Māori and Psychology Research Unit

Annual Report 2011
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Prepared by Mohi Rua & Assoc Prof Linda Waimarie Nikora,
School of Psychology, University of Waikato, PB 3105, Hamilton
Email: mrua@waikato.ac.nz ph: 07 856 2889  fx: 07 856 2158
http://www.waikato.ac.nz/wfass/subjects/psychology/mpru/
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BACKGROUND

The Maori and Psychology Research Unit (MPRU) was established in August of 1997. The Unit acts as 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 School of Psychology, the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, the wider University and general community.

The MPRU is a leading international indigenous research and teaching entity that reflects the University of Waikato distinctiveness strategy and enacts the core goal to promote excellence in research and teaching. The Unit is a vehicle for addressing Maori issues at local, regional and national levels. In the last six years alone the MPRU has generated approximately 5 million dollars in external research income, over $500,000 in external scholarships, and several senior academics within the Unit are recognized international leaders in their respective fields. Despite having no core research funding the MPRU has produced 4 edited books, 12 book chapters, 73 journal articles, 3 conference proceedings books and an extensive number of conference papers, keynote addresses, invited papers to symposia/conferences, student theses and commissioned reports.

An important role played by the MPRU is the provision of invaluable practical experience to both Maori and non-Maori students through involvement in Maori focused research, planning and management, and professional development activities. The MPRU graduates the largest cohort of Maori PhD and Masters Psychology students in Aotearoa and these students benefit from our ongoing contact with the University of Waikato Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and School of Maori & Pacific Development, Te Whakaruruhau Maori Women’s Refuge (Hamilton), Te Runanga o Kirikiriroa, numerous iwi groups, the Auckland City Mission, Victoria University of Melbourne, University of South Australia (Adelaide), The University of Notre Dame (Perth, Australia) and the London School of Economics. Through winning grants and awards, the Unit presents itself as an avenue for students to further their academic development and scholarly pursuits, enhance their professional connections and to receive financial assistance.

The MPRU also 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.
GOALS

• To provide a support structure which encourages Maori focused research in psychology.

• To serve as a scholarly resource to support Maori focused 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 focused psychological research.

• To facilitate the professional development of Maori researchers and to continue to develop future leaders in Maori focused 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 School 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 STAFF, PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS, RESEARCH ASSOCIATES AND STUDENTS

Director
Assoc Prof Linda Waimarie Nikora (Tuhoe/Te Aitanga-a-Hauiti)

Senior Research Officer
Mohi Rua (Tuhoe/Ngati Awa/Ngati Whakaue)

Post-Doctoral Fellow
Dr Tess Moeke-Maxwell (Ngai Tai ki Umupuia/Ngati Pukeko)

Principal Investigators
Assoc Prof Linda Waimarie Nikora
Assoc Prof Darrin Hodgetts (Kai Tahu-Kati Mamoe)
Prof Ngahuia Te Awekotuku (Te Arawa/Waikato/Tuho) (Centre for Maori & Pacific Development Research)
Mohi Rua (PhD candidate)
Dr Tess Moeke-Maxwell
Bridgette Masters-Awatere (Te Rarawa/Ngai Te Rangi/Ngati Awa) (PhD candidate)
Dr Neville Robertson
Dr Ottilie Stolte
Prof Kerry Chamberlain (Massey University, Albany)
Prof Alan Radley (Loughborough University, England)
Dr Eci Nabalarua (University of South Pacific, Fiji)
Dr Pauline Norris (University of Otago)
Assoc Prof Kevin Dew (University of Otago)
Prof Pou Temara (Tuhoe)
Te Kahautu Maxwell (Te Whakatohea)
Enoka Murphy (Ngati Manawa) (PhD candidate)

Research Associates
Dr Michelle Levy (Tainui)
Dr Shaun Awatere (Ngati Porou, Landcare Research, Hamilton)
Prof Jonathan Gabe (Royal Holloway, University of London)
Helen Madden (Massey University, Albany) (PhD candidate)
Dr Shiloh Groot (Te Arawa, University of Auckland)
Dr Wen Li (James Cook University, Townsville, Australia)
Dr Amanda Young-Hauser (Post Doc, University of Auckland)
Karyn McRae (School of Population Health, Auckland University)
Waikaremoana Waitoki (Ngati Mahanga/Ngati Hako) (PhD candidate)
Saburo Omura (PhD candidate)
Prof Bernard Guerin and Dr Pauline Guerin (University of South Australia, Adelaide)
Prof Dan McNeil (University of West Virginia, USA)
Prof Neil Drew (The University of Notre Dame, Perth and the Nulungu Centre for Indigenous Studies, Broome, Western Australia)

