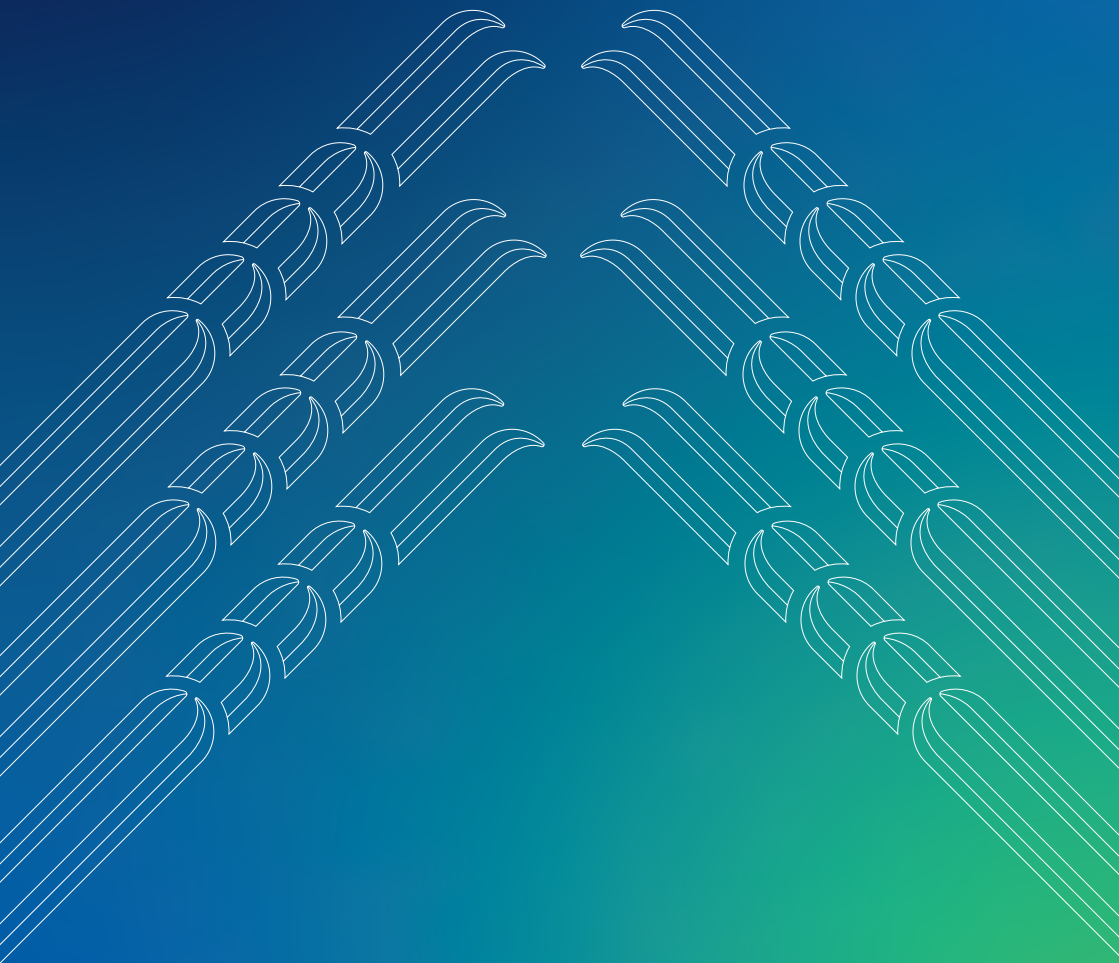


# The New Zealand Economics Competition

2025 Awards Presentation Ceremony



Waipapa  
Taumata Rau  
**University  
of Auckland**

Friday, 17 October 2025  
The University of Auckland  
Business School  
Department of Economics

# New Zealand Economics Competition 2025

**Welcome to the New Zealand Economics Competition 2025 Awards presentation ceremony.**

The New Zealand Economics Competition has grown in size and reputation since its inception in 1997 and has been administered by the Department of Economics at The University of Auckland Business School since 2008.

