

**NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH IN EDUCATION**  
**TE HUNGA RANGAHAU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA**

## ***Rae Munro Award 2015***

### ***Dawn Lawrence*** ***University of Waikato***

Dawn Lawrence from the University of Waikato is this year's recipient of the Rae Munro Award. Her thesis, "Conscientisation and Resistance: Experiences from implementing a culturally responsive pedagogy of relations" is a well written, well-structured and methodologically rigorous dissertation that clearly meets the high values specified by the Rae Munro Award.

Dawn's thesis explored how the implementation of a Te Kotahitanga Professional Development cycle supported six secondary school teachers to position themselves discursively within a culturally responsive pedagogy of relations, and the implications this had on their agency to address the disparities that exist for Māori within New Zealand mainstream secondary education. The thesis richly demonstrated principles such as the urge to enquire, concern for others and the desire for self-respect.

Dawn demonstrated an insightful understanding of Kaupapa Māori methodology as she clearly outlined both privileges and responsibilities of her position as manuhiri (visitor). Her respectful positioning in relation to participants also reflected culturally responsive relationship pedagogy. The thesis provided a compelling conclusion that perceptively summated the evolving complexities and notions inherent in the situation and highlighted the challenges faced. The identified implications for schools have been well thought through, justified and discerning.

Dawn is an outstanding and worthy recipient of the 2015 Rae Munro Award.



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