PhD Candidates
Keriata Paterson (Ngati Tamatera/Ngati Maru), Bridgette Masters-Awatere, Mohi Rua, Wen Li (NZ Chinese, completed 2011), Dave Snell, Byron Seiuli (NZ Samoan), Jackie (Haki) Tuaupiki (Waikato, Ngati Tuwharetoa), Waikaremoana Waitoki, Kiri Edge (Ngati Maniapoto/Scottish), Enoka Murphy

Masters Students
Aaron Harmon (Te Whakatohea), Juanita Jacob (Nga Puhi, completed 2011), Hemaima Wihongi (Nga Puhi), Akanisi Tarabe (Indigenous Fijian)

Directed Studies
Jessica Gosche (NZ Samoan/European), Pita King (Nga Puhi), Chloe Hoeata (Tuhoe, Ngati Kahungunu), Stanley Kamutingondo (Indigenous Zimbabwean).
Dr Wen Li (Lecturer, James Cook University, Australia)

I am a Lecturer in the Department of Psychology, James Cook University, Queensland Australia and Research Associate with the Maori & Psychology Research Unit. I was a senior lecturer at Guangdong Women’s Polytechnic College in China before moving to New Zealand in 2003. I also worked as a counsellor at the Asian Services, Problem Gambling Foundation of New Zealand from 2004 to 2007. As a community social and health psychologist, I position myself between the East and West, informing Western social sciences with Eastern knowledge and vice versa. My research is centred on and around health and wellbeing, ageing, home, place, family, community, culture and acculturation, international students, and migration. I have been active in the New Zealand voluntary sectors for many years and was also the founding Chairperson of the Hamilton Chinese Golden Age Society, New Zealand.

The academic debates on culture and psychology provided me with the impetus to pursue my PhD in social psychology by examining the knowledge, skills, and beliefs older Chinese immigrants to Aotearoa New Zealand have about themselves and how they function in their familial, social, cultural and historical contexts. Through my PhD study, I had an opportunity to explore older Chinese immigrants’ ageing and housing experiences through an angle of social and cultural psychologies. This research topic, the positive orientation and the focus on culture and change resonates with my own academic development. As one of the first generations of psychology students after the Cultural Revolution in China, I entered the Department of Education at South China Normal University in 1984, majoring in psychology. In the first two years, we mainly studied Russian psychology. From the third year when the Department of Psychology was re-established, our focus moved to American psychology. ‘Chinese psychology’ was a concept which was rarely discussed by my professors and did not appear in my own teaching and research in China. It was not until I started my doctoral research in Aotearoa New Zealand that I embarked on a journey to explore and develop Chinese psychology.

I have been fortunate enough to have worked with two outstanding scholars of the MPRU, Associate Professor Linda Nikora and Professor Darrin Hodgetts. Linda and Darrin treated me not simply as a student but also as a colleague, which has encouraged me to work confidently alongside them. As true cultural/indigenous and social psychologists, Linda and Darrin have provided me with endless ideas and shown real passion for their research, which in turn has inspired and enriched my growth as a student, a researcher and a social psychologist. Through their inspiration and encouragement, I was able to position myself between the East and the West, informing the Western social sciences with Chinese knowledge and vice versa.

As a Lecturer in Psychology at James Cook University, my responsibilities have included: publication of peer reviewed research papers in high-impact scientific journals; successful applications for external research grants; supervision of successful fourth year and postgraduate research projects; development and delivery of subjects at the undergraduate level in areas of expertise and those allocated by the Head of Department; and administrative duties as delegated by the Head of Department. I have been awarded an EU-AU Staff Mobility Grant offered by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, Australia. I will be visiting Jagiellonian, University of Poland, in April 2012, where Copernicus enrolled 520 years ago.

For undergraduate, Honours and Master’s students my advice is to work harder. For PhD students, my advice is sleep well! Sleeping well is a blessing for PhD candidates nearing the end of their degree because at this stage they have experienced high levels of stress, numerous ups and downs, and even suffered from conditions such as insomnia. Above all else I wish you well in your endeavours.