The Competition is the largest and most prestigious one of its kind for secondary school students. The fifty-minute examination paper contains fifty multiple-choice questions that test both classroom theory and general knowledge of current economic issues.

This year more than 2500 students from 69 schools throughout New Zealand entered the Competition. Tonight is an opportunity to recognise some of the students who have achieved outstanding performances.

We also wish to express our gratitude to the teachers and principals, without whose contribution the Competition would not be possible.

The 2025 New Zealand Economics Competition is sponsored by The University of Auckland Business School and is aimed not only at providing motivation to secondary school students to study economics, but also encouraging the pursuit of tertiary studies in economics.

For more information about the New Zealand Economics Competition:

[visit our webpage](#)

[or email us:](#)

[econcomp@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:econcomp@auckland.ac.nz)



# Programme outline

**6pm** Arrival & Refreshments

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**7pm** Ceremony Commences -  
Opening Remarks  
Professor of Experimental  
Economics Ananish Chaudhuri,  
Competition Coordinator

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**7.05pm** Welcome Address  
Professor Prasanna Gai  
Head of Department of Economics

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**7.15pm** Acknowledging Academic  
Excellence  
Andrew Patterson, Deputy Dean,  
Faculty of Business & Economics

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**7.20pm** Te Ūnga Kairuruku - Greetings  
Natalie Wilson  
Schools & Community Recruitment  
Adviser

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**7.30pm** Awards announced

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High Distinction Awards  
for Top 10% and Notable Students

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**7.50pm** Guest Address  
Paul Conway  
Chief Economist at the Reserve  
Bank of New Zealand

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**8.10pm** Awards Presentation: Cash Prize  
Winners

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Presentation of High Distinction  
Awards with cash prizes for  
meritorious academic performance

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**8.25pm** Awards Presentation:  
National Winners

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Celebrating our national award  
winners with formal trophy  
presentations

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**8.30pm** Joint Presentation by MADE &  
Economics Society

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**8.35pm** Closing of ceremony  
Associate Professor Asha  
Sundaram  
Deputy Head of Department

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# New Zealand Economics Competition Award Presentation Ceremony

## Guest speaker



### **PAUL CONWAY**

Chief Economist, Reserve Bank of New Zealand

Paul is Director of Economics and Chief Economist at the Reserve Bank of New Zealand, a position he has held since May 2022. Prior to this, he was Chief Economist at BNZ and spent seven years as Director of Economics and Research at the New Zealand Productivity Commission, where he led work on firm-level productivity and the challenges businesses face in adopting new technologies. He has also held senior roles at the OECD and worked with the World Bank, bringing extensive international experience to his economic insights. Paul began his career as an economist at the Reserve Bank after completing his studies at the University of Otago and Victoria University of Wellington. A respected voice in New Zealand's policy landscape, Paul is a strong advocate for improving productivity as a foundation for higher wages, stronger economic performance, and better public services.

## University of Auckland Staff



### **ANDREW PATTERSON**

Deputy Dean, University of Auckland – Faculty of Business & Economics | Professional Teaching Fellow

Andrew Patterson is Deputy Dean of the University Auckland Business School and a Professional Teaching Fellow in Management & International Business. His specialist areas are negotiation, conflict-resolution, and teaching & learning. He has 20 years of experience and is the recipient of five UABS excellence awards and a Wharton-QS Reimagine Education award. He has shared his work and participated in forums abroad, including at Wharton Business School and the Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School, represented the university at international conferences, and delivered classes in several places including Renmin University of China, Beijing, HEC Lausanne and University of St. Gallen, Switzerland. He also engages in external strategic negotiation consulting.



### **PRASANNA GAI MPhil, DPhil**

Professor | Head of Department

Prasanna is Head of Department and Professor of Macroeconomics at the University of Auckland. His research applies network and game theory to financial crises, with publications in *The Review of Financial Studies*, *Economic Journal*, *Journal of Monetary Economics*, *Journal of International Economics*, and *Proceedings of the Royal Society (A)*. He has authored two Oxford University Press books on crises and systemic risk. Holding degrees from Oxford and ANU, he is a member of New Zealand's Monetary Policy Committee and FMA Board. His past roles include positions at the Bank of England, ANU, Bank of Canada, and European Systemic Risk Board.



