



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**AUCKLAND**  
NEW ZEALAND

**BUSINESS SCHOOL**

# The New Zealand Economics Competition

## 2021 Awards Presentation Ceremony

Thursday, 21 October 2021  
The University of Auckland  
Business School  
Department of Economics



# New Zealand Economics Competition 2021

## Welcome to the New Zealand Economics Competition 2021 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 about 1500 students from 60 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 2021 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: [econcomp@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:econcomp@auckland.ac.nz)

## Programme outline

<b>7pm</b>	Ceremony begins Stephen Poletti , Academic Coordinator of 2021 Competition
<b>7:02pm</b>	Welcome Steven Poelhekke, Head of Department of Economics
<b>7:07pm</b>	Deans Welcome Susan Watson, Dean of Business & Economics
<b>7:12pm</b>	Awards announced  High Distinction Awards for Top 10% Students  High Distinction Awards for Notable Students
<b>7:23pm</b>	Guest speaker John Small, NZ Commerce Commission
<b>7:55pm</b>	Awards Announced  High Distinction Awards for Meritorious Students
<b>8:03pm</b>	Guest speaker Dominick Stephens, NZ Treasury
<b>8:17pm</b>	Awards announced  High Distinction Awards for National Winners (Top 10) Students
<b>8:20pm</b>	MADE speaker Rohan Naik, Made Leader
<b>8:27pm</b>	Closing of ceremony Stephen Poletti, Academic Coordinator of 2021 Competition
<b>8:30pm</b>	Event ends

# New Zealand Economics Competition Award Presentation Ceremony

## Guest speaker



### **JOHN SMALL**

Commissioner,  
Commerce Commission New Zealand

John Small was appointed in December 2018 as Associate Commissioner and as a Commissioner in June 2020. John is the Founding Director of the Economic Consultancy firm, Covec, and was also the former Head of the University of Auckland's Economics Department. He has extensive experience undertaking complex competition analysis in a wide range of sectors, including energy, transport, agriculture, telecommunications, payment systems, and construction. John was also previously a lay member of the High Court of New Zealand, frequently called as an expert witness before courts, tribunals, and commissions. John is a member of the Commission's Commerce Act Division, Consumer Division, Fuel Division, and Market Studies Division. He is a member of the Board's Audit and Risk Committee.

## Treasury



### **DOMINICK STEPHENS**

Deputy Secretary and Chief Economic Adviser,  
The Treasury New Zealand

Dominick Stephens is responsible for ensuring that the Treasury's policy advice on lifting New Zealand's living standards is supported and strengthened by sound economic theory and evidence. Dominick is on secondment to the Treasury from Westpac from March 2021 until the end of the year. He has been Chief Economist at Westpac New Zealand for the last decade, leading its team providing forecasts and research on the New Zealand economy. He is a respected analyst, adviser, and commentator on a range of economic and market issues, from housing policy to monetary policy and climate change. His responsibilities included membership of Westpac's Sustainability Steering Committee. He was formerly an Economist in the Reserve Bank of New Zealand's forecasting team and modeling unit. Dominick is from Christchurch and graduated from the University of Canterbury with a Bachelor of Science with Honours in Economics. Dominick is a keen tramper and ice hockey player and is fluent in Spanish, Finnish, and Portuguese.



## **SUSAN WATSON**

Dean of the University of Auckland Business School

Professor Susan Watson is Dean of the University of Auckland Business School. She holds joint chairs in the Faculty of Law, and the Faculty of Business and Economics at the University of Auckland, and is Director of Governance at the Aotearoa Centre for Leadership and Governance. She researches and teaches primarily corporate law and corporate governance. Her research has been published widely in New Zealand and internationally. She has written and edited numerous books, treatises and articles and won the Legal Research Foundation Sir Ian Barker Published Article Award. She is a Research Member of the European Corporate Governance Institute (ECGI) – the only New Zealander to be appointed to date. She has been a visiting Professor at Vanderbilt University and Tilburg University, and a visiting academic at the Oxford Law Faculty. In 2020, Professor Watson was elected president of the Society of Corporate Law Academics (SCoLa).