Regards,
Wen.
PhD Student Profile: Byron Malaela Sotiata Seiuli

“O le ala i le pule o le tautua – the path to leadership is through service”

Talofa lava

I was born in Samoa and migrated with my family to NZ in the early 1980’s for educational opportunities. My ancestral roots are to the villages of Malie, Manono and Falealupu (father), Faleula and Lalomalava (mother). I am one of sixteen (yes 16!) siblings and married to Charleen (Palagi, Thames/Waikato) with whom we have six children together. For me, the most precious gifts in life include my aiga (family), Christian faith, Samoa heritage and people I find privileged to share in the malaga (journey).

For me, attending and achieving at tertiary level is partly to fulfil the hopes and dreams of my parents; partly to fulfil my own dreams and partly to encourage others along the same path. I am the first of my siblings to have attended and graduated from a University. For me, succeeding is about honouring the sacrifices made by my parents so that I could be successful. As a student, this is the challenge I have encompassed: to pioneer and to be a role model to my younger siblings, cousins, nephews and nieces and my own children. I see this happening already with my younger brother completing a Law Degree (Waikato), two nephews beginning undergraduate degrees (Waikato) and my daughter (16 years old) in her second year of a BCom/BSocSci conjoint degree. In addition, others in the extended family are engaging in undergraduate and postgraduate degrees. It just goes to show how one person’s sacrifice and determination can positively influence the course of a whole family or generation towards success. In Samoan and Pacific cultures, when one person succeeds, the whole family/village succeeds as well. Therefore, everyone celebrates together as achievers. As the old saying goes, ‘it takes a whole village/community to raise a child’.

I am in the first year of a three year fulltime PhD programme (2011-2014). I returned to pursue this partly through the encouragement of my father, and predominantly because of my desire to offer support and hope to Samoan families and communities impacted by death and bereavement. I chose to base myself in the Maori & Psychology Research Unit (MPRU) because of the strength of MPRU’s past successes with research on indigenous issues, as well as their amazing student support. Importantly, the expertise and knowledge of my supervisors (Assoc Prof Linda Nikora, Prof Ngahuia Te Awekotuku & Prof Darrin Hodgetts) in the area of death and bereavement practices has been valuable to my own PhD research with Samoan people.

Although I do not quite see myself as a ‘full-time academic’, I do see the value of academic writing and lecturing as a pathway that engages a wider audience with topics specific to Samoan and Pacific communities. The likely blending of lecturing, researching, workshops and counselling is what I foresee as life beyond the PhD. If I could give any advice to students is to not be caught up in the western mind-set of individualism; where succeeding is an independent struggle. There is plenty of support available and students (especially Pacific and Maori) just need to ask the right person. We are not dumb for asking, we are dumb for NOT asking. When one person succeeds, the whole community succeeds. As part of the MPRU aiga, I encourage Pacific and Maori students especially by saying: ‘we are here to offer support and to provide mentoring so you can succeed’. As the Samoan proverb encourages, we are here to serve you, so that you can fulfil your potential and destiny to leadership.

Ia manuia.

Byron Seiuli (Phd Candidate).
Student Profile: Kiri Edge

My name is Kiri Edge, I am descended from the Te Kanawa/Pare te Kawa/Waiora hapū of Ngāti Maniapoto and the Stewart/MacMillan/MacSporran clans of Scotland. I was born and bred in Melville, Hamilton and spent some 15 years living in the Far North. My son Matai is four years old and also has whakapapa links to Ngā Puhí.

Psychology and issues of social justice are concepts I have always been interested in, before I even knew what these words meant! I worked in the insurance industry for nearly 10 years, but went in search of something that had more 'meaning and soul'. Thus, I came to the University of Waikato and I have never looked back. I completed a Bachelor of Social Science in Psychology and Human development. At that time I was becoming increasingly disillusioned with psychology. I had not yet encountered anything that spoke to the social/community issues that I was concerned about. However, this changed within two papers that explored community psychology and the psychological applications of the Treaty of Waitangi. I was also selected for the Post Graduate Diploma in Community Psychology programme, which opened the door to what I came to University in search of.

