

Aotearoa New Zealand Centre for Indigenous Peoples and the Law

2019 has been a busy a year for the Centre.
Key highlights include:

LAUNCH OF CENTRE'S INAUGURAL INDIGENOUS IMPACT PROGRAMME

The Programme is a legal education clinic providing Auckland Law students with firsthand experience in working with clients, on law reform and access to justice issues for Māori, both domestically and internationally. Many thanks to the Borrin Foundation and University of Auckland Vice Chancellor's Strategic Development Fund for supporting this innovative programme over the next three years.

KEY APPOINTMENTS FOR CENTRE ACADEMICS

- Dr Anaru Erueti is serving as a Commissioner on the Royal Commission into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the Care of Faith-Based Institutions with Natalie Coates appointed as Counsel to Assist
- Dr Claire Charters was appointed Chair of the Government's Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Technical Working Group and is Chair of the UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples for 2019
- Associate Professor Amokura Kawharu is serving as a member of the Government's

Trade for All Advisory Board

- Tracey Whare, along with Dr Claire Charters, is serving as a Technical Advisor to Iwi Chairs' International Monitoring Mechanism on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

INTERNAL APPOINTMENTS

- Welcoming Natalie Coates (partner, Kahui Legal) as co-Director of the Centre.
- Maia Wikaira (Director, Whāia Legal) as Clinical Instructor for the Indigenous Impact Programme
- Claire Mason as Centre Manager
- Tracey Whare and Jayden Houghton as Lecturers
- Grace Abbott as Pouāwhina
- Kathryn Arona as Kaiārahi
- Kimberleigh Murray as Part 1 mentor
- Maureen Malcolm as Pūkenga

ADVOCATING FOR THE RIGHTS OF MĀORI AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Dr Claire Charters, Dr Anaru Erueti and Maia Wikaira provided expert comment to the media on topical issues for Māori and Indigenous peoples, including Ihumātao,

incorporating tikanga Māori into New Zealand's constitutional law, the prisoner voting ban and the State Abuse inquiry.

TARGETED RESEARCH ON THE RIGHTS OF MĀORI AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

- Dr Claire Charters continues her Rutherford Discovery Fellowship on 'Constitutional Transformation to Accommodate Māori in Aotearoa/New Zealand: Lessons from Around the Globe'
- Natalie Coates and Claire Mason began research into the rights of tamariki Māori under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Declaration and Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

PROVISION OF INDUSTRY TRAINING

Natalie Coates provided training to lawyers on changes to the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 and to family court judges and frontline support workers on how to incorporate tikanga Māori into their decision-making processes.

PUBLIC LECTURES ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THE LAW

The Centre hosted a series of lectures given by esteemed speakers including Supreme



Justice Whata (BA/LLB(Hons) '92) at his lecture on the debate of equality in our legal system.



Court Justice Susan Glazebrook, High Court Justice Christian Whata and leading Indigenous rights advocate and legal scholar, Professor Val Napoleon, from the University of Victoria, British Columbia.

SPECIAL EDITION BOOK LAUNCH

The Centre launched a special edition of the New Zealand Law Review to mark the Supreme Court's landmark Wakatū decision, which includes articles from Dr Claire Charters, Emeritus Professor David Williams and Associate Professor Nicole Roughan. It was edited by Katherine Sanders and Claire Charters.

INAUGURAL AWARD OF CENTRE'S INDIGENOUS SCHOLARSHIP

The award was won by Indigenous scholar, Charm Skinner, who undertook research for the UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, attended the Expert Mechanism session in Geneva, Switzerland, and completed five weeks of UN training on Indigenous rights in international law and policy. Read about Charm's journey on page 38.

INTERNATIONAL VISITS

Indigenous Maya K'iche' human rights activists and academics from Guatemala visited to mark the 500-year anniversary of the landing of Cortés in the Americas and 250 years since Cook's voyage to Aotearoa.

CONFERENCE ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG TREATMENT COURTS

The conference, Future Directions of the Adult Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Courts – Te Whare Whakapiki Wairua, in Aotearoa was hosted by Dr Fleur Te Aho, Dr Katherine Doolin and Judges Tremewan and Aitken with support from the Borrin Foundation. Read more about the Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Courts on page 14.

THE CENTRE IS LOOKING AHEAD TO AN EXCITING 2020

Centre academics will continue to work on cutting edge issues for Māori and Indigenous peoples with big topics like New Zealand's implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, constitutional transformation and Māori rights to freshwater likely to be high on the agenda.

2020 highlights will include:

CELEBRATED INDIGENOUS RIGHTS ADVOCATE TO TEACH LLM

World leading scholar and celebrated advocate for Indigenous peoples' rights, Professor Rob Williams of the University of Arizona, will teach an intensive LLM on Indigenous peoples and the law at Auckland Law School in 2020.

INDIGENOUS IMPACT PROGRAMME 2020

The Centre will run its second Indigenous Impact Programme, where students will work with legal practitioners and other key stakeholders to better understand access to justice issues for Māori and identify potential solutions.

INDIGENOUS SCHOLARSHIP

The Centre's Indigenous scholarship will be offered again, providing the opportunity to participate in Columbia University's Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race Summer Program on Indigenous Peoples' Rights and Policy.

Justice Glazebrook (LLB(Hons) '80) speaking at her lecture on the rights of Indigenous peoples.



Professor Val Napoleon delivering the Nin Tomas Memorial Lecture.

