

waka kuaka

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Radilaite Cammock is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Public Health and Interdisciplinary Studies at Te Wānanga Aronui o Tāmaki Makau Rau | Auckland University of Technology (AUT). She is involved in undergraduate and postgraduate Pacific health and public health teaching within AUT's Faculty of Health and Environmental Studies. Her research interests lie in Pacific health and more specifically the intersection of shifting sociocultural factors on a range of health issues, including Pacific noncommunicable diseases and sexual and reproductive health. Radilaite currently leads the Health Research Council of New Zealand-funded Food Haven Project as well as the Let's Talk About It project, focused on the sexual and reproductive health education of Pacific youth. The development of appropriate Pacific research methods and designs is instrumental in her work within Pacific health and public health.

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Sierra Keung is currently the Pasifika Strategic Development lead for the School of Sport and Recreation at Te Wānanga Aronui o Tāmaki Makau Rau | Auckland University of Technology. She has worked within the athlete development space across Aotearoa New Zealand, Australia and the USA. Her research projects have focused on athlete talent development, athlete wellbeing, coaching, concussion, sport leadership and youth sport development. She has consulted with sport organisations, primarily New Zealand Rugby League and New Zealand Rugby Union, and sport practitioners. She is a member of the Pacific and Māori in Sport research group and of the Board of Directors for Tavake Pasifika and is the Research and Insights lead for Whānau Tahi USA. Sierra is in the game of building capability and growing capacity within Māori and Pacific community through sport. She is an advocate for creating space for Indigenous thought leadership to support Māori and Pacific athletes, their families and their communities in their need to thrive, regardless of the "field" they play on.

Nina Kononenko is a Research Associate in Geosciences and Archaeology, Australian Museum, and an Honorary Associate, Department of Archaeology, School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Sydney. She completed her first PhD project, on Neolithic stone tool technology, in 1982 in Leningrad at the Russian Academy of Sciences, and her second PhD project on Holocene obsidian tool functions from West New Britain, Papua New Guinea, in 2008 at ANU. Her current research is focused on the reconstruction of ancient technology, subsistence practices, domestic and social activities in the Pacific and Australia based on experimental replication of tool function, and microscopic use-wear/residue analysis of stone, bone, shell and glass artefacts from prehistoric and historic sites held at museums as well as from excavated sites in Australia and the Pacific.

Marcia Leenen-Young is a Senior Lecturer in Pacific Studies at Te Wānanga o Waipapa at Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland. She completed a PhD in ancient history and has since transitioned to focus on the history of the Pacific. Her research interests include the historical relationship between Aotearoa New Zealand and the Pacific, Indigenous Pacific ways of telling history, Pacific research methodologies and Pacific pedagogies. Marcia has received a number of awards for her teaching excellence in tertiary education, including national recognition with a Te Whatu Kairangi Award in 2022 alongside an Enhancing Pacific Learners' Success Endorsement. Marcia is also the first editor of *Waka Kuaka: The Journal of the Polynesian Society* who is of Pacific descent.

Marama Muru-Lanning is an Associate Professor of Anthropology and Co-director of the James Henare Māori Research Centre at Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland. Her research is dedicated to transdisciplinary research with Māori communities that prioritises equity and social justice. What distinguishes Marama internationally as a social scientist is her specialisation in four interrelated areas of research: water, human–environment relationships, mātauranga 'Māori knowledge' and transdisciplinary research methods. Over the past five years she has also developed a passion and advanced new approaches and methods for conducting research with kaumātua 'Māori elders' with colleagues from the James Henare Māori Research Centre. In 2021, Marama was awarded the University of Auckland Research Excellence Medal for Team Leadership. Marama is from Tūranga-wae-wae Marae in Ngāruawahia, a place that is a potent living memorial to the many Waikato people taken by the Spanish flu pandemic of 1918. She has whakapapa that connects her to Waikato, Ngāti Maniapoto and Ngāti Whātua. Marama is also President of the Council of the Polynesian Society.

Takuya Nagaoka earned his PhD from Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland with a dissertation on the household and settlement pattern archaeology of the late prehistoric–early historic period in Roviana, the Solomon Islands, in 2012. In 2014, he took the initiative to found the NGO Pasifika Renaissance (serving as Executive Director). His specialties are Oceanic archaeology and area studies and his main geographic focuses are Micronesia and the Solomon Islands.

Pandora Fulimalo Pereira is the Curator of the Pacific and World collections at Tāmaki Paenga Hira | Auckland War Memorial Museum. Fuli's areas of research are the expressions of culture and identity through Pacific textiles, jewellery and fashion, and she has a strong interest in atoll material culture. Her curatorial practice strives to decentre the museum and reposition source communities as authority with agency. Fuli's selected publications include *Pacific Jewelry and Adornment* (with Roger Neich, University of Hawai'i Press, 2004), *Pacific Art Niu Sila: The Pacific Dimension of Contemporary New Zealand Arts* (co-edited with Sean Mallon, Te Papa Press, 2002) and "Arts Specific: Pacific Peoples and New Zealand's Arts" (in *Tangata o le Moana: New Zealand and the People of the Pacific*, Te Papa Press, 2012).

