



“Professional Social Science - Serving Research and Policy”

The Work Programme of COMPASS Research



**COMPASS
RESEARCH CENTRE**

FACULTY OF ARTS
THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau

8th Research Colloquium
Statistics New Zealand
10 July 2014



Mission, Structure, Personnel



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Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau

■ Mission

- Conduct and support fundamental and applied social science research, with specialisation in advanced methodologies and policy application.

■ Structure

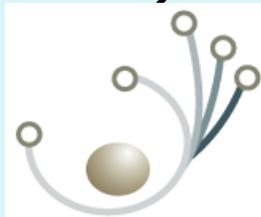
- Faculty research centre
- Historically, approx. \$1 million income p.a. (HRC, FoRST/MSI/MBIE)
- Major Departmental ties
 - Sociology/Political Studies; Statistics/Computer Science; Population Health
- Allied entities
 - NZ Social Statistics Network; NZ Social Science Data Service

■ Personnel

- Director, Peter Davis; Associate Director, Barry Milne (also SRF)
- Centre Manager, Gerry Cotterell (also Business Development)
- 2 Senior Research Fellows; 2 Research Officers
- 2-3 graduate students

Organisational philosophy: “Public Practice of Professional Social Science”

Creating Knowledge



NZSSDS

Sharing Data



NZSSN
SOCIAL STATISTICS NETWORK

Building Skills

**COMPASS
Advisory
Board**

Engaging
Communities

Focus: existing data, policy, advanced analysis, life course



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Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau

■ Social Policy

➤ Indicators/data analysis (FoRST)

- Early 2000s – Used Census to construct NZ Socio-Economic Index
- 2000s – Used Census to create well-being monitor of families

➤ Simulation modelling (Marsden, MSI/MBIE)

- 2002 – Modelling partnership patterns across Censuses
- Recent – Using existing studies to model family dynamics as policy tool
- Current – Enhance policy tool as knowledge laboratory

■ Health Policy

➤ Evaluation/data analysis (HRC)

- Early 2000s – National hospital safety and family doctor studies
- 2000s – hospital restructuring and hospital outcomes studies
- Current – health inequalities and the life course.



➤ Simulation modelling (HRC)

- 2000s – modelling primary care in an ageing society
- Recent – modelling health and social care needs among elderly



Adding Value to Publicly-funded Data

10.15 Preliminaries – Peter Davis

- Introduction
- Valuing Social Science

11.15 The use of public data

- Adjusting for linkage bias in the Census longitudinal cohort
- *Dr. Barry Milne, Senior Research Fellow (Associate Director)*
- Rebalancing the care for older people
- *Roy Lay-Yee, Senior Research Fellow*

12.30 LUNCH BREAK

[including demonstration of policy tool]

13.15 Modelling and software development

- Simario: An R package for dynamic micro-simulation
- *Jessica McLay, Research Officer*
- A knowledge laboratory of the early life-course
- *Dr. Barry Milne, Senior Research Fellow*

14.45 CONCLUSION