e-gazette
NPM
NEW PSYCHOLOGY MATTERS
www.newpsychology.nz

PIPPIN : JUNE 2024

Kua tino mihia e langata, na te ranatira ara, te pumahara
People are now extremely cold, and he broke three before which they have.

CONTENTS

Pou Matarua Update
Kaupapa Matua: The Incredibly Enormous, Teeny, Tiny World of Microbiome
Rangahau / Research: and Data
NPM Research Leaders: Katherine Rucksdorf
Kōrero with NPM Research
Hui / Events / Conferences
He Pitipiti Kōrero / News, Events, Announcements
NPM Researchers Hitting the Headlines

TE PŪRONGO NŌ NGĀ POU MATARUA CO-DIRECTORS UPDATE

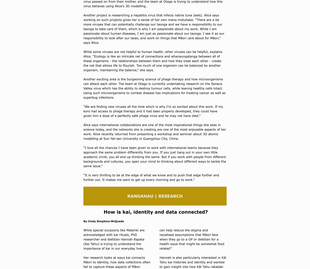
With the arrival of Matariki, our NPM whānau took some much needed time to rest and reflect - remembering those who have passed, celebrating the present with loved ones, and looking forward to the coming year. With our being so central to Matariki, some of us mo. Matariki is a time of rest and reflection, and we hope that you all had a good time. Hōpa at the University of Waikato had no shortage of extra mouths, collectively stuffing up thousands of kūmetaua to the annual 'Hīkoi to Ihenar' event to honour the life and legacy of our beloved colleague, Ihenar Hōpa.

Meanwhile, postgraduate students in Hunt's school NPM's International Postgraduate Research Conference that will take place in Tāmaki Makaurau in November. The call for abstracts is being sent out to our postgraduate students and we are looking forward to hearing about the exciting work that is happening across our school. We are also in the process of updating our DRC's opening keynote (see more below). Watch this space for more announcements on DRC keynotes as we profile them here in the lead up to the conference.

Ngā Pou Matarua / Co-Directors

- Professor Vera Kukutai
- Professor Linda Waimarie Nikora

KAUPAPA MATUA



The incredibly enormous, teeny, tiny world of the microbiome.

By Cindy Sinapius-Helguson

PhD Te Kupenga alumni Dr Alice Evans (Ngāpuhi) had a large introduction to the invisible world of microbiomes when she was a child. Her father was a microbiologist who worked in hospitals and indoor bacteria scattered from a sanatorium stuck. A self-confessed 'nerd's girl', Alice was left bewilder after, with only a few days of the hospital day, her cherished tuna (eel) and kōura (crayfish) disappeared from the tank in her family home. Alice's dad had left.

As a teenager, Alice became absorbed with learning about the mechanics of tuna (eel) and at age 16, remembers reading a book from the library about parasites. "I was always interested in tuna, kōura and other aquatic creatures and I thought that parasites were cool," she recalls. "I thought it was so fascinating that they could change their behaviour."

"My love bled for so good reason in a hospital that was supposed to be taking care of him. Despite physics, the no-go zone for kōura, for jumbleau reasons and for tuna (eel) I knew more about this specialty," she says.

Alice is a biochemist at the University of Otago Microbiology Department. Alice is primarily the first person from her whānau to ever attend university and is the first one Division of Health Sciences graduate from her whānau. Alice's work is in the lab, but she says her research aims are using cutting-edge techniques to learn more about how the microbiome affects the health of humans, the environment, other animals in our ecosystem, as well as other organisms in the invisible world.

Alice's mahi is centred on researching the shape of viruses. Because viruses are smaller than bacteria, they are invisible to the eye, even with a microscope. Alice's lab uses electron microscopy to produce the viruses. She then photographs them millions of times from every angle, and from these images, Alice creates 3D models to establish their shape.

She explains that the shape of a virus controlle how they behave. "Every little detail about its shape controlle whether it can infect you, whether it can infect your dog, what type of cell it can replicate in – everything about the function of a virus is controlled by its shape."

Once the a understand, scientists can then begin to work on strategies to mitigate their negative impacts. Alice's work has already identified a bacteriophage (virus) that is designed to fit over the top of the shape so that it is unable to attach to, or synthesise can design antibodies that block these specific areas, she says.