**ASHA SUNDARAM *MPhil, MA, PhD***

Associate Professor | Deputy Head

Asha is an Associate Professor at the Department of Economics, Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Auckland. She has an MPhil in Economics from the University of Oxford, United Kingdom and a PhD in Economics from Syracuse University, United States. Her research interests are in the fields of International Trade and Development Economics. Topics she works on include the role of networks in international trade and the impact of globalisation on labour markets and firms. She has consulted for international organizations like the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank and research institutions like the Peterson Institute of International Economics and the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA).



**ANANISH CHAUDHURI *PhD***

Professor | Competition Coordinator

Ananish is Professor of Experimental Economics at the University of Auckland, where he served as Chair of the Department of Economics from 2013 to 2019. He is the author of several critically acclaimed books, including *Nudged into Lockdown? Behavioural Economics*, *Uncertainty and Covid-19* (Edward Elgar), *Behavioural Economics and Experiments* (Routledge), and *Experiments in Economics: Playing Fair with Money* (Routledge), the latter two of which has also been translated into Chinese.

In 2021, he edited the volume *A Research Agenda for Experimental Economics* (Edward Elgar), offering a comprehensive overview of promising areas for future research in the field. Ananish has published extensively in top-tier academic journals, including *Nature Human Behaviour*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Economic Journal*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Experimental Economics*, and *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*.

He currently serves as Senior Editor of *Oxford Open Economics*, a pioneering open-access journal from Oxford University Press – the first of its kind in the field of economics.



**SANKET SEN BA (H), MSc**

Doctoral Candidate & Teaching Fellow | Competition Coordinator

Sanket is a PhD candidate in the University of Auckland Business School, where he conducts research on the social implications of economic inequality. Using methods from behavioural and experimental economics, he investigates how different dimensions of inequality influence people's behaviour and attitudes in areas such as cooperation, trust and punitiveness. He has a strong academic background in economics, with a B.A.(H) degree from the University of Delhi, India and a fully funded M.Sc. degree from the University of Nottingham, U.K. He is also passionate about teaching and has gained valuable experience as a graduate teaching assistant as well as a lecturer for several economics and management courses. Besides his academic and professional pursuits, he is a passionate photographer who loves to capture the beauty of nature and culture.



**HANNIE HUANG BA (H), MSc**

Doctoral Candidate | Competition Administrator

Hannie is a PhD candidate in Economics at the University of Auckland. Hannie's research interests are in the fields of macroeconomics, economic growth, and innovation, with a specific focus on the use of data in the digital economy. Her current research explores the relationship between privacy concerns and economic growth through the data channel. She also serves as a graduate teaching assistant for several economics and management courses. Previously, she worked as a research assistant at the New Zealand Asia Institute at the University of Auckland and the Social Development and Public Policy Research Centre at Shenzhen University. Hannie holds a MSc in Economics from the University of Macau.

