

*The Maori &
Psychology
Research Unit*

*Annual
Report*

2004



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Background

The Maori and Psychology Research Unit (MPRU) was established in August of 1998. The unit is designed to provide a catalyst and support network for enhancing research concerning the psychological needs, aspirations, and priorities of Maori people. The MPRU is well situated to draw together skilled and experienced interdisciplinary research groups by networking and establishing working relationships with staff and students within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, the University, and the wider community.

An important role played by the MPRU is in providing invaluable practical experience to both Maori and non-Maori students through involvement in Maori focussed research, planning and management, and professional development activities. Through winning grants and awards, the Unit helps to provide options for students to further their academic development and scholarly pursuits, and to supplement their income.

The MPRU runs an advisory service to assist researchers in writing research proposals that will result in research products useful to Maori development. A particular focus is on constructing procedures that are culturally appropriate and practical for use with Maori. Increasingly, review committees require that the ethical standard of research be measured against Treaty of Waitangi principles and provisions. The MPRU provides advice on how to achieve these standards.

The MPRU facilitates contact with others experienced in conducting Maori focussed research, potential participants in communities of interest, and end-users, to illicit feedback and comment on the usefulness, practicality, validity and support for research ideas and methods to be employed. This contributes to a more robust research endeavour.

A recruitment and training service for the employment of research assistants ensures an available source of people to assist with research projects.

Goals

- To provide a support structure which encourages Maori focussed research in psychology.
- To serve as a scholarly resource to support Maori focussed research projects and to promote new research initiatives among staff, undergraduate and graduate psychology students.
- To seek out new sources of research funding, respond to requests for proposals and tenders relevant to Maori issues, and to obtain continued external funding for Maori focussed psychological research.
- To facilitate the professional development of Maori researchers and to continue to develop future leaders in Maori focussed research and psychology.
- To provide a foundation for the teaching of psychology by enhancing availability and access to Maori focussed research experience and products.
- To promote the use of Maori focussed research products into the Department of Psychology's curriculum
- To facilitate internal and external lectures and research seminars to support the development of new projects and disseminate the work of scholars in the Unit.
- To host visiting researchers and scholars
- To encourage collaborative research in Maori focussed projects across disciplines

MPRU Researchers

<i>Emeritus Professor</i>	James Ritchie
<i>Director</i>	Linda Waimarie Nikora
<i>Coordinator</i>	Mohi Rua

<i>Principal Investigators</i>	Bernard Guerin
	Bridgette Masters
	Michael Hills
	Darrin Hodgetts
	Kerry Chamberlain
	Linda Waimarie Nikora
	Michelle Levy
	Mohi Rua
	Neville Robertson
Ngahuia Te Awekotuku	

<i>Research Team Members</i>	Alison Barnett, Andrew Duirs, Ariana Simpson, Barbara Browning, Henriata Nicholas, James Teepa, Jane McCaughey, Jennifer Kinloch, Keri Thompson, Laurie Morrison, Puawai Cairns, Robert Loto, Rolinda Karapu, Saburo Omura, Tamati Amuketi, and Te Rauhuia Teepa.
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<i>Visitors</i>	Stephane Dandeneau (McGill University, Montreal)
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Highlights

