



TE KUNENGA | MASSEY
KI PUREHUROA | UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY OF NEW ZEALAND

EXPLORER

FUTURE STUDENTS NEWSLETTER • TERM TWO 2025

**SCHOLARSHIP
INFORMATION
FOR SCHOOL
LEAVERS**

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**
including Te Manu Tāiko

**HUMAN
NUTRITION
STUDY OPTIONS**

OPEN DAY INFO
plus College of Sciences
Taster Days



FUTURE STUDENTS UPDATE

by Antoinette Vaha

Kia ora,

Welcome to the second issue of the Explorer newsletter this year. If you're new here – tēnā koe. You can [catch up on the first issue here](#).

I'm pleased to share that Massey has reinstated its generous accommodation scholarships for 2026, available across all campuses, and there's an increase in targeted scholarships supporting more ākonga Māori in their first year. Find scholarships information on page 3.

I'm highlighting the **Fonterra Massey University Food Technology Scholarships**, not just because of their impressive value – up to \$65,000 combining financial support, paid internships and mentoring – but because of the incredible opportunity they represent. Students fortunate enough to secure one will gain a high-quality qualification that brings together food science, food business and food engineering in one degree, and that has real-world work experience. Watch this [video](#) for a glimpse of what a student or alumni might experience during their internship or employment at Fonterra.

Teachers and students alike often mistake food technology for cooking! This means the **Bachelor of Food Technology (Honours)** is typically not presented to top chemistry students as a potential career path. As a business graduate myself, I see huge value in encouraging your business students to consider this degree, which combines technical and business skills with knowledge that's highly relevant in the commercial world.

We're so excited about all the ways students can visit and connect with Massey soon. This edition contains information about many great opportunities to bring your students to campus.

Here's a summary of upcoming events for your planning:

Fieldays

11-14 June | Mystery Creek Pavilion, Hamilton

College of Creative Arts Information Evening

17 June | Auckland Campus

Te Manu Tāiko

17 June | Manawatū Campus

Minecraft Experience Day

18 June | Auckland Campus

Agriculture and Horticulture Taster Day

1 July | Manawatū Campus

Food Technology and Chemistry Taster Day

2 July | Manawatū Campus

Biology Taster Day

3 July | Manawatū Campus

Manawatū Palmerston North Campus Open Day

6 August

Ōteha Auckland Campus Open Day

15 August

Pukeahu Wellington Campus Open Day

22 August

Aviation Open Day

13 September | Massey Aviation Centre, Palmerston North

Webinar: Improve nutrition and health outcomes for people

16 October | Online

I want to extend my thanks to those of you who welcomed the Massey delegation during our recent successful Roadshows in seven key regions, which have just concluded.

Massey's heartwarming graduation season has just finished, too – our cover image shows Te Moana Raungaiti Kershaw proudly conferring his Te Aho Tātaurangi: Bachelor of Teaching and Learning Kura Kaupapa Māori in Manawatū in May.

We are very committed to Māori student success, so we're thrilled with the addition of our newest member of the Future Students Team: Rereao Taite, based at our Manawatū campus, supports ākonga Māori from kura kaupapa Māori and other schools, bringing a strong background in Māori visual arts.

If you need collateral to support your conversations with students, reach out to your Future Students Advisor or email futurestudents@massey.ac.nz

Ngā mihi nui,

Antoinette Vaha

Associate Director, Student Recruitment





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OPEN DAY

MANAWATŪ PALMERSTON NORTH CAMPUS

Wednesday 6 August 2025

ŌTEHA AUCKLAND CAMPUS

Friday 15 August 2025

PUKEAHU WELLINGTON CAMPUS

Friday 22 August 2025

AVIATION OPEN DAY

Saturday 13 September 2025

BOOK YOUR SPOT TODAY.
[EVENTS.MASSEY.AC.NZ](https://events.massey.ac.nz)



