

## PASIFIKA CAUCUS ARCHIVE 2008 - 2013



### 2013 EVENTS

#### Pasifika Caucus Symposium 2013

Held Tuesday 26th November at University of Otago, College of Education, Dunedin

#### **The Ministry of Education's Pasifika Education Research Guidelines (2002): Critical Reflections**

The Ministry's Pasifika Education Research Guidelines are now just over a decade old. The Pasifika Caucus of NZARE, together with the Ministry of Education's Pasifika Research Reference Group, organised a symposium to mark this land mark development and provide opportunities for review and reflection of developments in both policy and practice at different levels, since the documents release.



### 2012 EVENTS

#### Recent Conference Events

#### **'Rethinking Pacific Education' Symposium, Laucala Campus 5 - 8 Dec 2011**

This significant conference took place on the beautiful Laucala Campus of the University of the South Pacific Suva Fiji. It was organised and hosted by the USP's Faculty of Arts, Law and Education (FALE), Oceania Institute for Education (formerly known as the Institute of Education), and the Victoria University of Wellington.

The symposium was organised as one of the activities marking 'a decade of rethinking Pacific education.' The Rethinking Pacific Education Initiative for and by Pacific Peoples (RPEIPP) started in 2001 when a group of Pacific academics and educators began to explore issues relating to Pacific education, specifically formal education. They highlighted the need for Pacific people to critically rethink various developments in Pacific education.

The founders of the movement were Professor Konai Helu Thaman from USP, Tonga's Minister for Education, Women and Culture, Honourable Dr Ana Mau Taufe'ulungai and Associate Professor, Kabini Sanga from the University of Victoria in New Zealand.

» For more details about the conference please visit: <http://www.usp.ac.fj/news/story.php?id=927>

#### Recent publications

#### **Pacific-Asian Education**

The Journal of the Pacific Circle Consortium for Education  
Volume 23, Number 2, 2011

#### **SPECIAL ISSUE**

***Inside (and around) the Pacific Circle: Educational Places, Spaces and Relationships***

Edited by:

**Eve Coxon** *The University of Auckland, New Zealand*

**Airini** *The University of Auckland, New Zealand*

SPECIAL ISSUE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

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[http://pacificcircleconsortium.org/uploads/PAE\\_23\\_\\_2\\_\\_final\\_11.pdf](http://pacificcircleconsortium.org/uploads/PAE_23__2__final_11.pdf)

This Special Issue of *Pacific-Asian Education* arose from the 35th Pacific Circle Consortium (PCC) Conference hosted by The University of Auckland's Faculty of Education in August this year (2011). The journal theme, 'Inside and Around the Pacific Circle: Educational Places, Spaces and Relationships', draws on the title of a panel presentation delivered at the conference.

## New Appointments

Dr. Diane Mara, a long serving member of NZARE and particularly of the Pasifika Caucus, has been appointed as the Associate Dean (Pasifika) at the Faculty of Education, The University of Auckland. This is a three term appointment that begins February 20th, 2012.

Diane is a senior lecturer in the Faculty. She is currently a member of the Pasifika Research Priorities project and was recently appointed to the PBRF Pacific Research Expert Advisory Group. In 2009 Diane was awarded the Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to the Pacific community and education (MNZM). Congratulations, Diane, from all the members of the NZARE Council.

## Other Exciting News and Developments

A new centre dedicated to raising the achievement of Pasifika students has been officially opened at the University of Canterbury's College of Education.

» <http://www.comsdev.canterbury.ac.nz/rss/news/?feed=news&articleId=302>

The Pasifika Talanoa Centre will be a hub where a community of educators including principals, teachers, community leaders, academics and education advisors, can gather to help develop effective, innovative teaching and learning approaches to enable primary and secondary students to reach their full potential.

The centre will also be a base for professional learning and development to help raise awareness and understanding of Pasifika cultural contexts.



## 2011 EVENTS

### LUNCHTIME SEMINAR

LEADERSHIP PACIFIC AUCKLAND CLUSTER PROUDLY INVITES YOU TO LUNCHTIME SEMINAR was held Friday 28 January, 2011 at Manukau Institute of Technology

Speaker: Professor Keith Walker (University of Saskatchewan, Canada)  
Seminar Title: "Ethics in blue jeans and bumper sticker morality"

Ethics is easier said than done. How do we ( as leaders) make tough personal and professional decisions that will stand the scrutiny of conscience, good consequences and the sustained trust of people who matter to us? This seminar will come alongside attendees to offer some "undressed up" ways and means to make wise and ethical decisions.