- Since its establishment in 1998, the MPRU has successfully competed for and won external research funds in excess of \$1.5 million. A significant success rate for external funds contested points to the high calibre of proposals written, the increasing public profile of the MPRU, and the recognition by funding agencies of those areas of staff/student interest and expertise
- The MPRU successfully supported two students in their bids for research funds from the Health Research Council. Rolinda Karapu won a Maori research seeding grant to work towards the establishment of a project on the role of the Maori Television Service in reducing the social determinants of health. Robert Loto won a Pacific summer studentship to work with the Media and Health research group.
- The Marsden Funded Ta Moko research group has signed a major publishing contract with Penguin Publishers. Their book is due to be release mid-2006.
- Dr Darrin Hodgetts and Mohi Rua were successful in winning a grant from the Marsden Fund . This is the second Marsden grant awarded to an MPRU research group. Over a two year period, Darrin and Mohi will investigate what it means to be a man today.
- The MPRU was again commissioned to evaluate the Te Rau Puawai programme, a Maori recruitment and retention programme aimed to increase the number of Maori pursuing careers in the Maori mental health field. Delivered by Massey University, this evaluation follows on from the 2000 evaluation tender won by MPRU. It is an opportunity to explore the intimate detail of a recruitment and retention strategy employed by another tertiary institution. The project is lead by Linda Waimarie Nikora with a team of 3 senior graduate students.
- The MPRU won a grant from the Health Research Council to explore links between media framing and public and policy responses to health inequalities. This project is being lead by Dr Darrin Hodgetts and Linda Waimarie Nikora with Kerry Chamberlain of Massey University.
- The MPRU actively supported the attendance of Maori graduates and undergraduates to this years New Zealand Psychological Society's Annual conference. They actively participated in conference activities, presented posters and papers, some of which have since been published.
- After three years with the MPRU, Ngahuia Te Awekotuku has now taken up a full time position as Professor/Director of research in the Centre for Maori and Pacific Development Research at the University of Waikato.

Contracts & Grants

New Projects

What does it mean to be a man today? "Bloke Culture" and the Media

Investigators: Darrin Hodgetts and Mohi Rua

Grant Agency: Marsden Fund \$140,000

Descriptor: Today society has become saturated with prescriptions for what it means to be a man. Along with positive characterisations of new domesticated and sensitive social actors, negative characterisations of men as undomesticated and emotionally devoid individuals remain prevalent. Previous research has focused on the implications of negative characterisations, while little is known about how more positive characterisations can contribute to men developing supportive and emotionally rich relationships with each other, partners and family. The primary aim of this project is to investigate how elements of such characterisations are incorporated into the lives of men engaged in traditionally 'working class' occupations. Research participants will be recruited through a Territorial Army reconnaissance unit where Pakeha and Maori men come together through shared interests and negotiate meaningful relationships, and various cultural similarities and differences. This facilitates an investigation of the lives of men from diverse backgrounds in relation to a shared site, in which elements of both Pakeha and Maori cultures are valued. Given the importance of media messages as a frame for information today, and the engagement of media in everyday life, the focus on the media is a vital, but largely neglected, component of research into men's daily lives in Aotearoa.

Te Rau Puawai II

Investigators: Linda Waimarie Nikora & Mohi Rua

Grant Agency: Ministry of Health \$63,000

Descriptor: This is a followup evaluation to the one completed by the MPRU in 2001. The aim of Te Rau Puawai was to enable up to 100 Maori who are committed to Maori mental health advancement to complete relevant University academic programmes over a period of five years. The key objective of Te Rau Puawai is to improve participation rates of Maori students in mental health related disciplines such as social work, nursing, rehabilitation, psychology and Maori studies. The overall aim of this evaluation is to provide the Ministry of Health with a clear understanding of the following: a) critical success factors, b) barriers to success, c) uniquely Maori aspects of the programme, d) gaps in the programme, e) recommendation for improvements, and f) other relevant issues.

Mediation & the Public Negotiation of Health Inequalities: Comparing Maori & Mainstream Media

Investigators: Darrin Hodgetts, Linda Waimarie Nikora & Kerry Chamberlain

Grant Agency: Health Research Council \$125,000

Descriptor: This study explores processes by which members of the public form understandings of links between social inequalities and health by undertaking analyses of media representations and public uses of different representations.

Mauriora: Ma ratou, ma matou, ma tatou - Maori Television and Health

Investigators: Linda Waimarie Nikora, Darrin Hodgetts & Rolinda Karapu

Grant Agency: Health Research Council \$5000

Descriptor: Media organisations, their health and reporting philosophies along with their organisational culture directly influence the health representations that they make to Maori viewers. These representations in turn influence how Maori think about their identities, their health status, and their sense of agency over their health concerns. In particular, we suggest that the new Maori Television Service, as a service that is explicitly identified with the Maori community, has the potential to positively and effectively represent health messages to Maori, more so than is currently the case with mainstream television stations.

