



Building Pacific Success Across New Zealand's universities Universities New Zealand Te Pōkai Tara

Komiti Pasifika Strategic Priorities 2022 - 2024

Aotearoa Pacific people and Māori as Tangata whenua

Komiti Pasifika acknowledges Māori as Tangata Whenua, the indigenous peoples of Aotearoa New Zealand and the unique rights and roles they have under Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Both indigenous Pacific Peoples of Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa (the Pacific Ocean) and Māori share genealogical and ancestral links that long predate European settlement here in Aotearoa. Indigenous people of the Pacific in Aotearoa New Zealand have a unique history and standing, emphasis across government and sectors place importance on Pacific communities as a priority equity group.

We have seen a shift across the education sector, realising the difference between both Māori and Pacific across education agencies and organisations; understanding that the solutions needed to uplift our communities are nuanced, complex and the equity lens is used to find solutions best served by our communities.

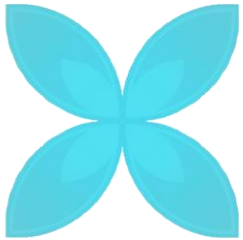
We share these strategic priorities emphasising indigenous Pacific communities in Aotearoa New Zealand as an equity group across the university and wider education sector, whilst understanding the *vā* and space between indigenous peoples of Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa and Māori as Tangata Whenua.

About

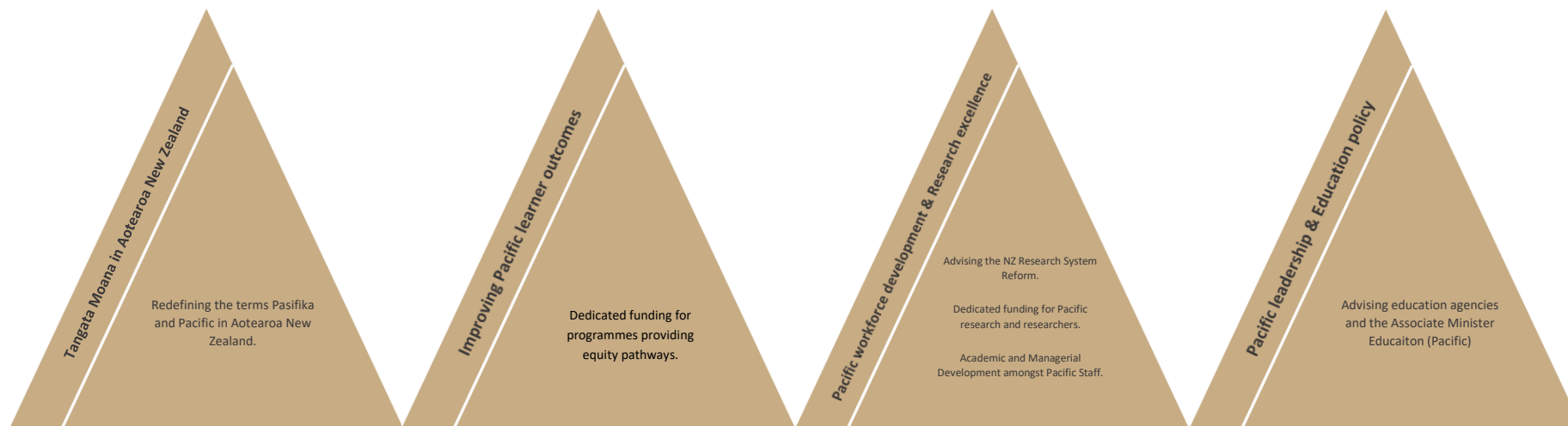
Komiti Pasifika consists of the most senior representative for Pacific across New Zealand's eight universities. The role of Komiti Pasifika is to provide Universities New Zealand Te Pōkai Tara and the New Zealand Vice-Chancellors Committee (NZVCC) with advice and input around decisions, policies and outcomes pertaining to Pacific university students, staff, and Pacific scholarship. Komiti Pasifika have developed this strategic work to work on university sector wide issues and solutions affecting Pacific peoples, and that contribute to Universities New Zealand Te Pōkai Tara and its priorities.

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The conch shell or *pu* (in Sāmoa & Hawai'i), or *pupu* (in Tahitian, Marquesan and Te Reo Māori) is used across Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa as a call to people, villages and communities to gather. For Komiti Pasifika, this frames our collective call to action for building Pacific success across New Zealand's universities. We are committed to advising, contributing, and advocating for systemic change across the education sector, benefitting our Pacific learners, staff, and communities.



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Contribute to the wider discussion on equity for Pacific peoples in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Advise clarification on the terminology 'Pacific' and 'Pasifika' across the university sector and its inclusivity of indigenous peoples from across Polynesia, Melanesia and Micronesia, and acknowledging our connection to Māori and the Pacific region.

Work with education agencies to improve the delivery and effectiveness of equity funding to maximise benefits for Pacific learners across the university sector, to increase appropriate and consistent reporting processes, and to ensure appropriate resourcing.

Continue contributing to the Te Ara Paerangi NZ Research System 'Green Paper' and 'White Paper' under MBIE.

Advise and support education agencies on ensuring that funding for Pacific research and researchers is dedicated to their growth, and that appropriate reporting is done to measure impact and success of equity funding.

Contribute to systemic growth and development of Pacific academic, research and professional staff numbers, capability, and leadership across the university sector.

Provide leadership and expertise on sector priorities and issues pertaining to Pacific people.

Continue building and developing their relationship with the Associate Minister Education (Pacific) and Pacific education agencies such as MOE, TEC & NZQA on policies, initiatives and work pertaining to Pacific learners across the sector.