## Recent publications & reviews

Coxon, E.. & Samu, T.W. (2010) *Pacific research in education: New directions*. MAI Revi Retrieved February 7, 2011: <http://www.review.mai.ac.nz/index.php/MR/issue/view/15> This issue of MAI Review focuses on education policy and practice for Pasifika communities in Aotearoa New Zealand in the 21st century. It includes 11 papers which provide critically informed, evidence-grounded insights into Pacific Education; and many of the writers are optimistic in offering potential solutions to long-identified issues. The authors in this collection include a number of educators who are well-established as critical

researchers and practitioners in the area of Pacific Education. It also includes papers from emerging researchers, who are characterised by an original and rigorous research approach and a topic of interest and importance.

**Latest book** in the 'Rethinking Pacific Education Initiative' Series:

Sanga, K. & Thaman, K.H. (2009) *Re-thinking Education Curricula in the Pacific: Challenges and Prospects*. Victoria University of Wellington: Wellington. ISBN 978-0-475-12342-8.

In this book, 14 Pacific scholars begin the task of 're-thinking' curriculum in Pacific contexts. The authors critique curriculum for Pacific peoples by questioning underlying assumptions, assessing curriculum reforms, and interrogating policies, processes and practices for inclusivity, contextual embeddedness of values and more. But the book goes further. It offers hopeful prospects. As educators, the authors propose ideas, practices and tested examples of dealing with the challenges of curricula in Pacific contexts. They discuss contextual values, indigenous processes and frameworks, and ways of embedding these within the curriculum. They offer insights on learning, on culturally rooted pedagogies and on research.



This book by Pacific educational leaders is written to educate Pacific curricula specialists, teachers, teacher educators, education policy makers, students and researchers are likely to find gems of insight within its covers.



## 2010 EVENTS

The **Inaugural Pasifika Post-Graduate Hui** was held Thursday 23 September 2010 at Victoria University of Wellington, Pipitea Campus Corner of Featherston, Bunny Streets and Lambton Quay.

Hosted by the Centre for Sāmoan Studies, the **5th Measina a Sāmoa Conference** was held 30 August - 1 September 2010 at the National University, Le Papaigalagala Campus, Sāmoa. The theme chosen for the Conference is; O le Tōfā Mamao a Sāmoa e Malu ai Iona Silafia Fa'asuli, o Iona Si'osiomaga: The Sāmoan Approach to Protecting Indigenous Environmental and Health Knowledges.



## 2009 EVENTS

### **Critiquing Pasifika Education @ the University**

Critiquing Pasifika Education @ the University 2009 Biannual Conference was held at Ngā Horotiu marae, Auckland University of Technology, 1-3 July 2009.

### **Local events**

The Wellington Pacific Leadership Symposium, 7-8 December 2009, Whitireia Community Polytechnic, Porirua, Wellington. Theme: Mobilising a New Generation of Pacific Leaders in Aotearoa



## **Leadership Pacific Vision: To grow 1,000 new generation Pacific leaders by 2015**

On Monday 22 June 2009, members of the VUW Pacific Students Leadership Cluster (with mentors Drs Kabini Sanga and Cherie Chu) gifted to the tangata whenua (indigenous peoples) of Aotearoa New Zealand, the vision of Leadership Pacific, "to grow 1,000 New Generational Leaders by 2015".

In our statement to the Hon Dr Pita Sharples (New Zealand Minister for Maori Affairs) we expressed our appreciation to the Indigenous People of New Zealand for their hospitality and generosity in hosting thousands of Pacific Islands students who have studied in New Zealand over the years. Copies of the book, "Living and Leaving a Legacy of Hope: Stories by New Generation Pacific Leaders" (available at USP Bookshop or Pine.Southon@vuw.ac.nz) were gifted to Dr Sharples and Hon Georgina Te Heuheu (Minister for Pacific Islands Affairs) who was also present.

As members of "Leadership Pacific", we also expressed our hope to the Hon Ministers that students and youth of New Zealand might be inspired by the leadership stories of young Pacific Islanders.

In receiving the gifts, Dr Pita Sharples thanked the Pacific Students Leadership Cluster Members and offered his support for the vision of Leadership Pacific.