2026 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SCHOOL LEAVERS

CLOSING

1 SEPTEMBER

Accommodation Scholarship

10 awards of \$5,000

Earth & Environmental Science Scholarship

7 awards of \$5,000

Fonterra Massey University Food Technology Scholarship

9 awards of \$42,000

Fonterra Massey University Pasifika Food Technology Undergraduate Scholarship

1 award of \$65,000

Fonterra Massey University Māori Food Technology Undergraduate Scholarship

1 award of \$65,000

He Oha Puiaki - Massey University Māori First Year Scholarship

20 awards of \$4,325

Massey University Academy of Sport Scholarship

30 awards of \$3,000 - \$7,500

Massey University Undergraduate First Year Scholarship - School Leavers

200 awards of \$4,325

New to Massey University First Year Animal Science Scholarship

4 awards of \$5,000

New to Massey University First Year Student Agriculture and Horticulture Scholarship

40 awards of \$7,000

New to Massey University First Year Student Bachelor of Agribusiness Scholarship

10 awards of \$5,000

Pacific Science and Technology Scholarships

2 awards of \$5,000

Sydney Campbell Foundation New to Massey University First Year Undergraduate Scholarship

3 awards of \$3,000

Massey University Pacific Scholarship for First Year Undergraduate Studies

3 awards of \$3,000

CLOSING

15 SEPTEMBER

Te Rewa o Puanga Commercial Music Scholarship

3 awards of \$10,000

Te Rewa o Puanga Screen Arts Scholarship

3 awards of \$10,000

CLOSING

1 OCTOBER

Business Excellence Scholarship

20 awards of \$5,000



MASSEY.AC.NZ/SCHOLARSHIPS



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COLLEGE OF HEALTH

SPOTLIGHT ON HUMAN NUTRITION



Nutrition is increasingly relevant in today's society and your skills will be in demand. The availability of suitably qualified human nutritionists contributes to the economic viability of New Zealand as a food-producing and exporting nation. Qualified human nutritionists play an important role in the public health sector as the move towards health promotion continues. You will be able to make a difference for nutrition and health outcomes for individuals, whānau and your community. You will help people optimise performance, prevent disease and live a healthy life.

Recognising this demand, Massey University is introducing a new major within the Bachelor of Health Science (BHLthSc) – Human Nutrition, in addition to their Human Nutrition offering in the Bachelor of Science (BSc).

Study options and distinction

Massey University offers two distinct pathways for studying human nutrition at undergraduate level – the Bachelor of Science (BSc) and the Bachelor of Health Science (BHLthSc), both with a major in Human Nutrition. While both degrees provide a strong foundation in nutrition, they differ in focus, structure and career outcomes.

Bachelor of Health Science (Human Nutrition) 3 years full-time, distance learning

This degree will equip students with the knowledge and skills to improve nutrition-related health outcomes across Aotearoa. This major focuses on the vital role nutrition plays in promoting health and preventing disease at individual, whānau and population levels. They will develop a holistic understanding of nutrition and health by examining the physical, social and environmental factors influencing wellbeing.

Bachelor of Science (Human Nutrition) 3 years full-time, distance learning

Students will gain an integrated understanding of nutrition, biochemistry and physiology related to the human body. This will give them the knowledge required to enhance health and fitness in individuals of all ages, and in groups and communities. The major will provide training in key skills so they can promote good nutritional practices to individuals, communities and industry.

The table below helps determine which degree best aligns with students' interests, strengths and future goals.

	BHlthSc in Human Nutrition	BSc in Human Nutrition
Focus	Health-focused, with public health nutrition emphasis	Strong focus on biochemistry, physiology and nutrition
Specific entry requirements	University entrance requirements only	University entrance requirements plus: - at least 14 credits in NCEA Level 3 Biology - at least 14 credits in NCEA Level 3 Chemistry
Target careers	Public health nutrition, health promotion, community nutrition, lifestyle coaching, further post-graduate study	Research, food industry, lifestyle coaching, pathway to study the Master of Science (Nutrition and Dietetics) to become a registered dietitian
Learning flexibility	Full or part-time and distance learning	Full or part-time and distance learning
Pathway to registered nutritionist	Graduates eligible to become a registered nutritionist with the Nutrition Society of New Zealand.	Graduates eligible to become a registered nutritionist with the Nutrition Society of New Zealand.