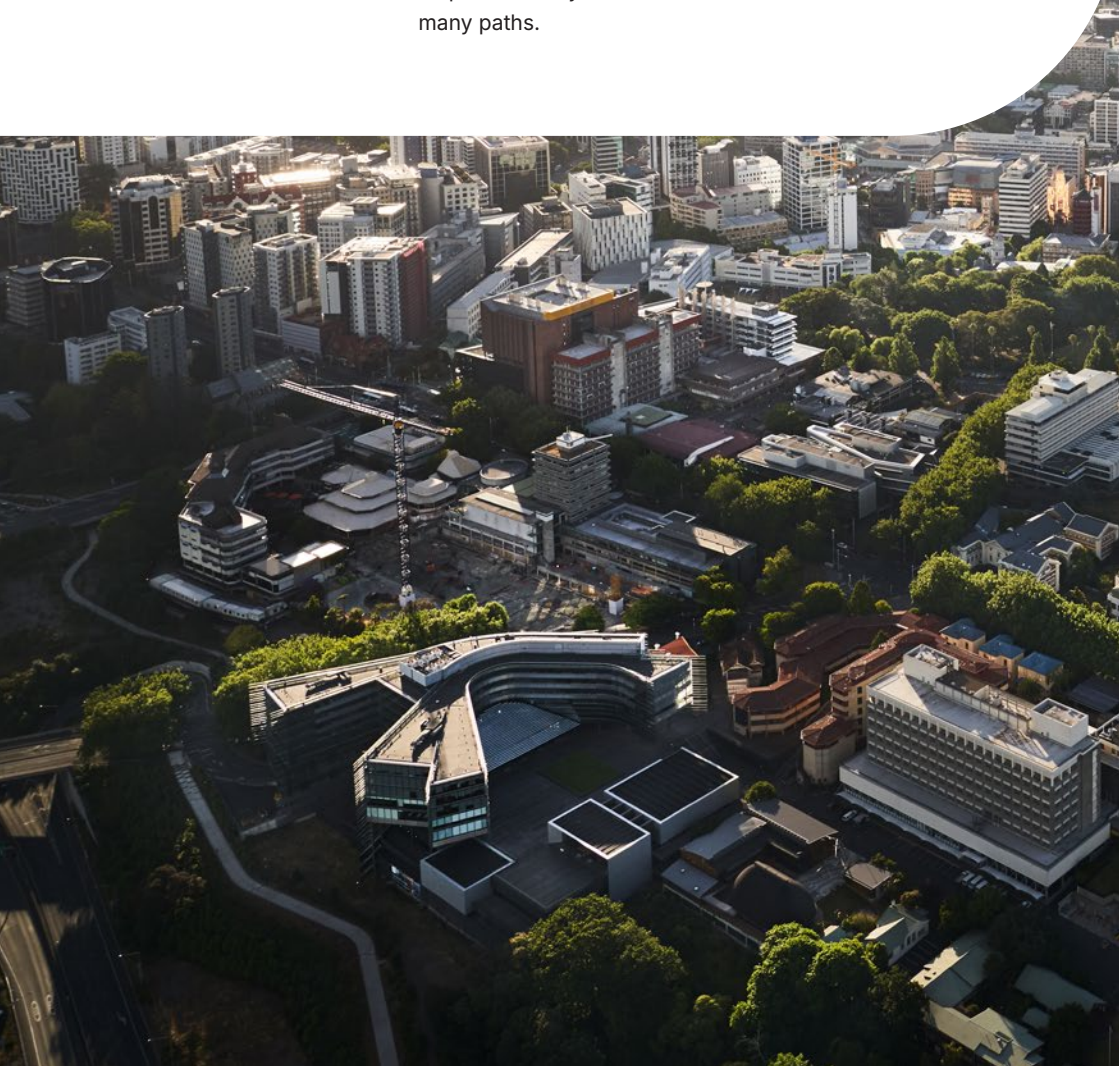




## NATALIE WILSON

Te Ūnga Kairuruku | Schools & Community Recruitment  
Adviser, University of Auckland

Natalie is part of the Schools and Community Engagement Team at Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland, where she helps students open new doors and discover what uni life could look like. A UoA grad herself, she now works in marketing and communications and delights in showing young people just how many directions one subject — like economics — can lead you. University helped Natalie unlock her potential and find her passion for connecting people with new opportunities — much like economics, it opened her eyes to how one choice can lead to many paths.







