

Hēmi and Rīhari Enright



Hēmi Enright (left) and Rīhari Enright (right)

Hēmi Enright

**Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Ruanui
(5th year, MBChB)**

The University of Auckland was the right choice for me and my whānau. My journey began in 2012 following high school. Since then I have been exposed to opportunities I would have missed out on if I hadn't entered tertiary education.

I have chosen to study Medicine because hauora is important to us as Māori. As an aspiring doctor I can help others, especially our Māori and Pacific whānau, through times of hardship caused by ill health. As a clinical student, I have seen the need our people have for more Māori health professionals.

While here at the University I am supported by the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences' Māori and Pacific Admission Scheme (MAPAS). Within this learning environment I have made awesome friends and am supported in my studies to achieve my best.

Going to University is a big decision. I hope you take the plunge! Believe in what you can achieve with the support of others. Kia kaha, kia maia, kia manawanui.

Rīhari Enright

Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Ruanui

**1st year, Bachelor of Health Sciences (BHSc), Completed Certificate of Health Sciences –
Hikitia te Ora, 2016**

Mōku ake, kia tū Māori ai i tēnei āo, ka tū au me tōku whānau.

Ko rātou ko ngā puna aroha me ngā puna tautoko. Nā reira, nā te whanaungatanga, i whakatau ai ahau kia haere ki te whare wānanga o Tāmaki-Makaurau, akoako ai. Nā tōku tuākana i whakakaha ake tōku hononga ki te whare wānanga nei. E whai ana e ia i te tohu o te tākuta o te rongoā. Nāna i whangai i au ngā akoranga kia whai hoki au i tēnei tohu mātauranga.

As a taurira Māori, whānau is important. Whānau provides aroha and tautoko, and my whānau was critical in my decision to study at the University of Auckland. Through my brother I feel a strong sense of whanaungatanga with the University. He studies medicine and this tuākana-teina relationship has benefitted me both personally and academically. I'm at the start of a long journey in Health Sciences.

This would have been a daunting experience without the support of the University's Tuākana programme, the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences' Māori and Pacific Admission Scheme (MAPAS) and The Whakapiki Ake Project. MAPAS is an extended version of whānau. They have supported me throughout the year, and I feel connected to my class and tuākana. We are all supporting each other. The University provides a strong sense of belonging, whanaungatanga, due to the supportive environment it provides for taurira Māori. It is a whānau-centred environment where Māori can succeed as Māori. I am excited by the opportunities to learn and grow under the University's Māori academic leaders and kaumātua.