Career pathways

Graduates will be equipped to work in a range of roles and settings, from public health and government organisations to community-based initiatives including Māori and Pacific health providers and international agencies. With either degree they will be eligible to register with the Nutrition Society of New Zealand and start on their pathway to becoming a registered nutritionist. Depending on the qualification, they can also continue on to postgraduate study in human nutrition, public health, dietetics or health science, which can also lead to a PhD.

Keen to improve nutrition and health outcomes for people?
REGISTER for our Human Nutrition webinar NOW!

COLLEGE OF SCIENCES

MINDCRAFT Experience Day

📍 Auckland Campus

📅 18 June 9am - 2.30pm

BOOK HERE



Agriculture and Horticulture Taster Day

📍 Manawātū Campus

📅 1 July 10am - 3pm

BOOK HERE



Food Technology and Chemistry Taster Day

📍 Manawātū Campus

📅 2 July 10am - 3pm

BOOK HERE



Biology Taster Day

📍 Manawātū Campus

📅 3 July 10am - 3pm

BOOK HERE



Massey's back at Fieldays® and here's five reasons you should be too!

We're returning to Fieldays® for another exciting year of connection, collaboration and showcasing the research that's shaping the future of farming. Whether you're into science, sustainability, animals, design or just want to explore what studying at Massey could look like, we've got something for you.

Here's five reasons to stop by the **Massey stand**:

1

GET HANDS-ON WITH GENETICS IN ACTION

If you're taking biology at school, you'll already know genetics is a big part of it. At our stand, you'll meet the researchers behind the Right Dog for the Job project, Aotearoa New Zealand's first large-scale genetic study of working farm dogs. Learn how DNA affects health and performance and try out our interactive 'Tinder for working dogs' experience to see how genetic compatibility matters in breeding the best dogs for the job.

2

SEE HOW ART AND SCIENCE COMBINE TO CHANGE THE GAME

Check out a revolutionary new food packaging design which expands when stretched, developed by artists, designers and scientists working together. The packaging better protects produce to reduce food waste and incorporates kōwhaiwhai patterns to honour what's inside as taonga (treasure). You'll see how creative thinking, cultural values and cutting-edge science come together – and meet the people making it happen.

3

EXPLORE THE RESEARCH SHAPING THE FUTURE OF FARMING

Check out the self-shedding Wiltshire sheep project on our stand, then head over to the MPI Science for Farmers site where Massey experts will be sharing work from Whenua Haumanu, New Zealand's biggest regenerative agriculture study, and the Catchment Solutions project, helping farmers protect soil and waterways. Come learn how science is making agriculture more sustainable to support our natural environment and combat climate change.

4

TALK TO THE MASSEY TEAM ABOUT YOUR FUTURE

Curious about uni life? Our Future Students team and academic advisors will be there to answer your questions about study options, student life and how to apply. You can even enrol on the spot!

5

HANG WITH EVERYONE'S FAVOURITE RAM

Fieldays wouldn't be the same without Fergus the ram! He'll be popping by our stand throughout the event, ready for selfies, fist bumps (hoof bumps?) and general ram-bunctious fun. It's his favourite event of the year, so don't miss your chance to say hi!

BONUS

Scan your Fieldays Smart Band at our stand and you'll go in the draw to win a pair of AirPods, and there'll be other freebies up for grabs!



Get your tickets for Fieldays® 2025 **HERE**



Find us at the Mystery Creek Pavilion (site PE51) from 11-14 June.

COLLEGE OF CREATIVE ARTS



Associate Dean Toi Māori Rongomaiaia Te Whaiti



Associate Professor Igelese Ete

Showcasing creativity: Toi Māori and Pacific talent on display

Last month, Makoura College hosted a visit from Massey's College of Creative Arts for students from both Makoura and Wairarapa Colleges.