# High Distinction Awards

Name	School	Year
Aran Chen	ACG Parnell College	13
Allen Weng	ACG Parnell College	13
Hamish Carr	ACG Parnell College	13
Daniel Luo	ACG Parnell College	13
Lucas Tian	ACG Parnell College	13
Jia Guo	ACG Parnell College	13
Bonnie Li	ACG Parnell College	13
Wayne Zhuang	ACG Parnell College	13
Mattheo Lanza	ACG Parnell College	13
Eluna Zhang	ACG Parnell College	13
Lucas Xu	ACG Parnell College	13
Luke Wang	ACG Parnell College	13
Ben Oscar Lee	ACG Parnell College	13
Jason Luo	ACG Parnell College	13
Alex Yang	ACG Parnell College	12
Matthew Xu	ACG Parnell College	12
Cecelia Guo	ACG Parnell College	12
Yunhao Lu	ACG Parnell College	12
Mark Liu	ACG Parnell College	12
Jerry Shi	ACG Parnell College	12
Zoe Huang	ACG Parnell College	12
Haidan Yan	ACG Parnell College	12
Alicia Yang	ACG Parnell College	12
Yixuan Zhong	ACG Parnell College	12
Jaeryeong Kim	ACG Parnell College	12
Ai Jia Li	ACG Parnell College	11
Ethan Ning	ACG Parnell College	11
Yihan Yang	ACG Parnell College	11
Annie Li	ACG Parnell College	11
Cheng Yu Li	ACG Parnell College	11

Jimmy Zhang	ACG Parnell College	11
Leo Wicks	ACG Strathallan College	13
Connor O'Brein	ACG Strathallan College	13
Ruby Richardson	Aquinas College	13
Joseph Minkhorst	Aquinas College	13
CJ Flavell	Aquinas College	13
Aaryan Maganlal	Auckland Grammar School	13
Adam Andrews	Auckland Grammar School	13
Nicholas Lum	Auckland Grammar School	13
Callum Monk	Auckland Grammar School	13
Lucas An	Auckland Grammar School	13
Clarke Maxwell	Auckland Grammar School	13
Toby King	Auckland Grammar School	12
Joseph Grant	Auckland Grammar School	12
Morgan Frost	Auckland Grammar School	12
Aarush Kumar	Auckland Grammar School	12
Bella Jarview	Baradene College of the Sacred Heart	12
Justin Zhang	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Sophia Ahmadi	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Lily Kobket	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Alan Yang	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Jeandre De Kock	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Sharon He	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Caleb Power	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Caleb Vishnand	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Kian Tan	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Vivian Kovac	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Marco Haoju He	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Nina Chen	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Mia Wang	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Rachael Elgin	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Sam Allan	Burnside High School	13

Bobby Li	Burnside High School	13
Bill Li	Christ's College	12
Aimee Li	Diocesan School for Girls	13
Jenny Seo	Diocesan School for Girls	13
Evie Hope	Diocesan School for Girls	13
Linda Qian	Diocesan School for Girls	12
Wynn Choi	Epsom Girls Grammar School	12
Jacob Bryant	Glendowie College	13
Jamie Cartwright	Glendowie College	13
Hugo Curley	Glendowie College	13
Mason Bowker	Hamilton Boys High School	13
Conor McCormack	Hamilton Boys High School	13
Daniel Thirtle	Hamilton Boys High School	13
Jonathan Crowther	Hamilton Boys High School	13
John Huang	Hamilton Boys High School	12
Marcus Ridge	Hamilton Boys High School	12
Joseph Guo	Hamilton Boys High School	12
Kirtan Patel	Hamilton Boys High School	12
Josh Appleton	Hamilton Boys High School	12
Orlando Hardie	Hamilton Boys High School	12
Jayden Ward	Hamilton Boys High School	12
Nathan Rivers	Hamilton Boys High School	12
Nicholas Seel	Hamilton Boys High School	12
Ben Moutter	King's College	13
Ben Stuart	King's College	13
Oscar Spary	King's College	13
Oliver (Ollie) Smith	King's College	13
Reuben Smith	King's College	13
Ben Lawson	King's College	13
Tom Boucher	King's College	13
Cassandra Lu	King's College	12
Jacob Johnston	Kristin School	13
May Peng	Kristin School	13