Intentional Injury

Investigators: Neville Robertson

Grant Agency: National Womens Collective of Independent Refuges \$6,221

Descriptor: A study of intentional injury among residents of women's refuges.

Fullbright Scholarship

Awarded to: Ngahuia Te Awekotuku

Grant Agency: Fullbright NZ

Descriptor: Awarded to Ngahuia to support her to travel to Philadelphia to attend the Annual Conference of the Modern Languages Association where she was an invited keynote panellist. Along with fellow panellists Tony Morrison and Gayatri Spivak they addressed an audience of 2000 plus people on the topic of 'The Future of the Humanities in a Fragmented World'.

Projects in progress

Maori perspectives on the mental health development strategy. Michelle Levy, supported by Health Research Council

The social and economic determinants of gambling: How gambling affects Maori whanau health. Laurie Morrison supported by a Health Research Council Training Fellowship scholarship.

The health implications of gambling of new forms of gambling on Maori women and their whanau. Laurie Morrison supported by a Health Research Council project grant.

Ta Moko: culture, body modification and the psychology of identity. Ngahuia Te Awekotuku and Linda Waimarie Nikora supported by the Marsden Fund.

Strangers in Town: Tuhoe ki Waikato : A Case Study. Linda Waimarie Nikora, Mohi Rua, Ngahuia Te Awekotuku and Bernard Guerin supported by the Foundation of Research, Science and Technology.

Projects Completed

Evaluating the feasibility of establishing an itinerant Maori Epilepsy field officer. Michael Hills, Linda Waimarie Nikora & Laurie Morrison supported by the Health Research Council

The influence of a fitness component in a smoking cessation programme for Maori women. Pauline Guerin, Linda Waimarie Nikora and Denise Kingi supported by Health Research Council.

Nga Taonga o Te Urewera. Linda Waimarie Nikora and Ngahuia Te Awekotuku supported by the Tuhoe Waikaremoana Maori Trust Board.

An investigation of the barriers to, and supports for success for Maori students in the Psychology Department at the University of Waikato. Keri Thompson supported by the Waikato Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

Maori rangatahi wahine in the Tauranga region: Their health, wellbeing and resilience. Kiri Merrit supported by Health Research Council - Master's Scholarship.

Research Outputs

Book Sections

- Nikora, L. W., Te Awekotuku, N., & Rua, M. (2004). Wearing Moko - Maori facial marking in today's world. In N. Thomas & A. Cole & B. Douglas (Eds.), *Tatau/Tattoo - Bodies, art and exchange in the Pacific and Europe*. London, England: Reaktion.
- Te Awekotuku, N. (2004). He Maimai Aroha: A Disgusting Traffic for Collectors: The Colonial Trade in Preserved Human Heads in Aotearoa, New Zealand. In A. Kiendl (Ed.), *Obsession, Compulsion, Collection: On Objects, Display Culture and Interpretation* (pp. 77-91). Banff, Alberta: The Banff Centre Press.

Journal Articles

- Hodgetts, D., Masters, B., & Robertson, N. (2004). Media Coverage of 'Decades of Disparity' in Ethnic Mortality in Aotearoa. *Journal of Community and Applied Social Psychology*, 14(6), 455-472.
- Nikora, L. W., Guerin, B., Rua, M., & Te Awekotuku, N. (2004 accepted). Moving Away from Home : Some Social Consequences for Tūhoe Migrating to the Waikato. *New Zealand Population Review*.
- Robertson, N. R. (2004). Reforming the justice response to men's violence against women. Te Korowai Manaaki, A Collaborative Approach Towards Freedom From Violence. 1(May).
- Robertson, N. R. (2004). On equality and colourblindness. *Bulletin of the New Zealand Psychological Society*, 102(July), 26-27.
- Rua, M., Nikora, L. W., & Te Awekotuku, N. (Submitted Oct 2004). Tangata Mau Moko : Coping with the Reactions and Attitudes of Others. *New Zealand Journal of Psychology*.