I began scoping out supervisors for my Master’s thesis about 12 months before I was due to start. I was interested in exploring dual cultural identity. With Associate Professor Linda Waimarie Nikora’s guidance, I narrowed my interest to focus on a specific event, bereavement. I was honoured to be given the opportunity to join the Tangi Research Programme, lead by Professor Ngahuia Te Awekotuku, Associate Professor Linda Waimarie Nikora and Dr Tess Moeke-Maxwell. I completed one year of the Master’s thesis and with Linda Nikora and Mohi Rua’s guidance and encouragement, I extended my research into a Doctoral study. I am researching how whānau of dual cultural identities negotiate through bereavement. The extension of the research will allow me to bring the personal experiences of such whānau to bear upon the perspectives of those who mediate or facilitate tangi/funeral in expert and/or professional roles. I hope to complete my PhD in 2013. I am deeply indebted to the Māori and Psychology Research Unit. As with many others before me (and undoubtedly after me!) I have flourished both academically and personally through their support. I believe that MPRU stands as an exemplar, and I admire the way in which the Unit works towards transforming its founding goals into reality.

My main focus after University will be completing my internship for the Postgraduate Diploma in Community psychology. I am passionate about Māori and community based issues, I hope to gain employment focused in these areas.

If there is anything I could offer future students upon reflecting on my own experiences, I think it is crucial to keep an open mind around options for future study. Some of the options I initially put in the ‘not interested’ box became the pathways I was most passionate about. Make yourself known to your lecturers and be active in looking for future opportunities.

Naku iti nei,
Kiri Edge
PhD Candidate
A REVIEW OF ONE PROJECT

Kia Ngawari
Investigating Palliative Care of Maori and their whanau (2009-2011)

Dr Tess Moeke-Maxwell with AProf Linda Waimarie Nikora & Prof Ngahuia Te Awekotuku (Funded by the Health Research Council, $330,000)

The HRC funded Kia Ngawari Study’s aim is to gather qualitative information from Māori whānau about their end of life experiences and cultural needs. The year began with a concentrated effort to recruit participants through media community newspaper publications in South Auckland and Waikato, from Whitianga to Te Kuiti. Two publications attracted numerous participants in the South Auckland region. Also, a significant number of whānau wanted to share their stories about historic encounters of caring for a family member or friend who had recently died. The Northern-Y Ethics Committee provided an extension on the recruitment cohort to include these families as well. Consequently nearly 30 face to face interviews have been completed and six case studies are under way. Many interviews involved more than one kanohi ki te kanohi (face to face) encounter with participants.

In addition to this there have been a number of opportunities to speak about the Kia Ngawari Study project to a variety of audiences at conferences, hui and in face to face consultations. Presentations and information about the study have been delivered to Māori health providers, community palliative care services, DHBs and hospices. For example, in November the initial study findings were presented to New Zealand hospices through the Genesis Oncology Trust Palliative Care Lecture Series, 2011 via a teleconference and PPT system. This brought an overwhelming positive response from a range of hospice staff.

In particular, the workforce supported a participant inspired initiative to develop a palliative care model based on the concept of the traditional Maori waka (canoe) which could act as an early end of life care navigation tool for Māori. Participants indicated whānau need to identify palliative care services and resources in their communities early on in the end of life journey as this will support families to proactively care for themselves at this time. Whānau also indicated they would like to receive information about their entitlements and they want to let health providers know their preferred care must be driven by the traditional Maori values of aroha and manaakitanga (loving concern and support).

Of further interest are the emerging themes concerning Māori attitudes to using hospice and palliative care services, and the barriers whānau face. Perhaps, what has been most inspiring for me as the principle researcher is the strength of whānau to remain positive when things are often bleak. In them shines a hopefulness that each moment of each day will continue to be lived and enjoyed to its fullest, until the moment they die.

The participant interviews will be completed by the end of 2011 and the case studies will conclude in May 2012. Analysing the narrative data and publishing the results of the study will continue until the project concludes in November 2012. The findings will be presented at hui to communities in Waikato and South Auckland. I am hopeful that the findings will help to inform whānau about their entitlements through the development of a community waka palliative care navigation tool.

Prepared by Dr Tess Moeke-Maxwell
Kia Ngawari Research Study Outputs, 2011


Moeke-Maxwell, T. (2011, 01 July). Kia Ngawari Study progress. Consultation with Professor Merryn Gott, at the Auckland University, Tamaki Campus, Auckland.


Moeke-Maxwell, T. (2011, 08 September). Introduction to the Kia Ngawari Study and initial findings. Consultation with Dr Sue Crengle and Rowan Aitken, School of Public Health, Auckland University. Tamaki Campus, Auckland.