Shayan Tabatabaei Ardekani	Kristin School	13
Mina Zhang	Kristin School	13
Sabrina Liu	Kristin School	12
Junyi Guo	Kristin School	12
Aston Ding	Kristin School	12
Sarah Alshaar	Kristin School	12
Tony Guo	Kristin School	11
Josef Oosthuizen	Lindisfarne College	13
Noah Hemmingsen	Lindisfarne College	12
Hamish Butler	Lindisfarne College	12
Rupert Fuge	Lindisfarne College	12
Pham Tuong Quan Le	Long Bay College	12
Nathan Hutton	Long Bay College	12
Takatoki Aaron Huang	Macleans College	13
Cecilia Ma	Macleans College	13
Thee Kasemsuk	Macleans College	12
Haran Thirumeni	Macleans College	12
Carol Chai	Macleans College	12
Dalton Ma	Macleans College	12
Robson Butler	Middleton Grange School	13
Victor Coen	Mt Albert Grammar School	13
Yan Wong	Mt Albert Grammar School	13
Blake Sanders	Napier Boys' High School	12
Jerry (Qifan) Li	Pinehurst School	13
Rahul Gupta	Pinehurst School	12
Gloria Li	Pinehurst School	12
Kevin (Qijun) Qiu	Pinehurst School	12
Alistair Rogers	Pinehurst School	12
Yolanda (Youran) Zhang	Rangitoto College	13
Hamish McLean	Rangitoto College	13
Zachary Yu	Rangitoto College	13
Joshua Wang	Rangitoto College	12
Gwang Ho Kim	Rangitoto College	12

Austin Picard	Rangitoto College	12
Ken Li	Rangitoto College	12
Sunny Xiao	Rangitoto College	12
Poresha Yee	Rangitoto College	12
Emily Chen	Rangitoto College	12
Kyle Tac	Rangitoto College	12
Felix Luo	Rangitoto College	11
Chris Kumala	Rangitoto College	11
Finn Mcluckie	Rangitoto College	11
Ilya Bondin	Rangitoto College	11
Dillon Pinto	Rosmini College	13
Theodore Chan	Rosmini College	13
Salvador Cronje	Rosmini College	13
Jack Mulholland	Rosmini College	13
Hugh Cooksley	Rosmini College	13
Daniel Martin	Rosmini College	13
Christopher Kenrick	Rosmini College	13
Ben Morrison	Rosmini College	12
Oscar Smith	Rosmini College	12
Jacob Pinto	Rosmini College	12
Cohan Crawford	Rosmini College	12
Kyle Farman	Rosmini College	12
Daniel Xian	Saint Kentigern College	13
Aidan Chu	Saint Kentigern College	13
Kaiyue Chen	Saint Kentigern College	13
Samuel Millington	Saint Kentigern College	13
Ann Huang	Saint Kentigern College	13
Tim Bacchus	Saint Kentigern College	12
James Wang	Saint Kentigern College	11
Lisa Shi	Saint Kentigern College	11
Tiger Neal	Sancta Maria College	13
John Whittaker	Sancta Maria College	13
Tevita Koloamatangi	Sancta Maria College	13



Lucky Do	Sancta Maria College	13
Xuan Phuc Nguyen	Sancta Maria College	13
Siobhan O'Rourke	Sancta Maria College	12
Amber Chan	Sancta Maria College	12
Joaquin Reyes	Sancta Maria College	12
Ebony Quiding	Sancta Maria College	12
Yunxiang You	Scots College	13
Jiayuan Zhang	Scots College	12
Joshua Reynolds	Southland Boys' High School	13
Luke Cillekens	Southland Boys' High School	13
Tyler Monypenny	Southland Boys' High School	12
Levi Te Amo	Southland Boys' High School	12
Noah Kuresa	Southland Boys' High School	12
Ethan Tamariki	Southland Boys' High School	12
Netava Natiri	Southland Boys' High School	12
Hamish Russell	Southland Boys' High School	12
Siokatame Kali	St Paul's College	12
Shaunik Punjabi	St Paul's Collegiate School	13
Roy Zhu	St Paul's Collegiate School	13
Ella Snyman	St Paul's Collegiate School	13
Henry Gardiner	St.Peter's College, Auckland	13
Noah Lazayres	St.Peter's College, Auckland	12
Canaan Va'aelua	St.Peter's College, Auckland	12
Blake Proffit	St.Peter's College, Auckland	12
Liam Ireland	St.Peter's College, Auckland	12
Louis Prichard	St.Peter's College, Auckland	12
Zachary Leach	St.Peter's College, Auckland	12
David Jeong	Takapuna Grammar School	13
Daniel (Ding Ding) Wang	Takapuna Grammar School	13
Kylah Crawford	Te Aho o Te Kura Pounamu	13
Charlie Russell	Wentworth Computer Science College	13
Léon Dromer	Westlake Boys' High School	13