Associate Dean Toi Māori Rongomaiaia Te Whaiti, a Makoura College alumnus and Māori Visual Arts Master's graduate, spoke about the new **Mātauranga Toi Māori** major. Fine Arts Lecturer Shannon Te Ao shared his photography work, and Associate Dean Pacific Igelese Ete spoke about his music career, including work on *Moana*, *The Lord of the Rings*, and *Tinā*, as well as introducing the Malaga Sa paper. Rachel Rakena showcased her Mana Moana projects, and current Industrial Design student Rose Haira-Harmon reflected on her move from Wairarapa to Massey Wellington.

In return, Massey staff were treated to powerful performances from the kapa haka groups of both colleges.



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TOI
RAUWHĀRANGI
COLLEGE OF
CREATIVE ARTS

College of Creative Arts Information Evening

Screen Arts / Design
Music / Fine Arts / Toi Māori

Albany campus library
17 June, 7pm–8:30pm

Scan the QR code to register



Associate Professor Igelese Ete's music brings Pacific storytelling to life in *Tinā*

The 2025 film *Tinā*, directed by Miki Magasiva, is not just a compelling cinematic experience but also a cultural journey that highlights the deep connection between music, storytelling and the Pacific Islands. At the heart of the film's musical composition is Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa Massey University's very own Associate Professor Igelese Ete, whose work as the music arranger helped bring the emotional depth and authenticity of the story to life.

Dr Ete's involvement with the film also provided a valuable opportunity for Massey students on the Pukeahu Wellington campus recently. A free educational screening of the film in Massey's cutting-edge cinema was followed by a panel discussion with key members of the film's creative team. The next day, Mr Magasiva visited Pacific students on campus to converse about the cultural aspects of the film and filmmaking as a career path.

The film has had resounding success at the Aotearoa New Zealand box office so far, earning more than \$1 million in its opening weekend, the third biggest opening weekend for a New Zealand film.

A longstanding connection to the project

Dr Ete's collaboration with director Miki Magasiva began three years ago when Miki first reached out about the film's music production. Dr Ete had known Miki's younger brother, the late Pua Magasiva, after he invited Pua over to Fiji as a special guest for the Suva High School Choral Festival. The film *Tinā* became a personal project for Dr Ete, particularly as it was dedicated to Pua, a beloved figure in the Samoan and New Zealand communities.

His role as music director encompassed everything from arranging choral pieces to supervising the overall music production. Much of the film's soundtrack relied heavily on choir arrangements, a hallmark of Dr Ete's musical career. The process involved thorough research of traditional Samoan songs, conducting, rehearsing, recording and coordinating the music in Tāmaki Makaurau



Auckland, with Dr Ete leveraging his academic background and resources from Massey.

As a choral arranger, Dr Ete was tasked with creating arrangements that honoured the Pacific roots of the film, incorporating Samoan musical traditions and sounds. This work involved working closely with a variety of Pacific performers, ensuring the soundscape authentically represented the cultural themes of the film.

A career in education and mentorship

In addition to his work on *Tinā*, Dr Ete plays a key role in shaping the next generation of Pacific musicians through his teaching. At Toi Rauwhāangi College of Creative Arts in Wellington he is part of the Te Ranga Tai Kura team, where he teaches two papers. The first is a new Pacific paper which he created: Malaga Sā (The Sacred Journey): Exploring Pacific Creative, Cultural, and Spiritual Navigation through Collaborative Creative and Performative Practices and the second is Major Project Pre-Production for third-year music practise students.

Beyond the classroom, Dr Ete serves as a mentor to Pacific students through his role as Associate Dean Pacific. He is

passionate about creating opportunities for Pacific students in the arts, offering them avenues for creative expression.

Honouring cultural traditions through music

Music has always been a central part of Dr Ete's life. Growing up in a church where his father was the pastor, his early exposure to music in the Pacific context shaped his understanding of its cultural importance. This foundation in church music and traditional choral arrangements paved the way for his professional career, which includes significant contributions to films like *Moana* and the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy.

For Dr Ete, the music in *Tinā* was not just about crafting melodies – it was about creating an emotional connection with the audience. Through choral work, the film celebrates the Pacific Islands' rich cultural heritage and the role that music plays in storytelling. The lead character in *Tinā* is a choir teacher, which made Dr Ete's experience particularly fitting, as he understands firsthand the power of music to inspire, teach and unite people.