Alice is working on several projects using this technology and some involve researching the structure of native viruses. One project she is currently working on is attempting to control the spread of Kauri dieback disease. Alice is also working on a project with Ngāti Porou to virus people from their rohe/iwi, and the team at Otago is trying to understand how this virus between using Māori to Māori protocols.

Another project is researching a Hepatitis virus that infects native tuna (eels). Alice says working on such projects pose for a sense of her own mana motuhake. "There are a lot of people who don't understand what we do in the lab, and we don't have enough people who tamaiti to take care of them, which is why I am passionate about a career in science. I am passionate about tuna (eel) and kōura (crayfish), I am passionate about our taonga. I see it as our responsibility to look after our taiao, and work on things that Māori care about for Māori," says Alice.

While some viruses are not helpful to human health, other viruses can be helpful, explains Alice. "Looking like an intricate set of connections and whanaungatanga between all these organisms. Understanding how they work and how they treat each other - create a kind of balance. Māori have a lot of kōrero about how organisms can be beneficial to another organism, maintaining the balance," she says.

Another exciting area is the burgeoning science of phage therapy and how microbiomes can be used to treat human illness. Alice explains that bacteriophage (phage) are a type of virus that kills bacteria. Unlike other viruses, which can only be infectious, which, while beneficial, can be tricky to control because bacteriophage can be used to treat human illnesses, such as superbug infections.

"We are finding new viruses all the time which is why I'm so excited about this work. If my work can help people, I'm happy to do it," she says. Alice says she has been given lots and lots of a perfects with phage virus and he may not have been.

Alice says international collaborations are one of the most inspirational things she sees in science today, and the internet she is creating one one of the most enjoyable aspects of her work. Alice recently returned from presenting a workshop and seminar about 3D atomic modelling at the Tel Aviv University in Guangzhou City, China.

"I love all the chances I have been given to work with international teams because they are so inspirational. I am so grateful for that. I love that I can go to Tel Aviv University in Guangzhou, China, and all we do is thinking the same. But if you work with people from different backgrounds and cultures, you open your mind to thinking about different ways to tackle the same issue.

"It is very thrilling to be at the edge of what we know and to push that edge further and further out. It makes me want to get up every morning and go to work."

RANGAHAU / RESEARCH

How is kai, identity and data connected?

By Cindy Sinapius-Helguson

While special occasions like Matariki are celebrated with whānau, one researcher and dietitian Hannah Mason (Ngā Tahu) is trying to understand the importance of kai in our everyday lives.

Her research looks at ways tax concepts of identity, culture and whānau can offer her to capture these aspects of Māori wellbeing, and how modern food systems can tend to disconnect us from it.

Part of Hannah's mahi looks at food sovereignty, which is a concept that values placed around food, and how food can be a vehicle for cultural connection. Space for people to enjoy the food they eat and grow, the ability to grow food, and the ability to be able to grow food disengaged from the food we eat.

"A lot of the food we eat is sourced from overseas, and we have had to adapt to growing food in Aotearoa, which has been a challenge for us. As a result, we often have no connection to how it was grown, or the whānau it came from," she says.

Hannah believes the individualistic focus of much nutrition research and clinical approaches don't support connection and whānau, and that this has been a contributing to that culture. "There seems to be no acknowledgment of how our relationships with our environments, or the natural element of kai. These worldviews are not portrayed in research, and it's not acknowledged that they are important," she says.

For that reason, Hannah is investigating facets of Māori data and identity in her research. Part of this work involves developing a research framework using a kaupapa Māori lens. Hannah's research says it is important to look at food and its role in our communities because the data informs clinical practice and how health professionals interact with Māori.

Hannah's analysis showed that the data that is used in research and practice is not be deficit oriented. "It comes back to the values and positioning of the people doing the research. It's not that the data produced harms Māori outcomes and health inequities are an individual problem but are a consequence of our society and health systems" says Hannah.

"If we can stop nutrition data being collected and shared in this way, then we can help reduce the stigma and discrimination that people face when they go in and when they go in with an identifier for a health issue that might be somewhat food related.