Samuel Muthu	Westlake Boys' High School	13
Ethan Chong	Westlake Boys' High School	13
Alex Zhao	Westlake Boys' High School	13
Kai Barratt	Westlake Boys' High School	13
Jason Tao	Westlake Boys' High School	13
Christian Chung	Westlake Boys' High School	12
Ollie Van Beek	Westlake Boys' High School	12
Harry Borton	Westlake Boys' High School	12
Nailah Rafis	Westlake Girls' High School	12
Isla McHarg	Westlake Girls' High School	12

## Merit list

### National winners: \$300 prize and trophy

Name	School	Year
Aran Chen	ACG Parnell College	13
Joshua Wang	Rangitoto College	12

### High Distinction: \$200 prize

Name	School	Year
Dillon Pinto	Rosmini College	13
Alex Yang	ACG Parnell College	12

### High Distinction: \$100 prize

Name	School	Year
Justin Zhang	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Mason Bowker	Hamilton Boys High School	13
Theodore Chan	Rosmini College	13
Sophia Ahmadi	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Jacob Johnston	Kristin School	13
Lily Kobket	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Daniel Xian	Saint Kentigern College	13
Sabrina Liu	Kristin School	12
Noah Hemmingsen	Lindisfarne College	12

Salvador Cronje	Rosmini College	13
Léon Dromer	Westlake Boys' High School	13
John Huang	Hamilton Boys High School	12
Junyi Guo	Kristin School	12
James Wang	Saint Kentigern College	11
Tyler Monypenny	Southland Boys' High School	12
Matthew Xu	ACG Parnell College	12
Ai Jia Li	ACG Parnell College	11
Levi Te Amo	Southland Boys' High School	12
Tim Bacchus	Saint Kentigern College	12

# Congratulations on your excellent performance

It has been our pleasure to acknowledge the students' outstanding performance in this national competition. We look forward to meeting and talking with you after the presentations.

## This year's Competition is powered by:



We thank the Inspera team, the university-authorised exam facilitators, for delivering a secured online test for this year's Competition. Inspera is a best-in-breed and cloud-based specialist examinations platform that provides a consistent, user-friendly examination experience for both onshore and offshore students.

Web: [remotelearning.auckland.ac.nz/assessments/inspera/](https://remotelearning.auckland.ac.nz/assessments/inspera/)

Email: [inspera@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:inspera@auckland.ac.nz)

## Schools and Community Engagement

The Schools and Community Engagement team works with secondary school students, their parents, guardians, school careers advisers, and the wider community. They share key information on university study options and entry requirements, and connect with communities both online and in person through whānau information evenings and school careers events across New Zealand. They also provide on-campus or virtual appointments for parents and students, which can include guided tours of the campus and halls of residence.

Web: [auckland.ac.nz/en/study/study-options/undergraduate-study-options/information-for-parents/meet-our-team.html](https://auckland.ac.nz/en/study/study-options/undergraduate-study-options/information-for-parents/meet-our-team.html)

Email: [scet@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:scet@auckland.ac.nz)



Meet the students from MADE - Make A Difference with Economics. MADE is a network of senior students and recent graduates from the Department of Economics. They use economics to make positive changes in society and policy. Chat with them and learn how they apply their academic knowledge to real world issues.

