

# LEVEL UP FOR PASIFIKA STUDENT SUCCESS!

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MIT PASIFIKA DEVELOPMENT OFFICE



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# Manukau Institute of Technology

- Largest provider of education to Pasifika students nationally.
- Main campuses are located in the heart of South Auckland where the population is young, brown and talented.
- MIT is Auckland's only category one ITP provider.
- MIT Graduates earn on average more than any other ITP Tertiary Degree Graduate, and after 5 years earn on average more than any other graduate from University or ITP.
- MIT is proud of its students and its history and want to share more of its success stories with the community.
- Although some good progress has been made, there is more work to do.



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# Manukau Institute of Technology

## ▶ Student Participation

**14,545**  
*Total enrolled students*

**6,532**  
*EFTS  
(Equivalent Full-Time Student)*

STUDENTS  
UNDER 25<sup>+</sup>

49%

PASIFIKA  
STUDENTS<sup>+</sup>

37%

MĀORI  
STUDENTS<sup>+</sup>

18%

\*Not mutually exclusive.

EFTS weighted SAC calculation.

*5381 Pasifika students*



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# How do we LEVEL UP?

What is needed for Pasifika student SUCCESS?

What are our key theories of improvement?

What would this look like in practice?



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# MIT Key Theories of Improvement

1. Growing **Pasifika leadership** and capability
2. Development of a **comprehensive Pasifika evidence base** which identifies what is working and/or not working for Pasifika students MIT wide and across campuses, schools and programmes.
3. Using **evidence-based strategic approaches / targeted interventions** to strengthen MIT staff Pasifika capability and improve student outcomes.
4. Quality **Teaching & Learning** including **culturally responsive curriculum design and pedagogy.**  
**Promoting vocational pathways as a valued education pathway for Pasifika.**
5. Early **intervention and support** for Pasifika learners
6. Family and **community involvement & engagement** in tertiary education



# Growing Pasifika Staff and Leaders across the institute



# Pasifika Development Office



**Deputy CE Pasifika**  
Peseta Sam Lotu-liga

**Executive Assistant**  
Henry Hiko

**Internal Relations  
Manager**  
Utufaasisili  
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**Pasifika Partners**  
Dr Benita Simati-Kumar  
*(Manukau)*  
Edmond Fehoko  
*(Technology Park)*  
Melvin Apulu  
*(Otago)*

**PDO Administrator**  
Jen Lapa



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# Developing systems to ensure Pasifika voices inform MIT wide continuous improvement

- **Pasifika DCE**, Pasifika Development Office
- Pasifika staff network – Fono Tagata Pasifika
- MIT Pasifika Community Advisory Board
- MIT Pasifika Community Forums – Church ministers, community leaders, educators, youth
- Pan-Pacific and ethnic specific engagement
- **Pasifika Academic Sub Committee**
- *Pasifika Student Voice Networks*





# Early intervention and targeted support

## *Hokule'a project* (2018)

Aim: Improving outcomes for Maori and Pasifika learners

This initiative combines together strands to specifically target and increase support for all Maori and Pasifika students, particularly those with a higher range of needs.

Hokule'a seeks to solve issues for students before they become a problem (financial, transport, pastoral, academic etc.)



