

MBIE NGĀ PUANGA PŪTAIAO FELLOWSHIPS

The Ngā Puanga Pūtaiao Fellowship Invests in Māori and Pacific Peoples who are early to mid-career researchers to establish and progress their research careers in fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). This is a short-term initiative and will provide around \$19.3m to support around 20 Fellows over four years. Ngā Pūtaiao is part of the [Expanding the Impact of Vision Mātauranga](#) initiatives that aim to attract and grow Māori talent in the research, science and innovation system.

Funding Available

Fellowships are awarded on 0.8 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) basis, unless otherwise agreed by the Royal Society.

Two types of fellowships will be awarded - early-career fellowships (0-6 years post-PhD research experience) and mid-career fellowships (7-15 years post-PhD research experience), with both fellowship having a four-year term.

Applications Close: 2pm, 31 October, 2023

For more information: <https://www.royalsociety.org.nz/what-we-do/funds-and-opportunities/puangas/about-en/>

HUI, EVENTS, CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, WEBINARS, EXHIBITIONS

International Indigenous Climate Change Research Summit

Monday 13th - Friday 17th November 2023 (Online)

SĀMI SCREENWRITER AND ACTIVIST WILL KEYNOTE AT CLIMATE CHANGE SUMMIT

Paulina Fedoroff is a Sámi screenwriter, filmmaker and activist who has a bold vision to purchase ancient lands where reindeer once roamed. She is a past president of the pan-Nordic Sámi Council and her aim to buy up Sámi lands scattered across Sweden, Norway and Finland will be a vital shield against climate change.

Much of the ancient forest lands have been felled, however Paulina's plan to buy it back and allow the forests to regenerate is crucial for the survival of reindeer and family and her effect on climate health. Paulina was brought up in a reindeer herding family and her inclusion as a keynote speaker allows us to hear an important Indigenous perspective from Northern Europe.

Key Dates

13 Oct.: Presenter registration deadline and early-bird registration close
13-17 Nov.: Summit takes place

Early-bird registrations still open:
<https://www.liccrs.ac.nz/liccrs-registration/>

HE PITOPITO KŌRERO NEWS, EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAI JOURNAL - ON LINE NOW

CONTRIBUTORS ARE:

The design and operation of post-settlement governance entities: A management contribution
Miriana Jordan Cribb, Jason Paul Mika

High-achieving Māori students' perceptions of their best and worst teachers
Hana Turner-Adams, Christine M. Rubie-Davies, Melinda Webber

Public aspirations for a decolonised city: food security and "re-storytelling"
Katie Jane Toller, Mike Ross, O. Ripkea Mercer, Bianca Ellington, Rebecca Kiddie, Amanda Thomas, Jennie Smeaton

Te Kupenga: A woven methodology for collecting, interpreting, and stor(y)ing Māori women's knowledges
Deborah Heke

Māori expert views of antimicrobial resistance using a one health approach: A qualitative study
Samuel D. Carrington, Pauline Norris, Patricia Priest, Emma H. Wyeth

Pacific peoples, New Zealand housing-related political rhetoric and epistemic violence
Georgia Brown, Adele Norris

Taiao and mauri ora: Māori understandings of the environment and its connection to wellbeing
Marjorie Lipsham

Māui Tinihanga: Transformation through education
Heperi Harris, Mariechen Ngarotata, Reimana Tutengaehe, Katie Marr, Niki Hannan, Faye Wilson-Hill

Creating a hā habit: Utilising Māori innovations in breathwork to alleviate and build resilience to the effects of trauma, PTSD and generalised anxiety
Rawiri Waretinī-Karena, Julia Wikepa

Adjustment to chronic illness as informed by Māori: A qualitative synthesis of studies and best practice guidelines
Nikita Kirkcaldy

Reviewing flexible learning spaces for Māori-medium education
Jo Mane, Jenny Lee-Morgan, Rula Apearama, Jo Gallagher

Ensuring equity for Indigenous peoples using a Māori model of health
Kylie McKee

Whenua ki te whenua: Indigenous naming of the land and its people by reconnecting the past to the present and the future
Lesley Rameka, Mere Berryman, Diana Cruise

Te Whare Tapa Whā and Facebook: Online communication with Māori postgraduate students during the 2020 COVID-19 lockdown
Rachel Jane Sizemore

<https://www.journal.mai.ac.nz/journal/mai-journal-2023-volume-12-issue-2>

CONGRATULATIONS DR ENOKA MURPHY (Ngāti Manawa, Ngāti Tūhoe, Ngāti Ruapani and Ngāti Kahungunu) from the University of Waikato for winning the Prime Minister's Educator of the Year! Earlier this month Dr Murphy received the Te Whatu Kairangi – Aotearoa Tertiary Educator Award, recognising him as a reo Māori champion and leader in outstanding teacher. As a result, Enoka became a finalist for the Prime Minister's award which he won on September 26.

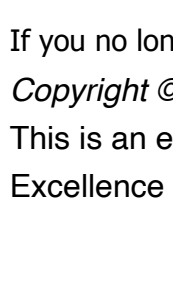
Congratulations to Endeavour Fund Grant Recipients

Associate Professor Jason Mika, University of Waikato, is the lead researcher for Tauhokohoko: Indigenous trade policy and enabling mana motuhake through Indigenous trade. Grant: \$14,945,415 over five years.

Anaru Luke and Te Reo Kohu Te auāngahiwahi from Cawthron's Te Kāhu Āio are part of the 'Fast-tracking Finnish Climate Change Adaptation' research team. Grant \$10,995,156 over five years.

Kāti rā ngā kōrero mō tēnei wā,

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