### **A New Generation of Pasifika Leaders**

At Victoria University of Wellington, He Parekerekere (Institute for Research and Development in Maori and Pacific Education) is the home for the **Pacific Leadership Cluster**. The Cluster was originally set up in 2006 for Pacific undergraduate students who were keen on furthering their development in leadership. In 2006, four students of Fijian, Papua New Guinean and Niuean descent were involved and the Cluster was mentored by Dr Kabini Sanga and Cherie Chu. Three years later - the Cluster now supports 40 students of varying Pacific, Asian, Maori and Pakeha ethnicities from New Zealand and from across the Pacific region. Leadership is the focus of the Cluster in reaching the vision of "growing 1000 new generation Pacific leaders by 2015". Students are given the opportunity to participate in leadership training, organise conferences, present conference papers to international audiences, publish scholarly work in journals and books and be active in disseminating knowledge through lecture panels and graduate seminars. The students mentor each other as they meet at least once a month with the support of Pine Southon (Te Kura Maori: School Manager). The Cluster is autonomous in the sense that it has no formal funding but is supported with aroha from colleagues (Professor Wally Penetito, Dr Joanna Kidman and Dr Hazel Phillips) at He Parekerekere.

### **Other news**

Congratulations to Dr 'Ana Maui Taufe'ulungaki, the New Director, Institute of Education, University of the South Pacific.

'Oku mau fakamaloo ki he 'Otua mo fakatauange ke nofo'ia koe 'e hono Laumaalie he ngaahi 'aho ni mo e Ta'u Fo'ou pea ke ke ma'u ivi ai pe ki he fatongia mo e ngaau e lahi 'oku ke 'amanaki atu ki aii. Our very best wishes to you Dr 'Ana Maui Taufe'ulungaki from the Pasifika Caucus and all the NZARE Pasifika Membership.

Congratulations to Dr Semisi Manisela Prescott to the Faculty of Business, Auckland University of Technology who graduated with a PhD in Accounting in December 9, 2009. Maloo e ako Semisi, pea 'oku mau talamonuu atu kiate koe mo ho'o ngaau e he Ta'u Fo'ou na.

Through Dr Semisi Prescott, the Faculty of Business provided the venue for The Second Critiquing Pasifika Education@the University Biennial Conference 2009 that was held in July this year. The Pasifika Caucus and Membership wish you well in your career.



## 2008 EVENTS

### NZARE Pasifika Group Award 2008

The Biannual Pasifika Group Award was awarded for research led by Dr Valerie N. Podmore, Victoria University of Wellington, in association with Jan Taouma (Centre Manager), Ene Tapusoa (teacher) and Tanya Wendt-Samu (the facilitator/parent representative) and who comprise the A'oga Fa'a Samoa Research Focus Group.

### Christmas Lunch 2008

On December 12, 2008, Dr Adreanne Ormond and Dr Mere Kepa, the Maori Caucus, hosted Malia Villegas to an evening of Fish and Chips and Ice Cream at Mission Bay, Auckland. Malia, from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, was a Fulbright Scholar and was based at The University of Auckland, Faculty of Education for ten months.

*L-R Margie Taurere, Mere Kepa, Malia Villegas, Kinny Kepa, Morag Pepe and her colleague, Linita Manu'atu (Pasifika Caucus)*



### Critiquing Pasifika Education @ the University – Winter Book Launch

Held 22 August 2008. Special Edition/Special Issue 2008 Critiquing Pasifika Education

*All authors with Prof Michael Walker.*

*Kneeling (L-R): Dr Sailau Suali'i-Sauni (Deputy Director Centre for Pacific Studies, UoA, Conf. Keynote Speaker), Sione Tu'itahi (Guest Speaker), Judy McFall-McCaffery (author), Dr Mere Kepa (Alternative Editorial Committee, author), Dr Chris Tooley (Managing Editor, Alternative Editorial Committee), Phoebe Fletcher (Alternative Journal Co-ordinator).*



### BRCSS Building Pacific Research Capacity and Scholarship Fono

Held 16 – 18 April 2008, Centre for Pacific Studies, The University of Auckland.

### In Memorium

Mr Tupae Munokoa Pepe (aka Kairua), 08 August 1943 – 24 April 2008  
Rakahanga, Cook Islands.

On Wednesday 30 April, many canoes of love were anchored at the Pacific Islands Church Congregation, Newton, Auckland to pay our final tributes to Tupae Munokoa Pepe.