Conference Presentations

- Nicholas, H., Te Awekotuku, N., & Nikora, L. W. (2004). *Moko : identity, power and control – a case study*, Paper presented at The New Zealand Psychological Society Annual Conference “Psychologies for Aotearoa/NZ”, Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington, Aotearoa. 27-30 August.
- Nikora, L. W., Guerin, B., & Rua, M. (2004). *Maori Migration: The Social Consequences*. Paper presented at the "New Directions: New Settlers: New Challengers" end-user meeting. Victoria University, Wellington. 21 April, 2004.
- Nikora, L. W., Rua, M., & Guerin, B. (2004). *Maori Migration: The Social Consequences*. Paper presented at the Institute of Australian Geographers Conference, 13-16 April, 2004, Adelaide, Australia.
- Nikora, L. W., Te Awekotuku, N., Karapu, R., Simpson, A., & Rua, M. (2004). *Desirable or Detested - Moko in the Contemporary World*, Paper presented at the 9th Biennial Australia-Aotearoa (New Zealand) Community Psychology Conference – Community Narratives and Praxis: Sharing Stories of Social Action and Change. Mills Reef Winery, Tauranga 5th-7th July.

- Nikora, L. W., Te Awekotuku, N., Karapu, R., Simpson, A., & Rua, M. (2004). *Moko - Savage Practices in a Modern World*, Paper presented at The New Zealand Psychological Society Annual Conference "Psychologies for Aotearoa/NZ", Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington, Aotearoa. 27-30 August.
- Robertson, N. R. (2004). *Examining white privilege*. Paper presented at the 5th European Community Psychology Conference, Berlin September 16-19, 2004.
- Te Awekotuku, N. (2004). *Moko: Defining Maori*. Paper presented at the Applied Arts Symposium of the 9th Pacific Arts Festival: Oltobed a Malt: Nurture, Regenerate, Celebrate, Koror, Republic of Palau, 22-31 July 2004.
- Te Awekotuku, N. (2004). *Invited keynote address - Ma hea – which way? Mo te aha - what for? Too many questions, not enough answers for Maori on the march*. Paper presented at the New Zealand Psychological Society's Annual Conference, Te Papa Tongarewa, National Museum of New Zealand, Wellington, August 2004.
- Te Awekotuku, N. (2004). *Keynote panel address - Ki te pae tawhiti : the future of the humanities in a fragmented world*. Paper presented at the Modern Languages Association, Marriott Hotel, Philadelphia, 27-30 December 2004.

Poster Presentations

- Karapu, R., Rua, M., Simpson, A., Nikora, L. W., & Te Awekotuku, N. (2004). *'Rubber Necking' - Moko and the 'Eye of the Beholder'*, Poster presented at The New Zealand Psychological Society Annual Conference "Psychologies for Aotearoa/NZ", Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington, Aotearoa. 27-30 August.
- Rua, M. (2004). *Moko: Maori Facial Tattoos - The Experiences of Contemporary Wearers*. Poster presented at the 9th Biennial Australia-Aotearoa (New Zealand) Community Psychology Conference – Community Narratives and Praxis: Sharing Stories of Social Action and Change. Mills Reef Winery, Tauranga, 5th-7th July.
- Rua, M. (2004). *Moko: Maori Facial Tattoos - The Experiences of Contemporary Wearers*. Poster presented at The New Zealand Psychological Society Annual Conference "Psychologies for Aotearoa/NZ", Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington, Aotearoa. 27-30 August.
- Te Awekotuku, N., Nikora, L. W., Karapu, R., Simpson, A., Rua, M., & Nicholas, H. (2004). *Moko Kauae*, Poster presented at the 9th Biennial Australia-Aotearoa (New Zealand) Community Psychology Conference – Community Narratives and Praxis: Sharing Stories of Social Action and Change. Mills Reef Winery, Tauranga, 5th-7th July.