Special issue call for papers
The Australian Community Psychologist

Ignored no longer: Emerging indigenous researchers on indigenous psychologies

The Australian Community Psychologist special issue on indigenous psychologies documents analytic approaches informed by indigenous world views which are crucial for extending our psychological engagements with human diversity in more complex and relevant ways. The purpose of the special issue is to challenge the omission and marginalisation of indigenous psychologies in the broader discipline of psychology. Previous psychological research has all but ignored indigenous histories, circumstances, and worldviews. Furthermore, it rarely employs cultural concepts germane to these distinct groups in an interpretation of their lived realities. This omission reflects a missed opportunity. The development of many indigenous psychologies has been closely associated with processes of decolonization and with assisting minority groups to find a voice and gain access to resources for self-determination.

Dissatisfaction with the unquestioned, derivative, and explicative nature of psychological research that is deeply rooted in individualistic strands of Anglo-American psychology has led indigenous researchers to look outside the discipline in order to begin solving the devastating problems within their own communities.

Many decisions shaping the circumstances of indigenous peoples are made beyond their life worlds, and it is up to us, as critical Indigenous scholars working with community groups, to help bridge this divide through advocacy and joint action. As current and future psychologists, we need to situate our work within local socio-political contexts.

The focus of the special issue is to explore the breadth of indigenous psychologies through the current work of emerging indigenous researchers. The primary aim of the issue is to showcase the range and diversity of research currently being conducted by emerging indigenous researchers on issues of relevance to indigenous people.

Why the Australian Community Psychologist? The Australian Community Psychologist provides the unique opportunity to consider the position of emerging indigenous psychologies within the broader discipline of Aotearoa, Australia and the wider South Pacific.

The focus of the special issue has encouraged an overwhelming response from emerging indigenous researchers engaged in work that is fundamentally action orientated and focused on real world problems faced by Indigenous communities. For many contributors this is potentially their first time being published.

The purpose of reviewing submissions for the special issue was to ensure that papers are at the expected level of a junior or emerging researcher and are quality academic papers. The special issue was designed to provide a forum where they can prepare for the rigours of peer-reviewed scholarly journal publications.

Ultimately, indigenous psychologies recognise that people have a complex and highly developed understanding of themselves and there is more than one legitimate psychological approach to understanding the social world, the place of different people within it and frameworks for conceptualising social relations.

Editorial Team for Special Issue

Mohi Rua, Maori & Psychology Research Unit, University of Waikato, Aotearoa
Bridgette Masters-Awatere, Maori & Psychology Research Unit, University of Waikato, Aotearoa
Dr Shiloh Groot, Social Psychology, University of Auckland, Aotearoa
Prof Pat Dudgeon, School of Indigenous Studies, University of Western Australia
Darren Garvey, Centre for Aboriginal Studies, Curtin University, Australia
Emeritus Professor James Ritchie Memorial Symposium: Celebrating the life and work of James Ritchie (1929-2009)

In February 2011, a two day memorial symposium celebrating the life and work of Emeritus Professor James Ritchie (1929-2009) was held at the Academy of Performing Arts, Waikato University. It was a way for the University and the general community to mark Professor James Ritchie’s academic lifetime contribution and legacy.

Prof Ritchie, or Jim as we knew him, was the founding professor of psychology at Waikato University. He also co-founded, with the late Sir Robert Mahuta, the Centre for Maori Studies and Research and later, served as the first Emeritus Professor of the Maori & Psychology Research Unit.

To those of us privileged enough to be taught by Jim, he was our kaumatua, academic mentor and friend. There is a wonderful story that reflects Jim’s life within the Maori world, as an 18 year old in the Ngati Poneke Young Maori Club. Ngati Poneke were competing in the haka section commemorating the coronation of Kingi Koroki at Turangawaewae marae, Ngaruawahia. In the 1940s, it was unusual for a (self described)”skinny white kid” to participate in these events and Jim was asked to stand down until Princess Te Puea Herangi intervened. She was overheard saying, “Watch over that young man...he will be useful to us”. So it came to pass that he became a close friend and confidant to Sir Robert and Te Arikinui Dame Te Atairangikahu and an advisor to Tainui. Jim’s tangi was held at Turangawaewae marae in respect of his contribution.

The memorial symposium was comprised of three keynote addresses with discussion and commentary by local respondents. Each keynote speaker reflected on Professor Ritchie’s work, it’s relevance to their own contexts and areas of expertise with suggestions on ways forward from the foundation that Prof Ritchie established. The first key note speaker was Prof Pat Dudgeon, an Indigenous academic and psychologist from the Bardi people of the Kimberley, Western Australia. Pat is also a fellow of the Australian Psychological Society and mentor of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The second keynote was Dr Neville Robertson, a community psychologist, chair of the School of Psychology (Waikato University) with a particular interest in applied research on issues where social justice is at stake. The final speaker was His Highness Head of State of Samoa Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi. A former Prime Minister of Samoa he has held a number of academic positions throughout Aotearoa, Australia and the South Pacific.