Hannah is also particularly interested in kāi as a way of connecting to our ancestors to gain insight into how kai Māori ate, relation (ancestr) where her grave the ra's history and culture. Hannah is using Kaupapa Māori focus groups to better understand kāi Māori relatable experiences of kāi.

Hannah says she has been approached by Māori who have expressed concerns that they value kai as being important to them, but they don't have the time or access at their homes to make it important the role of kai was to their ancestors, and how their ancestors would be disappointed they have used kai as a tool to feel more connected to their kāi whānau. Hannah says that Māori are not trying to feel connected to kai as a way to be sociably or geographically to their whānau.

"That was not what I thought I was. Like our connection to kai, which has been a tool, it's not the end goal, it's not what the plans – I hope the connection to kai can be something we can nourish as well. I don't want people to feel that they are nourishing that strengthens our identity and our ewhau, as well as our bodies," says Hannah.

Based on these findings, Hannah is developing a framework for the collection of kai and data systems to provide a more mutualism Māori to support Māori wellbeing and Māori data sovereignty. She says the framework will be developed self-help ensure Māori data sovereignty and sustainability, and to decolonise Māori traditional worldviews that colonial food data.

Hannah with her son, Ketelan, at their course graduation. Hannah is currently an NPM Grad Research in 2024.

KŌRERO WITH NPM RESEARCHERS

Each month we feature one of our NPM lead researchers. This month we kōrero with Associate Professor Katherine Rucksdorf, Senior Lecturer in Indigenous Economic Development, Te Piaka: Māori and Indigenous Economy and Enterprise Research.

Kia ora! Ki ingoa, ki whea hoa?

Ko Kātherina Rucksdorf tēnei. Ko Waka, ko Pākehā, ko ahau. Ko ai au i ngā kē a Kāti Tama me Ngāpuhi ki Wairau.

What are your areas of research?

Māori economy, business and organisations, Māori R&D, innovation and technology.

What excites you about your work?

I see so many great things in both our small and large Māori organisations and businesses. I'm excited by the ways they are forward looking without giving up our values. It's exciting to research how we can bring together our traditional knowledge, techniques or thinking about how to create the next.

Your NPM Matter is fascinating Māori economy. What is the PhD about for you?

Māori Income are Aotearoa's future. Māori futures are global futures. NPM has given space to reimagine, advocate, and plan for those futures.

Lastly, can you tell us something surprising about you?

I became an EMBOA Global Chair in 2023-2024. This is based at the Kaiphilo, Center for Innovation Law and Policy at NYU Law School and its Kaiam Research Institute at The University of Waikato. This is a global network of Māori Indigenous Peoples (New York), along with Ci-Chan Rose Bermeo(Ho Chi,Ecuador), to understand the Māori Indigenous Peoples, and to empower Indigenous peoples for control and governance of Indigenous data, Indigenous data sovereignty, Indigenous research repositories, and potentially into the private sector.

Katherine and the whānau, out and about in the big smoke.

NGĀ MANAKITANGA / OPPORTUNITIES

Māori Futures Programme New Horizons Summer Internships 2024/2025 : Project Applications

If you are a senior researcher and have a project that could assist students gain 'real life' research experience over the summer, please contact MFP Māori Futures Programme Applications for research assistance and guidance.
Project applications due: July 15, 5pm
Project Start Date: Mid-Late Nov 2024
Supervisor Expectations: Supervisor must be based at a NPM partner entity.
For more information: nexus2@manatainaiao.ac.nz
Apply online: https://www.manatainaiao.ac.nz/kowhiri-opportunity-internship-project-application

Fulbright | Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Graduate Award Applications Now Open

The Fulbright | NPM Graduate Award is for a promising NZ graduate to undertake postgraduate study in the United States in the fields of Māori and Indigenous development. One award of up to US$25k is granted annually for up to one year of study. An award is available for study that fits within and contributes to the NPM research programme and Māori Futures.
For more information: https://fulbright.org.nz/awards/graduate/fulbright-npm-graduate
Applications close: August 1, 2024.