Tupae has been at the forefront of Pasifika Education alongside the diverse migrants from the Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau; Tonga, Samoa and Fiji; and most recently the islands of Tuvalu, Solomons, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea and Kiribati.

Tupae started his career in education in the Primary Sector before he travelled abroad to teach in places such as Saudi Arabia. Upon his return from his OE, Tupae taught in primary schools in Central Auckland. In 1975, he set up the English Language Teaching Unit (ELTU) at the Mount Roskill Grammar School. The ELTU was the first and only project to teach English to the migrants from the Pacific Islands geographic regions. Tupae then moved to the Tertiary Sector where he worked at the Pacific Islands Educational Resource Centre (PIERC, Herne Bay) and later at the Manukau Institute of Technology as the first Pacific Liaison Officer. Tupae's final contribution to Pasifika education was as a researcher for the Koloto & Associates Ltd, Auckland. He is survived by his only daughter, Morag Teina Pepe and whangai, Petini Pepe and John Pepe.

### Pasifika research papers, publications & reviews

Kēpa, M (2008) *Language Matters. A Richer and Curious Approach to Teaching English*. VDM Verlag Dr. Müller Aktiengesellschaft & Co: Germany. ISBN: 978-3-8364-9198-3.

Kēpa, M & Manu'atu, L. (2008). Invitation. Pedagogical Decolonization: Impacts of the European/Pākehā society on the education of Tongan people in Aotearoa-New Zealand. *ABS American Behavioral Scientist Journal*. SAGE:U.S.A 51 (12), 1801-1816 Online ISSN 1552-3381 Print ISSN 0002-7642.

Sanga, K. & Chu, C. (Eds.) (2008). *Living and Leaving a Legacy of Hope: Stories by New Generation Pacific Leaders*. Victoria University of Wellington: Wellington.

This book by 27 New Generation Pacific leaders is visionary. In it, a breed of New Generation Pacific leaders is putting a stake on the ground. They have chosen to be leaders by virtue of their motivation to exercise positive influence and action in their private and public lives. They are assuming ownership of their communities as well as the responsibility for providing leadership for these communities. In reflecting on their life experiences, these younger leaders are learning from their own pasts, building upon proven lessons and purposefully enhancing their own leadership growth.

Written as stories of leadership journeys, this collection is inspirational for all who are interested in leadership and mentoring. Unlike the usual leadership story, those of this collection are not about politicians, traditional leaders or celebrities. Instead, this is about young, ordinary students who are sharing their own leadership stories as children, parents, employees, mentees and mentors. As New Generation leaders, these individuals are recognising, seeking and initiating opportunities to demonstrate leadership in everyday life.

While it is written primarily for Pacific audiences, other readers are also sure to find inspiration in the power of these stories, told in their natural Pacific styles.

Abu-Saad, K., Horowitz, T., & Abu-Saad, I. (2007). Weaving Tradition and Modernity Bedouin Women in Higher Education. *Holy Land Studies A Multidisciplinary Journal*. Volume 7, Number 2 November 2008. p.236. Edinburgh University Press. ISSN 1474-9475. eISSN 1750-0125. Reviewed by Dr Linitā Manu'atu.

Visser, H., Unasa, L., Kennedy, S., & Airini. (2007). *Is your research making a difference to Pasifika education?: Towards guidelines for enhanced Pasifika education research/ policy linkages*. Paper presented at NZARE Conference, Christchurch, 4-7 December.

Airini, Rakena. T., O'Shea, M., Tarawa, M., Sauni, P., Ulugia-Pua, M., Sua-Huirua, T., & Curtis, E. (2007, 5 September). *Success for all in higher education: Improving indigenous and minority student success in degree-level studies*. Paper presented at the British Education Research Association Conference, London, England.

Airini, & Sauni, P. (2004). *Bring only the most beautiful: Towards excellence in adult education pedagogy*. Paper presented at the joint gathering for the Adult Education Research Conference (AERC) and the Association for the Study of Adult Education (CASAE) 2004 Conference, University of Victoria, Canada.

Abu-Saad, K. ,Horowitz, T., & Abu-Saad, I. (2007). *Weaving Tradition and Modernity Bedouin Women in Higher Education*. The Centre for Bedouin Studies & Development Research Unit Center for Regional Development, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel.

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