Jim held that Universities and academic institutions had to be meaningful and useful and had to make a difference to the everyday lives of people and their communities. He advocated approaches that responded to people in ways which considered their contexts and cultures, and that were critically concerned with social justice, understanding and bringing about change. Jim had a range of interests and passions including Bicultural identities and futures; Treaty of Waitangi, Iwi...
Development; Raupatu; Art and Literature; Cross-cultural; Ethno, Community and Social Psychology; Violence Prevention; Pacific/Maori Ethno-psychology; Parenting; Anti-racism; Politics and Protest; Action Research; Centre for Maori Studies; Social impact assessment; Environmental issues and resource management. His work with Tainui and other iwi groups through their respective tribunal hearings is testament to his vision and commitment.

The symposium was organised by the Maori & Psychology Research Unit and the Centre for Maori and Pacific Development Research (School of Maori and Pacific Development) and kindly supported by Nga Pae o te Maramatanga, The New Zealand Psychological Society and the University of Waikato.

E te pāpā, moe mai ra i to moenga roa.

Seated left to right: Dr Neville Robertson, Prof Pat Dudgeon, His Highness Head of State of Samoa Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi and Dr Jenny Ritchie.

Standing left to right: Mohi Rua, Prof Ngahuia Te Awekotuku, Assoc Prof Linda Waimarie Nikora, Siautu Alefaio (Senior Clinician, Massey University), Kate Robins, Karyn McRae, Prof Darrin Hodgetts and Charles Waldegrave (Co-ordinator of The Family Centre, Wellington).
The first International Conference on Critical and Qualitative Approaches to Health Psychology was held in 1999, Newfoundland, Canada. It was attended by over 100 critical health psychologists from around the world and began a network of connecting health psychologists interested in a more critical approach to the area.

The theme for this year’s International Critical Health Psychology conference focused on ‘advancing critical perspectives for health and health care’ and was hosted by the University of Adelaide, Adelaide, South Australia. It included keynote speaker Prof Pat Dudgeon, one of the founding people in indigenous people and psychology for Australia. She has almost two decades of work with Curtin University (Perth) in indigenous higher education including the Head of the Centre for Aboriginal Studies. Pat is Chair of the Indigenous Australian Psychologists Association and currently teaches at the University of Western Australia. She is a close friend of the MPRU.

One of our roles as MPRU researchers (Prof Darrin Hodgetts, Mohi Rua and Dr Shiloh Groot) included running a workshop with our colleagues Prof Neil Drew and Anna Dwyer (indigenous Australian from the Kimberley country) both of whom work for the Nulungu Centre for Indigenous Research, Broome, Australia. The workshop was titled “Working constructively with indigenous communities: Experiences from Australia and New Zealand”. The workshop presented two scenarios based on real events. The first scenario looked at indigenous representation on a research ethics committee dominated by majority group members and the second scenario considered the response of academics to the social and economic development needs of an indigenous group who have recently acquired considerable resources. Many of us also participated in Prof Dudgeon’s workshop, “Courageous conversations: Beyond Cross-cultural training”.

If there was anything we took away from the conference it was the affirming of relationships with Neil Drew and Anna Dwyer from Nulungu and of course Pat Dudgeon. We have consolidated our connectedness through academic writings and editorials and hope to stay in contact through academic visits and even research overlaps and collaborations.
DEATH DOWN UNDER CONFERENCE (SYDNEY)

In June 2011, members of the Tangi Research Programme attended the inaugural Death Down Under conference for Death Studies at the University of Sydney. While there were not too many indigenous peoples there, it was a fantastic opportunity to meet and talk with leading Death Studies specialists from all over the world. With a registration cap of 200 people, the gathering was intimate, friendly and informative. Who would have thought that such a subject area, sometimes met with reservations, could be so riveting, diverse, invigorating and dynamic. Here are a few comments from our team who attended.

**How will this conference benefit your work?** The conference allows us to compare traditional Maori practices across cultures. It also challenged us to translate the mundane and taken for granted so international audiences understand what we as Maori do, when we do it and why (Mohi Rua).