Invited Lectures

- Nikora, L. W., & Rua, M. (2004, 5 May). *Maori, the environment and place*. An invited lecture, PSYC328-04, University of Waikato, Hamilton.
- Rua, M., Nikora, L., Te Awekotuku, N., & Guerin, B. (2004). *Strangers in Town: Tuhoē ki Waikato*. An invited lecture to PSYC328-04, University of Waikato, Hamilton.
- Rua, M., & Nikora, L. W. (2004, 12 May). *The Treaty and People on the Move: Maori Migration - The Social Consequences*. An invited lecture to PSYC575-04, University of Waikato, Hamilton.
- Te Awekotuku, N., Nikora, L. W., & Rua, M. (2004). *Moko - Why now?* An invited lecture to PSYC328-04, University of Waikato, Hamilton.

Community Presentations

- Te Awekotuku, N., Nikora, L. W., & Nicholas, H. (2004). *Moko – he pae maumahara, he pae oranga*, Invited presentation to the Maori Youth Worker's Conference, Whakauekaipapa Marae, Maketu. 18 March 2004.
- Te Awekotuku, N., Nikora, L. W., Nicholas, H., Rua, M., & Simpson, A. (2004). Taia o moko hei hoa matenga mou. Community presentation at Te Ao Marama, Ohinemutu, Rotorua. 15 Aug 2004.
- Te Awekotuku, N., Nikora, L. W., Rua, M., & Nicholas, H. (2004). Ta Moko Wananga. Community presentation as part of the Ta Moko Wananga held at Tanatana Marae, Waimana. 5th July 2004.

Commissioned Reports

- Nikora, L.W., Karapu, R., Hickey, H., & Te Awekotuku, N. (2004). *Disabled Maori and Disability Support Options - A Report to the Ministry of Health*. Maori & Psychology Research Unit: University of Waikato.
- Whangapirita, L., Awatere, S., & Nikora, L. (2004). *Maori Perspectives of the Environment - A Review of Environment Waikato's Information Sources* (Environment Waikato Internal Series 2004/1 - Technical report no. 1). Maori & Psychology Research Unit: University of Waikato.
- Whangapirita, L., Awatere, S., & Nikora, L. (2004). *Maori Perspectives of the Environment - A Review of Environment Waikato's Iwi Environment Management Plans* (Environment Waikato Internal Series 2004/1 - Technical report no. 2). Maori & Psychology Research Unit: University of Waikato.
- Whangapirita, L., Awatere, S., & Nikora, L.W (2004). *Maori Perspectives of the Environment - Summary Document* (Environment Waikato Internal Series 2004/1 - Technical report no. 6). Maori & Psychology Research Unit: University of Waikato.
- Whangapirita, L., Awatere, S., & Nikora, L.W. (2004). *Maori Perspectives of the Environment - A Review of Policy Submissions Made by Iwi to Environment Waikato* (Environment Waikato Internal Series 2004/1 - Technical report no. 3). Maori & Psychology Research Unit: University of Waikato.
- Whangapirita, L., Awatere, S., & Nikora, L.W. (2004). *Maori Perspectives of the Environment - A Review of Resource Use Consent Submissions Made by Iwi to Environment Waikato* (Environment Waikato Internal Series 2004/1 - Technical report no. 4). Maori & Psychology Research Unit: University of Waikato.
- Whangapirita, L., Awatere, S., & Nikora, L.W. (2004). *Maori Perspectives of the Environment - A Review of Spatial Databases* (Environment Waikato Internal Series 2004/1 - Technical report no. 5). Maori & Psychology Research Unit: University of Waikato.
- Whangapirita, L., Awatere, S., & Nikora, L.W. (2004). *Maori Perspectives of the Environment - Proposed Action Strategies* (Environment Waikato Internal Series 2004/1 - Technical report no. 7). Maori & Psychology Research Unit: University of Waikato.

Towards 2005

- Supporting undergraduate and graduate students to prepare and present conference papers and posters at the Annual Conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society in Dunedin.
- Increasing the number of successful student applications for HRC summer scholarships and HRC Masters Scholarships
- Better supporting Pacific students
- Consolidating our research agenda to be better positioned to win longer-term programme grants.
- Expanding our collaborations across the University.
- The completion of a major book from the Ta Moko Marsden project.