HUI, EVENTS, CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, WEBINARS, EXHIBITIONS

APRU / ROOTS AND BRIDGES INDIGENOUS CONNECTIONS SEMINAR SERIES

This seminar series gives academics and students from APRU member universities and other guest universities the opportunity to share works-in-progress, exchange insightful ideas and discuss research methodologies, and to foster collaborations and research partnerships from the Asia-Pacific region. Researchers from a range of fields are invited to share their work, insights, and methodologies to extend the possibilities for collaboration.

25/28 July : Prof. Ana Luna-Porras, Universidad Católica de Chile
26/28 July : Prof. Ruth Ka'ili, Associate Dean, Māori, University of Auckland
26/27 September : Prof. Veronica Figueroa-Huencho, Universidad de Chile
24/28 October : Prof. Piritā Yeates, Associate Specialist, University of Hawai'ai Mānoa
21/25 November : Prof. Dylan Rassi, The University of Adelaide Prof. Melissa Kelly, Lincoln University

For more information:
https://www.apru.org/projects/apru-indigenous-knowledges-seminar-series-2024/

HBK 2024 International Indigenous Research Conference

Auckland, New Zealand
October 7-9

Distinguished Professor Marcia Langton 33RC24 Opening Keynote!

We are honoured to announce Distinguished Professor Marcia Langton AO FASSA FTSE an Australian Aboriginal Yiman/Wakaman/Ngarabal/Ngarigo/Ngarigo/Bidjara/Gangulu Professor Langton is an esteemed anthropologist and geographic scholarship the Foundations Chair of Australian Indigenous Studies at the University of Melbourne since 2000. Her profile includes extensive research and leadership in Indigenous Australian and Indigenous Australian with the University Industry. As a key figure in the Empowered Communities project and the Expert Panel on Constitutional Recognition of Indigenous Australians, her impact on policy and academia is profound.

Professor Langton's distinguished career continues to inspire and advocate for Indigenous rights. Her work, spanning from land rights to cultural heritage, underscores her unparalleled Indigenous expertise to share her invaluable insights and experiences.

Final Call for Abstracts!

All abstracts MUST be in one last time on July 15.

For more information about the conference theme and sub-themes, head to our website:
https://www.iwi.ac.nz/news/2024/abstracts/
https://www.iwi.ac.nz

HE PITIPITI KŌRERO NEWS, EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fulbright | NPM Graduate Award

Congratulations Finley Johnson-Tamarua (Ngāti Porou) and Ashleigh Ellis who won the 2024 Fulbright NPM Graduate Award and will travel to Hawai'i, South Dakota and Washington respectively to researcher his and work alongside Indigenous scholars and communities. Finley will work with the Kamakakūokalani Center of Hawai'ian Studies and Native Hawai'ian Health and Ashleigh Ellis's University Center for Indigenous Health.

Māori researchers hitting the headlines

E Tangata
1 June 2024
'Diversity is a slippery word'
Ngāti Porou's Hēmi Kelly is Dale Husband about family history and her work on decolonisation.
https://e-tangata.co.nz/korero/zero-tea-kreuzen-diversity-is-a-slippery-word/

Waatea News
3 June 2024
Kina gray does not fit all for Māori teachers
Kina Grey, Māori Medium Director of The University of Auckland School of Education, says the one-size-fits-all approach to Māori Medium at the Māori Medium Training Programme. https://waateanews.com/2024/06/06/kina-gray-fits-all-not-right-for-maori-teachers/

Waatea News
6 June 2024
Kaupapa Māori driving Māori over self-teach
Tohi Jasper Dr Carmen Jasper says the Kaupapa approach is resulting in decisions based on ideology and racism rather than evidence based policy
https://waateanews.com/2024/06/06/kaupapa-driving-maori-over-self-teach/

Waatea News
6 June 2024
Get taste to retail waka tours at Auckland War Memorial Museum
Curator Regal Bertell talks about plans to retain the museum's waka taua Te Toki A Tapiri over the next two years.
https://waateanews.com/2024/06/06/get-taste-to-retail-waka-tour/