**What did you enjoy?** There were people engaged in this area from a range of levels, from academics, doctors, nurses, a fashion designer and memorial architect/craftsman. I had no idea of the diversity in this field!! (Kiri Edge).

**Someone you enjoyed meeting?** Tamara Linnhoff. She runs a business that builds coffins and furniture for "natural burials" based out of Wellington. She is also a policy maker and presented on a set of practice standards for natural burials in Aotearoa (Mohi Rua).

**Someone you enjoyed meeting?** I enjoyed listening to the keynote presentation by historian Helen MacDonald and her address on dissection. While at times repulsive, listening through to the end of her address really piqued my interest in the trade in human remains and that laws and policies continue to permit this to happen. I look forward to reading her book she is researching and writing. Helen is the author of ‘Possessing the Dead: The Artful Science of Anatomy, Melbourne University Press, 2010’. (Linda Waimarie Nikora).

**Someone you enjoyed meeting?** Too many to name! Victoria Spence the ritualist did a stunning paper on community ritual, remembrance and making memorial art, and the death talkers and mediators were amazing (Ngahuia Te Awekotuku).

Na,

Linda Waimarie Nikora
STUDENT SUPPORT

Student Supervision

Tangi Research Programme:
Keriata Paterson (PhD), Kiri Edge (PhD), Juanita Jacobs (Masters’ Thesis completed 2011), Akanisi Tarabe (Masters’ thesis, University of the South Pacific, Fiji), Byron Seiuli (PhD), Mohi Rua (PhD), Vince Malcolm-Buchanon and Haki Tuaupiki (PhD)

Medications Project:
Stanley Kamutingondo (Honours directed study) and Brooke Hayward (Masters’ thesis)

Intimate Partner Violence:
Pita King (Undergraduate 3rd year directed study); Chloe Hoeata (Honours directed study)

Others:
Moana Waitoki (PhD), Bridgette Masters (PhD), Dave Snell (PhD completed 2011), Wen Li (PhD completed 2011)

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Maori & Psychology Research Unit Scholarship Recipients
The MPRU awarded seven scholarships for 2011. The recipients were:
• Byron Seiuli (PhD Thesis)
• Stanley Kamutingondo (Honours Degree)
• Cecilia Hotene (PhD Thesis)
• Setareh Zareie (Honours Dissertation)
• Kiri Edge (PhD Thesis)
• Pita King (Directed Study)
• Mohi Rua (PhD Thesis)

2011-2012 Summer Research (10 weeks)
• Pita King (Health Research Council Summer Studentship)
CONTRACTS & GRANTS

Projects in progress

Title: Aitua: Death in a changing Maori world (2009-2011)
Principal Investigators: Prof Ngahuia Te Awekotuku and Assoc Prof Linda Waimarie Nikora
Associate Investigators: Prof Pou Temara, Te Kahautu Maxwell, Enoka Murphy
Grant agency: Nga Pae o te Maramatanga ($250,000)

Title: Apakura: The Maori Way of Death (2009-2012)
Principal Investigators: Prof Ngahuia Te Awekotuku and Assoc Prof Linda Waimarie Nikora
Associate Investigators: Prof Pou Temara, Te Kahautu Maxwell, Mohi Rua and Rolinda Karapu
Grant agency: The Royal Society of New Zealand Marsden Grant ($950,000)

Title: Kia Ngawari: Investigating Palliative Care of Maori and their whanau (2009-2012)
Principal Investigators: Dr Tess Moeke-Maxwell with Assoc Prof Linda Waimarie Nikora
Grant agency: Health Research Council ($330,000)

Title: Medications in Everyday Life: Understandings and social practice (2007-2012)
Investigators: Prof Kerry Chamberlain (Massey University, Albany), Assoc Prof Darrin Hodgetts, Dr Pauline Norris (University of Otago), Assoc Prof Kevin Dew (University of Otago), Assoc Prof Linda Waimarie Nikora, Prof Jonathan Gabe (Royal Holloway, University of London), Prof Alan Radley (University of Loughborough) & Ms Helen Madden (Massey University, Albany)
Grant agency: Health Research Council ($1m)

Title: 'A pill for every ill': The domestic life of medications in consumer society (2007-2012)
Investigators: Prof Kerry Chamberlain (Massey University, Albany), Assoc Prof Darrin Hodgetts, Dr Pauline Norris (University of Otago), Assoc Prof Kevin Dew (University of Otago), Assoc Prof Linda Waimarie Nikora, Prof Jonathan Gabe (Royal Holloway, University of London), Prof Alan Radley (University of Loughborough) & Ms Helen Madden (Massey University, Albany)
Grant agency: The Royal Society of New Zealand Marsden Fund ($645k)