Web: [facebook.com/madeuoa/](https://facebook.com/madeuoa/)

Email: [made.aucklanduni@gmail.com](mailto:made.aucklanduni@gmail.com)



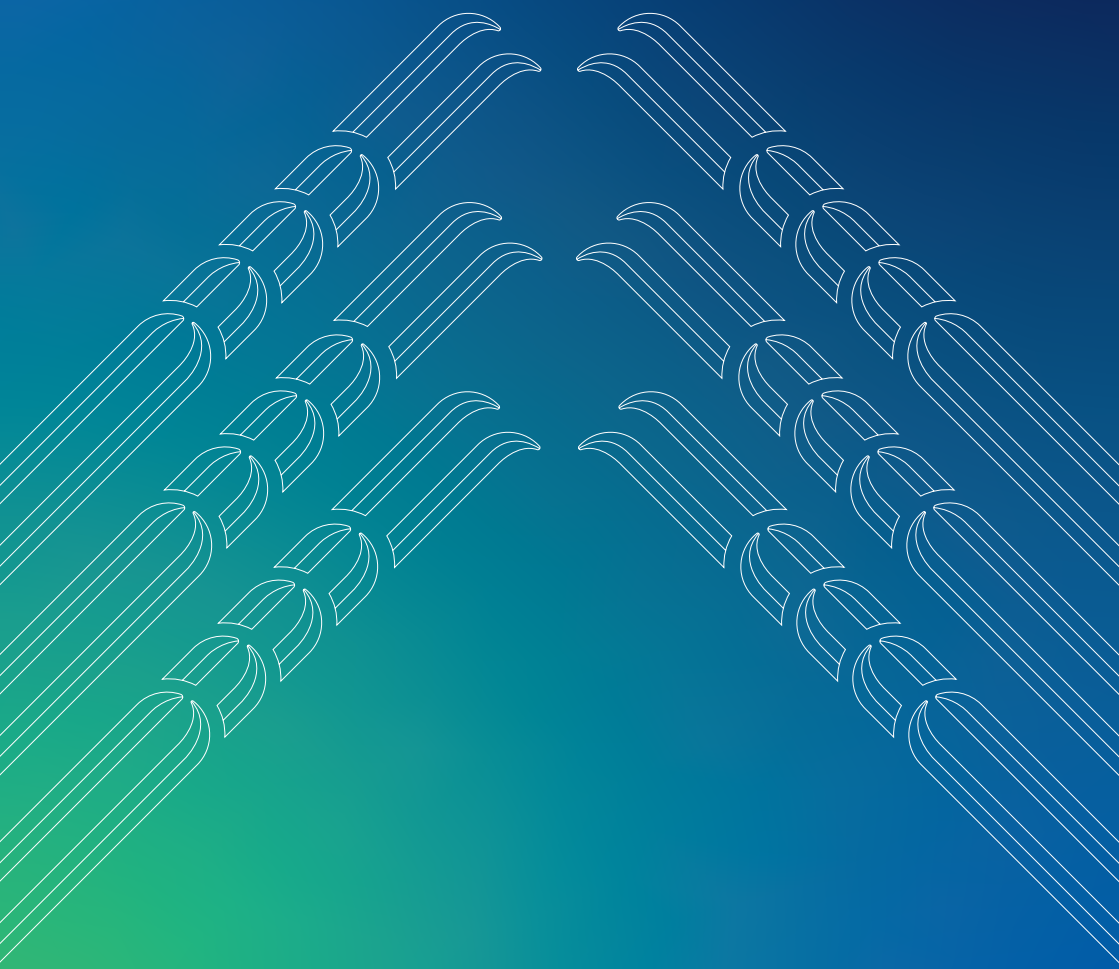
The University of Auckland Economics Society is an independent university club that seeks to foster connections between students passionate about economics at the university, regardless of whether you study it. We facilitate a range of professional and social events, including: speaker series, competitions, career events on the professional side, and pub quizzes, social mixers and study rooms on the social side. If you have an interest in economics, sign up for the UoA Economics Society at the link on our Facebook page, and be sure to follow us to keep updated on all of the fantastic events we run!

Web: <https://www.facebook.com/uoeconomicsociety/>



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Taumata Rau  
**University  
of Auckland**

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[auckland.ac.nz/business](https://auckland.ac.nz/business)