## Department of Economics Staff



**STEVEN POELHEKKE** MSc Utrecht, M Res PhD EUI  
Professor and Head

Steven Poelhekke is Professor of Economics and Head of the Department of Economics at the University of Auckland. He is also a research fellow at CEPR and CESifo in Munich. He previously worked at the Dutch central bank. His research interests cover International Trade and Investment and their intersections with Development and Environmental Economics. He has studied, among other topics: the local impact of mining on the tradeable sector, the persistence of foreign direct investment benefits for domestic firms in developing countries, and the effects of resource wealth and multinational banks on foreign direct investment. He is a Dutch national and holds a PhD from the European University Institute, Florence, Italy. He has published, among others, in the *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of International Economics*, *Journal of Development Economics*, and the *European Economic Review*. Columns and policy pieces have appeared on VoxEU.org and the LSE Business Review.



**ASHA SUNDARAM** BA Mumbai, MPhil Oxf., MA Ph.D. Syracuse  
Senior Lecturer and Deputy Head

Asha Sundaram is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Economics, University of Auckland. Prior to this, she was a Senior Lecturer at the School of Economics, University of Cape Town, South Africa. She has an M.Phil in Economics from the University of Oxford, UK and a PhD from Syracuse University, USA. Her research spans the areas of international trade and development economics and exploits micro data to explore the impacts of globalization on labour markets and firms. She has been published in top field journals, general-interest journals and books published by Oxford University Press. She was a visiting research scholar at the Department of Economics, University of Michigan, Ann-Arbor (2014) and the Centre for Advanced Financial Research and Learning (CAFRAL), at the Reserve Bank of India. She has consulted for the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East-Asia (ERIA) and research institutions like the Peterson Institute of International Economics (PIIE), Washington DC. Her commentary on trade and policy issues has appeared in media outlets like the New Zealand Herald, BBC news and Newshub.



**ERWANN SBAI** PhD Ut-capitole  
Senior Lecturer and Deputy Head

Erwann Sbai is Senior Lecturer in Economics and Deputy Head of the Department of Economics at the University of Auckland. His research interests cover theoretical and applied econometrics. It includes the development of identification and estimation procedures to characterise participants' behaviour in empirical games. Possible applications are Treasury Bonds auctions or electricity spot market. He has also collaborated with UoA colleagues, in particular in the field of experimental economics. He has published, among others, in *Econometric theory*, *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics*, and *New Zealand Economic Papers*.



**STEPHEN POLETTI** MSc ANU, PhD Newcastle upon Tyne,  
PhD Auckland

Senior Lecturer and Academic Coordinator of 2021 Competition  
Stephen Poletti is a Senior Lecturer in Economics and a member of the Energy Centre at the University of Auckland. His research area is Energy Economics and Industrial Organisation. He has also published papers in Theoretical Physics. Prior to joining the Economics department at Auckland he held a position as a postdoc in the department of Mathematical Physics at the University of Adelaide. Recent work includes a study of Market Power in the New Zealand Electricity market and the impact of Real Time electricity prices in a setting where firms have market power. He has published, among others in *Physics Letters B*, *Physical Review D*, *Energy Economics*, *Journal of Industrial Organisation*, *Energy Policy* and *Renewable Energy*

# High Distinction Awards

<b>Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Year</b>
Reuben Lawler	ACG Parnell College	13
Shengtao Huang	ACG Parnell College	12
Queena Peng	ACG Parnell College	12
Yang Kevin	ACG Parnell College	13
Raymond Li	ACG Parnell College	13
Eason Li	ACG Parnell College	13
Jingtong Luo	ACG Parnell College	13
Aum Mehta	ACG Parnell College	13
Yuzhi Huang	ACG Parnell College	13
William Dalziel	ACG Parnell College	13
Shotaro Koizumi	ACG Parnell College	12
Luke Kowalski	ACG Parnell College	11
Rehaan Sahib	ACG Parnell College	12
Tiger Zhao	ACG Parnell College	12
Jake Yang	ACG Parnell College	12
Kyle Rosser	ACG Parnell College	11
Matthew Chander	ACG Parnell College	12
Yizhuo Zheng	ACG Parnell College	12
Nayoon Lee	ACG Parnell College	11
Thomas Wilkinson	Aquinas College Tauranga	13
Isaac Mellis-Glynn	Auckland Grammar School	13
Bo Wu	Auckland Grammar School	13
Steven Lin	Auckland Grammar School	13
Valentino Tew	Auckland Grammar School	13
Evan Manning	Auckland Grammar School	13
Qiushuo Li	Auckland Grammar School	13
Jack Woodfield	Auckland Grammar School	13
Ollie Collier	Auckland Grammar School	13
Phillip Han	Auckland Grammar School	13

