

## Group Research Award 2012

# *The University of Auckland: Success for All*

### Success for All - Research Team Members:

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Non-lecture environments such as tutorials, induction and mentoring programmes, and performance-based classes are commonly-used teaching and learning environments in tertiary education, and compliment the sometimes very large lecture theatre teaching experiences. Yet little was known about the effectiveness and impact of these non-lecture activities for Māori and Pasifika tertiary students' success.

The *Success for All* Project was located in the university faculties of Education, Medical and Health Sciences, and Creative Arts and Industries; and in the university's Career Centre.

The project identified, applied, evaluated and disseminated a range of teaching and learning practices that resonated with the 92 Māori and Pasifika student participants, and with staff.

Through weaving together Kaupapa Māori and Pasifika methodologies, *Success for All* findings have contributed to more authentic understandings of how best to teach and organise teaching to ensure Māori and Pasifika success in degree programmes. Good practice and context-specific

enhancements were put in place at each of the four participating locations.

Importantly, *Success for All* expanded understandings of how to develop research projects aimed at improving equity-focused outcomes in tertiary environments. Foremost among these was placing Māori and Pasifika students at the centre of the research and taking a non-blame, non-victim approach. *Success for All* has also informed the development and practice of Māori and Pasifika research through, for example, Māori and Pasifika researchers being included at every level of decision-making process, and participants being provided with the opportunity to be interviewed in te reo Māori and Pacific nation languages.

The project's life and lessons will be shared through the forthcoming publication by NZCER of '*Uni teaching: Maori and Pasifika stories of uni teaching and student success.*'

A multiplier effect of *Success for All* is that enhanced data collection about Māori and Pasifika success is occurring in other research projects, and further requests have been made for the inclusion of University of Auckland Māori and/or Pasifika researchers on new projects.