Projects completed

Title: Health & Homelessness: Social reintegration in Aotearoa (2006-2011)
Investigators: Assoc Prof Darrin Hodgetts, Assoc Prof Linda Waimarie Nikora, Prof Kerry Chamberlain, Dr Eci Nabalarua & Prof Alan Radley.
Grant Agency: The Royal Society of New Zealand Marsden Fund ($795k)
Title: Evaluation of the Wellbeing Service at The Whakaruruhau Maori Womens Refuge
Investigators: Dr Neville Robertson & Bridgette Masters-Awatere
Grant Agency: Ministry of Health ($45k)
FUTURE PROJECTS

Aue Ha! Māori Men’s Relational Health. Through to the second round of contestable funding process with Nga Pae o te Maramatanga. Full proposal due 16 January 2012. Principal Researchers are Mohi Rua, Prof Darrin Hodgetts (School of Psychology, University of Waikato) and Tom Roa (School of Maori & Pacific Development, University of Waikato) with support from Assoc Prof Linda Waimarie Nikora (School of Psychology), Prof Ngahuia Te Awekotuku (Centre for Maori and Pacific Development Research) and Wilf Holt (Auckland City Mission).

TOWARDS 2012

• Better supporting Maori and Pacific students through mentoring and involvement in MPRU activities
• Consolidating our research agenda to be better positioned to win longer-term programme grants.
• Expanding our collaborations across the University, other research institutions and our international partnerships
• Maintaining and extending our working relationships through joint projects and activities with our research associates and collaborating entities
• Presenting and disseminating research findings at national and international conferences
• Increasing the MPRU publishing capacity and profile
• Establishing the MPRU as a supportive and productive environment for Post-Doctoral Fellows, Fulbright scholars and students, and for visiting scholars.
In total the MPRU is able to report 68 research outputs for the 2011 year. These outputs include 9 peer reviewed articles, 4 articles under review, 2 books, 5 book chapters, 9 technical/commissioned reports, 3 invited presentations, 35 conference presentations, 3 completed student theses, 5 media articles/interviews and 3 appointments.

**Peer Reviewed Articles**


**Articles under Review**


Hodgetts, D., & Stolte, O. (Under review). “They’re not just the ‘down and outers’ - it’s ordinary people too”: Dropping into or drifting along within homeless lifeworlds. *Antipode: A Radical Journal of Geography*.


Masters-Awatere, B. (Under review). “Reflections on being a Maori, academic, leader – the way I work. *Mai Review*.

**Books**


Book Chapters


Technical/Commissioned Reports


*The follow projects were completed under the guidance and supervision of Bridgette Masters-Awatere*


Invited Keynote Presentations


Conference Presentations


Malcolm-Buchanan, V., Te Awekotuku, N., & Ryan, T. (2011 (5-8 July)). *Touching Life and Death: Artefacts and Objects of the Māori Funerary Process* Paper presented at the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (IUAES), the Australian Anthropological Society (AAS) and the Association of Social Anthropologists of Aotearoa/New Zealand (ASAANZ) Conference, Knowledge and Value in a Globalising World: Disentangling Dichotomies, Querying Unities, University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia.


McRae, K., Nikora, L. W., Te Awekotuk, N., & Hodgetts, D. (2011, 14 April). Instructing emotion, directing the masses: The role the media played in the tangi for Te Arikinui Te Atairangikaahu. Paper presented at the Kingitanga Day – Faculty of Arts and Social Science Symposium Academy of Performing Arts, The University of Waikato, Hamilton.


Moeke-Maxwell, T. (2011). Introduction to the Kia Ngawari Study and initial findings Consultation with Dr Sue Crengle and Rowan Aitken. School of Public Health, Auckland University. Tamaki Campus, Auckland, New Zealand.


**Completed Student Theses**


**Media Articles/Interviews**


**Appointments**

Enoka Murphy, appointed to Te Marau Maori, the Maori panel for the NZ Funeral Service Training Trust of New Zealand.

Dr Tess Moeke-Maxwell, appointed to the Hospice New Zealand Palliative Care Governance Board.

Dr Tess Moeke-Maxwell, appointed to the Accident Compensation Corporation Sensitive Claims Advisory Group and Maori Working Group.