Yash Bhatia	Auckland Grammar School	13
Ray Wen	Auckland Grammar School	12
Ethan Findlow	Auckland Grammar School	12
Sam Western	Auckland Grammar School	12
Ben Patel	Auckland Grammar School	13
Akash Mudaliar	Auckland Grammar School	13
Henri Heaphy	Auckland Grammar School	12
Daniel Johnston	Auckland Grammar School	12
Jonathan Goldsmith	Auckland Grammar School	12
Travis Hutchison	Auckland Grammar School	12
Jack Mcanulty	Auckland Grammar School	12
Yifei Song	Auckland International College	11
Jiachen Wang	Auckland International College	12
Catherine Zhang	Auckland International College	12
Han Yao	Auckland International College	12
Chaewon Lee	Auckland International College	12
Jiachen Zhang	Auckland International College	12
Minran He	Botany Downs Secondary College	12
Joe Milio	Cashmere High School	13
Iris Royds	Cashmere High School	13
Oscar Gosling	Christ's College	12
Charlie Eglinton	Christ's College	12
Jenna McLaren	Glendowie College	12
Hitesh Malhotra	Hamilton Boys' High School	12
Travis Palmer	Hamilton Boys' High School	13
Levi Pruden	Hamilton Boys' High School	12
Tebijan Kalarathan	Hamilton Boys' High School	13
Notus Rivers	Hamilton Boys' High School	12
Ashan Barr	Hamilton Boys' High School	12
Ryan Hall	Hamilton Boys' High School	12
Nathan Ludlow	Hamilton Boys' High School	12
Anton Slomp	Hamilton Boys' High School	12



Eulalia Teodoro	James Hargest College	12
Charles Tinoi	James Hargest College	12
Calan Mcdermott	King's High School	12
Russell Gin	King's High School	12
Guy Williams	Kristin School	13
Lucy Xu	Kristin School	13
Claire Liang	Kristin School	13
Anna Li	Kristin School	13
Ivy Yu	Kristin School	12
Jaeyong Jung	Kristin School	12
Henry Pinder	Kristin School	12
Jack Wilton	Lindisfarne College	13
Finley Duncan	Lindisfarne College	13
Zac Maulder	Lindisfarne College	13
Shengwei [Ivan] Zhang	Macleans College	13
Joshua Tan	Macleans College	13
Abhinav Chawla	Macleans College	13
Zu Rui [Tony] Su	Macleans College	13
Roger Yang	Macleans College	13
Hannah Giles	Macleans College	13
Bradley Shen	Macleans College	13
Ben Hargreaves	Macleans College	12
Helena Chee	Macleans College	12
Zoe Foster	Napier Girls High School	12
Rusiru Dharmasekhara	Newlands College	13
William Tam	Onslow College	13
Pravanesh Udayakumar	Onslow College	13
Kaius Olsen	Pinehurst School	13
Qihao Liao	Pinehurst School	13
Jessica Forshaw	Pinehurst School	12
James Austin	Pinehurst School	12
Dino Trieu	Rangitoto College	13

