

## Pacific SUCCESS Advisor

### Fakaalofa lahi atu

Season's Greetings!  
Welcome to the summer  
edition of Pasifika PRIDE for  
2016. In this issue we  
celebrate the end of the  
academic year and  
congratulate Pacific students  
on their achievement.

We feature a taste of Pacific  
focused activities and events  
at Whitireia. Well done to  
those students who have  
completed their studies this  
year. We are proud of our  
Pacific students success,  
whether you are moving on  
or returning in the new year.  
Merry Christmas to you and  
your family. May the new  
year bring you all peace &  
happiness.

Kia Monuina

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## Pacific Vision

The new Chief Advisor Pacific Strategy, Tae Moala- Mafi Tu'inukuafe, was warmly welcomed at Whitireia in early December. The exciting new role extends across both Whitireia Community Polytechnic and Wellington Institute of Technology (WelTec) and aims at a more strategic and connected view for Pacific participation, retention and performance. Tae was accompanied by family and members of the Tongan community, who shared a beautiful Tongan hymn in support of her new appointment. Tae expressed her thanks and shared her ideas on Pacific participation and success. With her sound knowledge and understanding of Pacific communities she looks forward to the challenge that lies ahead. A large number of Pacific staff from both institutions were in attendance to offer their congratulations. The role sits within the newly formed Strategy, Performance & Improvement Directorate.



Jean Mitaera & Tae Moala- Mafi Tu'inukuafe



Tae Moala- Mafi Tu'inukuafe during her welcome



Cook Islands Language Week 2016

## LIVING languages

The importance of using and maintaining Pacific languages resonated during the celebration of Pacific language weeks this year. Several events were held across Whitireia to recognise our Pacific community connections. A traditional umu was prepared by staff and students as part of Samoa Language Week at the Industry Training Centre. Students from across the campus enjoyed a Samoan feast with the umu also being shared with Porirua Campus. The exchange of Samoan greetings and phrases was encouraged across the student population during

the week.

A small student led celebration was held during Cook Islands Language week. Cook Islands drumming echoed across Porirua Campus as students from the Foundation Education (Health Science) programme shared a short Cook Islands performance. Fellow students, family and members of the Cook Island community joined the students in celebration over music, laughter and kaikai.

Members of our Pacific Community team led a Tokelau language week initiative involving local primary schools. Students participated in workshops on Tokelau language, culture and traditions.

### PACIFIC LANGUAGE WEEKS 2016

The language and cultures of the Pacific are celebrated during the year, to ensure their growth and survival in New Zealand:

#### Samoa Language Week:

29 May– 4 June

#### Te Wiki o Te Reo Maori:

4– 10 July

#### Cook Islands Language Week:

31 July– 6 August

#### Tonga Language Week:

4-10 September

#### Tuvalu Language Week:

25 September– 1 October

#### Fiji Language Week:

3– 9 October

#### Niue Language Week:

16– 22 October

#### Tokelau Language Week:

23– 29 October



Umu preparation for Samoa Language Week



Sharing of Cook Islands Ura

# Social WORLD

Developing the full potential of people, communities & societies.

Bachelor of Social Work third year students were treated to a traditional Cook Islands turou (or welcome) to start the annual prize giving event. The first year student led celebration was part of the curriculum for the new four year degree that was introduced this year. Samoan welcome protocols followed with students performing both Cook Islands and Samoa items. The new Pacific People and their Protocols paper requires students to develop an understanding of Pacific practice within the Aotearoa New Zealand context. Dressed in traditional Tokelau wear, third year student Kirifi Kirifi thanked students for the warm welcome on behalf of his graduating class. Students across the three years were acknowledged for their excellence in all components of the programme. Special prizes were presented to students who excelled in



Year three students are congratulated by Aliitasi Su'a

each paper. The prize giving was of special significance to third year students who have completed their qualification and are moving into the social work industry. A strong group of new Pacific social workers celebrated on behalf of their classmates, families and communities. All third years were dressed in their class t-shirt which has become an annual prize giving tradition. This years t-shirts were emblazoned with the Head, Heart and Hands symbol, in representation of the social work journey they have taken together.

On completion of three years of applied social work study, students are looking forward to taking the next step into the world of social work practice.

## AKO AKE Study Space

Ako Ake is a study space for Pacific & Maori students. The room is located in F014, Entrance 4 at Porirua Campus. Students can access the room until 11pm during the week, while weekend hours are until 6pm by swipe card. The offices of the Pacific & Maori Success Advisors are next door.