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# *Hokule'a*

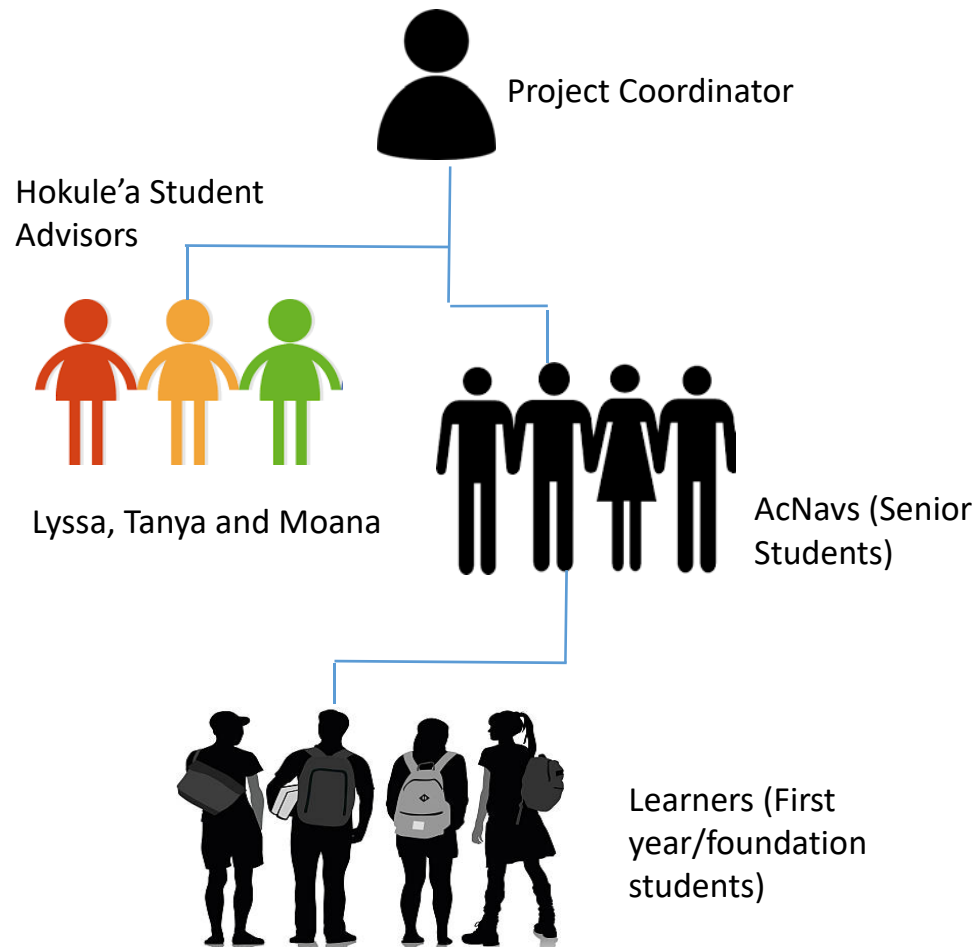
**What:** A tool was developed which allows new students to disclose their needs. Could be as simple as starting a Study link application to more complex and high needs, for example, students have temporary housing or are currently rough sleeping.

**Purpose:** To enable and empower students to be “study ready” prior to their first day aiding in student success. Ongoing support includes greater pastoral, academic and cultural assistance.

**Who:** 10 Technology Park programmes where parity needs are greater. High proportion EFTS of Maori and Pasifika within our Trades programmes



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# Progress so far

## ***Increased Student Advisor to Tech Park Students Ratio***

- 372 Maori and Pasifika across the focus programmes = 1: 124

## ***Increased family engagement***

- Maori and Pasifika whanau/aiga hui/fono x2 per year- Feb & July
- Purpose: To connect students and their whanau to the institute and ensure that Maori and Pasifika learners and their families are comprehensively on-boarded, in warm and culturally relevant ways.

## ***Increased academic support***

- Establishment of Academic Navigators (AcNav)
- Peer to peer, 3 hours per week
- Creating a learning environment where students can study together and succeed together.



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# Next steps

- Use data collected to identify potential data sets for 2019
- Utilise AI and data analytics (where available)
- Continue to support our priority learners within Tech Park to achieve closing the parity gap.



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# Quality Teaching & Learning for Pasifika

## ***Responsive curriculum development***

- Programme development/re-design
- Embedding Pasifika principles within the curriculum
- Relevant, authentic and engaging Pasifika themes

## ***Culturally responsive pedagogy***

- ‘Knowing thyself’
- Exploring values and beliefs
- High expectations, high support for Pasifika
- Equity – what’s good for Pasifika is good for NZ!
- Pasifika pedagogies in practice



# MIT Va Moana Cultural Competency Framework

## **WHY:**

Developing and strengthening cultural competency is a key lever for raising Pasifika student achievement

## **WHAT:**

Series of tailored workshops and modules to support staff to effectively engage, teach and learn from and with Pasifika students

## **HOW:**

Based on data and evidence, a targeted approach has been developed – priority areas will be supported first focusing on academic staff. High performing areas of practice will be used as case studies of best practice with relevant staff leading and contributing to these workshops.



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# MIT Va Moana Cultural Competency Framework





*For more information, please contact us:*

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