Samuel Wong	Rangitoto College	13
Jasmine Jared	Rangitoto College	13
Daniel Gover	Rangitoto College	13
Oliver Zhang	Rangitoto College	13
Junzhe Li	Rangitoto College	12
Ella Lin	Rangitoto College	12
Ky Khon Quach	Rangitoto College	12
Jinju Schwarz	Rangitoto College	12
Youngju Jung	Rangitoto College	12
Haokun He	Saint Kentigern College	13
Ethan Beri	Scots College	13
Ryan Luo	Scots College	13
Oliver Scott	Scots College	13
Rohit Guthpe	Scots College	12
Nela Tajrychova	Scots College	12
Matthew Mcbeth	Scots College	12
Anushri Ajith	St Oran's College	12
Meghana Gaddam	St Peters, Cambridge	13
Benjamin Saunders	St. Peter's College, Grafton	13
Ethan Santos	St. Peter's College, Grafton	13
Dylan Rodenburg	St. Peter's College, Grafton	12
Christopher Delpont	St. Peter's College, Grafton	12
Kenny Watts	Takapuna Grammar School	13
Andrew Crotty	Takapuna Grammar School	13
Hadi Saeed Mohamed	Takapuna Grammar School	12
Lucas Cowley	Tauranga Boys' College	13
Gus Shivnan	Tauranga Boys' College	13
Jacques Van Rinsvelt	Tauranga Boys' College	13
Matthew Wagstaff	Tauranga Boys' College	13
Luke McConnell	Tauranga Boys' College	13
Josiah Willemse	Te Aho o Te Kura Pounamu- The Correspondence School	12

Bruno Smith	Wellington College	13
Anish Hota	Wellington College	13
Haveesha Parera	Wellington College	13
Richard Engel	Wellington College	13
Logan Groot	Wellington College	13
Jolyon Bishop	Wellington College	12
Simon Geertsema	Westlake Boys High School	11
John Lin	Westlake Boys High School	13
Flynn Donaghy	Westlake Boys High School	13
Max Dewinter	Westlake Boys High School	13
Koutaro Yumiba	Westlake Boys High School	13
Hunter Haynes	Westlake Boys High School	12
Sasha Goryachev	Westlake Boys High School	12
Michael Peng	Westlake Boys High School	12
Ben Costello	Westlake Boys High School	12
Raeanne Leow	Westlake Girls High School	12

# Merit list

## National winners: \$300 prize and trophy

Name	School	Year
Isaac Mellis-Glynn	Auckland Grammar School	13
Bo Wu	Auckland Grammar School	13
Shengwei [Ivan] Zhang	Macleans College	13
Ethan Beri	Scots College	13
Lucas Cowley	Tauranga Boys' College	13
Reuben Lawler	Acg Parnell College	13
Steven Lin	Auckland Grammar School	13
Valentino Tew	Auckland Grammar School	13
Evan Manning	Auckland Grammar School	13
Hitesh Malhotra	Hamilton Boys' High School	12

## High Distinction: \$200 prize

Name	School	Year
Shengtao Huang	Acg Parnell College	12
Qiushuo Li	Auckland Grammar School	13
Oscar Gosling	Christ's College	12
Guy Williams	Kristin School	13
Jack Wilton	Lindisfarne College	13
Dino Trieu	Rangitoto College	13
Bruno Smith	Wellington College	13

### High Distinction: \$100 prize

<b>Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Year</b>
Queena Peng	Acg Parnell College	12
Jack Woodfield	Auckland Grammar School	13
Yifei Song	Auckland International College	11
Jiachen Wang	Auckland International College	12
Joe Milio	Cashmere High School	13
Travis Palmer	Hamilton Boys' High School	13
Levi Pruden	Hamilton Boys' High School	12
Lucy Xu	Kristin School	13
Joshua Tan	Macleans College	13
Abhinav Chawla	Macleans College	13
Benjamin Saunders	St. Peter's College, Grafton	13
Kenny Watts	Takapuna Grammar School	13
Anish Hota	Wellington College	13
Haveesha Parera	Wellington College	13

## Congratulations on your excellent performance

Thank you all for attending the 2021 New Zealand Economics Competition Awards ceremony.

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



Please take the opportunity to talk with some of the students from our economics club on campus: MADE (Make a Difference with Economics). The aim of MADE is to supplement academic studies with real world engagement. The students learn how economics can empower communities and influence policy. You can identify the MADE students by the logo on their name badges.

Contact MADE team at [auckland.made.nz@gmail.com](mailto:auckland.made.nz@gmail.com)



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