The Guardian
1 June 2024
Māori population hits million mark
Māori population hits million mark the 'remarkable resilience' of Māori as the Māori descent population reaches one million milestone.
https://www.theguardian.com/world/article/2024/jun/01/new-zealand-maori-population-hits-one-million

Waatea News
3 June 2024
Crown Law over chest surgery Waitaiti
Waitaiti Incorporated Chief Executive and NPM Caren Rangiwai Johnson says the parties are in Court of Appeal, Crown Law, Waitaiti Kaitiakitanga, and rather than pay up for an appeal, the Crown should return to the table.
https://waateanews.com/2024/06/03/crown-law-over-chest-surgery-waitaiti/

Waatea News
3 June 2024
Independent Māori voice needed
On the heels of the unification bus hashed to Ngāti Kahungunu, Tā Maxwi Dunn talks about the Māori Voice aspirations for the future.
https://e-tangata.co.nz/korero/and-and-analysis/maori-durie-on-independent-maori-voice-is-needed/

Waatea News
3 June 2024
Hīrahas offer cures for health – Scotty Morrison
NPM Grad researcher Scotty Morrison talks about how pōhīhas contained the cultural, spiritual and medicinal properties to provide a holistic approach to healing and health.
https://waateanews.com/2024/06/03/korahas-offer-cures-for-health/

Waatea News
11 June 2024
Illegal vapes dumped on poor
Māori and Pasifika communities in South Kaitaia says cheap, high-nicotine vapes are still widely available in low-income communities with high Māori and Pasifika populations.
https://waateanews.com/2024/06/11/illegal-vapes-dumped-on-poor/

Waatea News
11 June 2024
Māori need a part of mental health Tu
Public health researcher Dr Annabel Stewart says Aotearoa's mental health system lacks empathy and compassion and should learn from what Māori organisations are doing.
https://waateanews.com/2024/06/11/open-support-part-of-mental-health-tu/

Waatea News
11 June 2024
Māori have helps haert recovery
Dr Karen Rossen talks about a major study into heart health that has found the care provided by Māori health providers helps heart health recovery.
https://waateanews.com/2024/06/11/maori-face-helps-heart-recovery/

Waatea News
11 June 2024
He Papakupu Ake Tuna Māori to Māori Dictionary
Dr Tamsin Kimiora Poananga talks about the Māori Dictionary of Change and the Law Commission's Wahi o' Tikanga, Ke Pūtaiora, in the context of recent allegations against Maruiwai Marae.
https://waateanews.com/2024/06/11/maori-dictionary-law-academic-and-he-papakupu-ake-tuna-author/

NZ Herald
24 June 2024
Māori culture and New Zealand culture
Māori culture and New Zealand culture Aotearoa says multiculturalism and biculturalism operate in two totally different spheres.
https://www.nzherald.co.nz/kahu/maori-have-two-cultures-maori-culture-and-new-zealand-culture/ZHCMMMFXXXFNAACZMMAXOMA/#ooid=ZHCMMMFXXXFNAACZMMAXOMA

Waatea News
20 June 2024
Māori Psychology award for trainee psychologist
Ngāti Porou Māori psychologist Finley Ngapiriroi Johnson-Tamarua was being awarded the 2024 Fulbright-Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Graduate Award.
https://waateanews.com/2024/06/20/nga-pae-fulbright-for-trainee-psychologist/

E Tangata
1 July 2024
The rise and rise of Moeroki
Professor Rangi Matamua reflects on the increasing public recognition and celebration of Māori Matariki celebrations.
https://www.stuff.co.nz/nz-news/350376210/professor-rangi-matamua-and-rising-matariki-movement

Edit-Ngā kōrero mō kōwai adi,
Cindy Sinapius-Helguson
M: +64 9 921 9120
E: cindy@newpsychology.nz

Like us Facebook. Twitter Instagram LinkedIn.

If you no longer wish to receive emails from Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga, please unsubscribe below.

Copyright © 2024 Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga. all rights reserved
This is an email sent from Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga - New Zealand's Māori Centre of Research Excellence

Our mailing address is:
Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga
Waipapa Marae Complex
Grafton Road, Cnr Park Ave
Auckland, Ak, 1142
New Zealand

unsubscribe from this list | update subscription preferences