Future projects and continuing collaboration

Dr Ete hopes his work on *Tinā* will lead to further collaborations with Miki Magasiva and other Pacific filmmakers. The film's premiere in Auckland, followed by those in Wellington, Samoa and Fiji, provided him with the opportunity to pay tribute to Pua Magasiva and engage with various communities. These events

were a testament to the cross-community nature of the project, with Pacific peoples from all walks of life coming together to celebrate the film and its music.

He will also be presenting one of his own original productions, *Malaga – The Journey*, in June and later in the year *Naatapuitema – The Sacred Star*.

Looking ahead, Dr Ete's future plans include continued involvement in the New Zealand Choral Federation's activities and serving his community. He is also committed to further projects that bring together Pacific peoples and their stories, both through education and music. He believes these initiatives are essential for creating greater awareness of Pacific cultures and fostering a deeper understanding of their contributions to New Zealand's cultural identity.



Associate Professor Igelese Ete (second from right) at the *Tinā* Wellington premiere with wife Vasiti Radekedeke-Ete and parents the Retired Reverend Elder Risati and Fereni Ete.



FROM THE COLLECTION: 50 years of photography education

To celebrate 50 years of photography education, we are hosting an in-venue exhibition of selected photographic works, proudly showcased in a brand-new gallery space on the Ōteihā campus.



LOCATION: Library Building, Level 3, Ōteihā campus

EXHIBITION DATES: 31 May to 1 August

HOURS: 10am to 6pm, seven days a week

Tangowhakaahua #1 (2006), Erena Baker-Arapere

MASSEY BUSINESS SCHOOL

Driven to succeed: Vianca's ambitious journey through Massey in two years

Originally from Hawke's Bay, Vianca crossed the stage at Palmerston North's Regent Theatre in May, celebrating the culmination of a journey that was anything but ordinary. Her decision to study at Massey was influenced by her father, a Massey PhD graduate.

"I wasn't overly optimistic about moving to Palmerston North at first, but I focused on the positives and reminded myself to make the most of the opportunity."

She moved into the Halls of Residence in 2022 and began her Bachelor of Business. During Massey's Ignite sessions, Vianca learned about the option to accelerate her studies through Summer School. With the help of academic advisors, she created a plan that allowed her to complete her undergraduate degree in two years.

Originally majoring in management, Vianca soon discovered a passion for finance. "Management wasn't as challenging as I'd hoped. I loved the finance fundamentals course and decided to switch majors," she explains. The decision paid off. She went straight into a Master of Finance in early 2024 and now, a year later, she has walked away with both qualifications under her belt.

Vianca's path wasn't without challenges. Starting university shortly after the COVID-19 lockdowns meant there was a lot of remote learning, a tough adjustment for someone expecting the full campus experience. "It was difficult at first, but it taught me resilience. I built a study schedule, stayed connected with friends and family and kept reminding myself of the bigger picture." Time management and burnout were also realities Vianca had to face.

"It took me that first semester to really get into the rhythm of university life. I learned to use planners,



calendars and assignment trackers to stay on top of everything. When burnout hit, I made sure to take a break, sometimes just a couple of days was enough to reset."

Vianca credits much of her success to the support she received at Massey. "The academic advice services were incredibly helpful in mapping out my study path. The library services, like EndNote tutorials and assignment feedback, really helped me in my early days."

She also found a strong sense of belonging through Massey's Pacific community and gave back by becoming a tutor herself. "It was really rewarding to support other students after receiving so much support myself."

Vianca is now working in a graduate role with PWC in their private business team.

Her advice to those considering university is to just do it. "The time will pass anyway, so use it to invest in yourself. University isn't just about getting a degree, it's about discovering what you're capable of."

Te Manu Tāiko

We invite your Year 12 /13 rangatahi Māori to the Manawatū campus for Te Manu Tāiko

Tuesday 17th June

10.00am - 2.30pm

REGISTER HERE

Get ready to ignite your journey towards cultural leadership and identity in education with Te Manu Tāiko! Te Manu Tāiko allows rangatahi Māori to whakawhanaungatanga with other young Māori who are interested in university.