Year 1 Bachelor of Social Work students



Kirifi Kirifi gives thanks for the welcome



Happy Year 3 students

## Pacific Community Liaison Team

The Pacific Community Liaison team is responsible for engaging with & developing strong links with our Pacific communities.

**Veronica Vaovasa**– Co-ordinator

**Helen Kisona**– Tokelau Advisor

**Tuaine Robati**– Cook Islands

**Tupe Lualua**– Samoa

The team also liaises with the Tonga, Fiji, Niue and Tuvalu communities & other Pacific people.

## FAKAMAVAE

### Bachelor of Nursing Pacific

A farewell event was held for students completing their nursing studies at Whitireia. Held after their State Final examinations, the celebration was delayed due to the recent earthquakes. The event, which was hosted by Year 1 & 2 students, allowed friends, family and the wider community to celebrate their academic success.



Elenoa Lomani surrounded by fellow Fiji nursing students



Carma Elia, Elizabeth Onosa' & Loma-Linda Tasi



Fun at Fakamavae



Bachelor of Nursing Pacific

# SNAPSHOTS

## Graduations & Farewells



Certificate in Plumbing, Drainlaying, Gasfitting & Roofing students



Bachelor of Information Technology, Industry Project showcase



June Afato, Paula Uritaua, & Jamaika Foause-Uitime



Makameimoana Halapio and his proud family



Angela Sofara & Albert Mariner are congratulated by their family

## Measina Festival

The third Measina Festival returned to its community roots, holding it at Pataka Art + Museum, Porirua. The festival is the brainchild of Whitireia graduates Sasha Gibb, Tupe Lualua & Taofi Mose— Tuiloma of Jandals Inc. and Le Moana. This years festival showcased a collection of contemporary dance, theatre & music. Five exciting works were presented from both local and guest artists including current students and graduates of Whitireia Performing Arts. The festival explored a vast range of traditional and modern concepts, with new works being presented at the event. We look forward to what next years collection brings.



Performing Arts students in Portugal

## POLY Movement

### Kaikanikani

A new 8 part web series by Flax Productions features the highs and lows of students from the Bachelor of Applied Arts (Performing Arts) programme this year. Launched on 6 December the series showcases the unique study of four dance genre; Maori, Cook Islands, Samoa and Contemporary. Poly Movement Kaikanikani follows the lives of the students on and off stage. This year the troupe travelled to

Portugal and proved to be wonderful ambassadors of both Whitireia and New Zealand. The production crew travelled with the group as they participated at three international dance festivals. Fresh from the successful international tour the students dove back into fulltime dance study preparing for final assessments & graduation season. A weekly episode will be released every Tuesday via Facebook.



Class of 2016– Performing Arts



Nuhaka Numanga, Jayden Luapo & Paris Evans



[facebook.com/ Whitireia Pacific Success](https://www.facebook.com/WhitireiaPacificSuccess)

# Trades TRANSITION

Maori & Pacific Trades Training Scholarships is a fees free initiative that provides Māori and Pasifika people with pre-trades training.

A celebration event was held recently for recipients of the Pacific Trades Training Scholarships who have successfully completed their programmes of study. The fees free scholarships were offered in a number of full and half year programmes within the Faculty of Trades and Services this year. Hosted by Pacific Ministers, the Fa'afetai & Fa'amalo provided the opportunity for the community to congratulate them on their success. Students were commended on their achievement and provided well wishes as they move into the industry.



Certificate in Auto Engineering (Advanced) graduates



Faagaloetisone Key, Sam Atoni & Azaria- Lily Felagai



Maori & Pacific Trades Training students at the Fa'afetai & Fa'amalo



# Catch Up with CHRIS

Merry Christmas and warm Pacific greetings to you all.

The year 2016 has been another great one for Whitireia and I am immensely proud of what our staff and students have achieved. Pacific students continue to have great success in their studies at Whitireia and this was evident at recent graduations where their communities celebrate this success. A highlight for the year for me was the opportunity to attend the Tupou Tertiary Institute graduation in Tonga.

If the end of the year marks the end of

your time with Whitireia, I trust it has been a rewarding experience and extend my very best wishes for your future endeavours.

I look forward to 2017 as we continue to help our communities achieve their educational goals. Wishing you and your family an enjoyable festive season and a safe & Happy New Year.

**Chris Gosling**  
Chief Executive

## Whitireia LIFE



Graduation smiles



National Certificate in Mental Health & Addiction Support



Turi Tulepu & family



Certificate in Foundation Education (Health Science)