2021

NZARE Group Award

Developing Mathematical Inquiry Communities (DMIC) Hangaia te Urupounamu Pāngarau Mō Tātou group

Massey University

The award is to: The research and development group working in the Developing Mathematical Inquiry Communities (DMIC)|Hangaia te Urupounamu Pāngarau Mō Tātou research and professional development project.

The project is co-led by Cook Island/Aotearoa researchers Professor Roberta Hunter and Associate Professor Jodie Hunter working with Professor Glenda Anthony, Dr Rachel Restani, Generosa Leach, Louise Fitzgerald, Trevor Bills, Dr John Tupouniua and Jennifer James.

The R & D- driven DMIC approach to ambitious mathematics education deliberatively teaches curriculum competencies and embeds values of whakawhanaungatanga; operationalising Pacific values of family, service and respect in teaching and learning. Not only are these researchers providing the theoretical underpinning for the strengths-based shifts in pedagogical practices. They are demonstrating and supporting the change needed in practice. The best evidence in action features highlight the use of translanguaging to shift teacher understanding and respect for the diversity of Pacific learners in Aotearoa classrooms. Perhaps the most critical contribution of the group is the way in which DMIC Hangaia Te Urupounamu Pāngarau Mō Tātou contributes to knowledge building and transformative change across educational knowledge and policy and practice for accelerated and ongoing improvement in practice to scale. As Adreinee Alton-Lee states in her letter of support, "It is a time in our educational history when it has become critical that there is system learning from Māori and Pasifika change expertise in disciplined innovation for equity, excellence, belonging and wellbeing in education". This group is emblematic of such an approach and richly deserving recipients of this award.