Robert Marunui Iki Pouwhare (Ngāti Haka–Tūhoe) is a television director/producer and app developer with 40 years of production experience in broadcasting. He has produced, researched and written documentaries, children's programmes and 2D/3D

animation series. As an artist he has exhibited paintings and a sculptural installation at Te Papa Tongarewa | The National Museum of New Zealand and the Wellington Art Gallery. He has also composed music and is the lyricist for over 50 original songs aimed at kōhanga reo ‘Māori language immersion preschool’ children in a concerted effort at language revitalisation. Robert is a fluent Māori speaker from the Tūhoe tribe. This environment has driven his commitment to the revivifying and extending of the Māori language and culture, spanning his entire adult life. It informs his teaching in the academy at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. His pedagogical concerns centre on the creation of learning environments that value cultural knowledge and beliefs. He believes that artistic practice-led research opens up new and exciting possibilities for his research, writing and Indigenous scholarship. Robert is a Co-director of the James Henare Māori Research Centre at the Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland and is a member of the Council of the Polynesian Society.

Callan Ross-Sheppard is a doctoral candidate at the Anthropology Department of McGill University. Their current research focuses on the archaeology of lead-glazed ceramic wares, particularly those in use among Kitan/Liao-period communities in northeastern China and French colonial sites in Eastern Canada.

Peter Sheppard is an Emeritus Professor of Anthropology, School of Social Sciences, Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland, having joined the academic staff in 1992 and retired in 2021. He has conducted archaeological research in the Solomon Islands since 1989 when, as a postdoctoral fellow, he was sent by Roger Green to Malaita to locate sources of chert found in the Lapita sites of Temotu Province. Returning to the Solomon Islands in 1996 he began a series of projects with his students and colleagues that involved survey and excavation throughout the islands of the Western Province. In 2009 he turned to the eastern Solomons, where he carried out field studies on Santa Ana, followed by research on Santa Cruz in Temotu Province with re-excavation and dating of the SE-SZ-8 Lapita site originally excavated by Green. Much of this work is summarised in the first monograph-length survey of Solomon Island archaeology, *Archaeology of the Solomon Islands* (University of Otago Press, University of Hawai‘i Press), which he published with Richard Walter in 2017. Peter is also Co-editor of the journal *Archaeology in Oceania* with Peter White.

El-Shadan Tautolo’s primary area of research expertise is the health and well-being of Pacific families and communities in New Zealand. As current Director of the Pacific Islands Families (PIF) study, an ongoing birth cohort study of 1,398 Pacific families, El-Shadan has investigated a diverse range of health and development-related topics encompassing child and maternal health, tobacco control, men’s health and mental wellbeing. He has led and collaborated on research projects funded through the Health Research Council of New Zealand, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and the National Science Challenges totalling in excess of NZ\$20 million. In addition to his leadership within the university, El-Shadan holds significant leadership roles nationally and internationally within the Pacific health sector and the broader Pacific community. Through his role as Chair of the

Health Research Council's Pacific Health Research Committee, he has contributed to developing initiatives which provide funding to support the advancement of Pacific health researchers, from early career and emerging through to established levels.

Lisa Uperesa is a Senior Lecturer in Pacific Studies at Te Wānanga o Waipapa at Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland. She holds a PhD in anthropology and her research and teaching interests include transnational mobilities in the Pacific and beyond; sport, gender and community; US empire; and race, culture and indigeneity. She is the author of *Gridiron Capital: How American Football Became a Samoan Game* (Duke University Press, 2022). She serves as the Honorary Secretary of the Council of the Polynesian Society and is a former Chair of the Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania.

Sione Vaka hails from the Kingdom of Tonga and migrated to New Zealand in 1999. He has been working in different areas of mental health including acute, crisis services, early interventions, liaison psychiatry and cultural services. Sione's research interests are mental health, Pacific health, men's health and youth health. Sione completed his PhD in which he explored meanings of mental distress amongst Tongan people. He is also engaged in numerous community groups and strongly advocates for Pacific worldviews and voices.

Rafał Wieczorek is an Assistant Professor in an archaeometry lab at the University of Warsaw. For over a decade he has been researching and publishing works on the rongorongo writing system of Rapa Nui (Easter Island) as well as on the general iconography of Rapa Nui with particular interest in the wooden carvings of the pre-contact culture. He received his PhD from Roma Tre University and has previously conducted research work on different projects in Italy, the UK, Denmark and the USA.