Explore the rich offerings of Massey and discover the tailored support available for Māori students. Connect with a vibrant community of high school peers, Massey students and staff. Experience first-hand what studying at Massey could mean for you as you set your sights on tertiary success! Our current students and staff will provide insights to their knowledge and experiences to help guide you with your future choices. You will also have a chance to dive deep into hands-on activities and engaging presentations from Dame Farah Palmer and George Jahnke.



Dame Farah Palmer (Ngāti Maniapoto, Waikato) stands as a pioneering figure in New Zealand rugby, renowned for her leadership both on and off the field. As captain of the Black Ferns, she led the team to three consecutive Rugby World Cup victories in 1998, 2002, and 2006, earning 35 caps during her international career. Her exceptional contributions to the sport were recognised in 2014 with her induction into the World Rugby Hall of Fame.

Beyond her playing days, Palmer has been instrumental in shaping the future of rugby through various governance roles. She became the first woman appointed to the New Zealand Rugby Board in 2016 and currently serves as its Deputy Chair. Additionally, she chairs the New Zealand Māori Rugby Board and is the President of the New Zealand Rugby Museum.

Her commitment to education is evident in her role as Pou Ākonga Executive Director – Māori Student Success at Massey University. Palmer's dedication to fostering leadership and inclusivity in sport has been recognised with numerous honours, including her appointment as a Dame Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit in 2023 for services to sport, particularly rugby.



George Jahnke (Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Ngāti Porou) is a revered figure in New Zealand's touch rugby scene, celebrated for both his exceptional playing career and his dedication to nurturing young talent. With a record eight Touch World Cup appearances between 1995 and 2024, Jahnke has secured four gold and four silver medals, marking him as the most successful Touch World Cup campaigner in the nation's history. His contributions were honoured with an induction into the Federation of International Touch Hall of Fame in 2024.

Beyond his on-field achievements, Jahnke serves as the Community Coaching Manager for Touch New Zealand, where he passionately supports the development of rangatahi. He played a pivotal role in launching the National Development Programme, aimed at providing under-16 players with regional opportunities to experience and grow in the sport. Reflecting on his journey from humble beginnings in Tūrangi, where coaches would pick him up for

training due to his family's lack of transportation, Jahnke emphasises the importance of giving back and fostering a supportive environment for the next generation. His commitment ensures that more young players across Aotearoa can embark on their own touch rugby journeys.

We'll provide a light lunch; however, you are welcome to bring your own or you can purchase kai at the Massey Dining Hall. Please bring your own drink bottle.

RESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT PROFILE

PAIGE GILL

WAIMEA COLLEGE

Kia ora! My name is Paige, and I'm a second-year Residential Assistant (RA) and a third-year Screen Arts student. I chose to become an RA because I saw the positive impact my own RA had on my first year, and I wanted to be that person for someone else.

When I first moved into the hall, I was terrified – new space, new city and no ties to anything comfortable. However, by the end of O-week, I knew I had chosen the right place for me. I found it easy to make friends by attending events, but I don't think I would've made as many connections if I hadn't put myself out there as much as I did. If you're an introverted person, I'd recommend going to the events that suit you best. There's a huge variety, and some are way more chill than others. You'll usually find someone who shares your interests, and you don't have to overexert yourself to make connections. My favourite event of the year is Drag Night, but Open Mic Night is a close second!

“**University can feel like a big change from high school, but the RAs are here to support you in many different ways as you navigate this new phase of your life.**”

Not only do we host events that support your studies and personal life (like Three Course Tuesdays and Study Mondays), but we're also always happy to chat about whatever's going on – good or bad. Often, one of the RAs is studying a similar degree or has completed similar assessments, so we can offer support with ideas or assessment briefs.

Before I finish, I wanted to share some unsolicited hall advice. I've had my fair share of experiences – neighbours keeping me up late, kitchens not being cleaned, and one time, someone even stole my ice cream from the freezer. But halls can be a really fun experience if you make it one. It's a time for growth, learning and self-discovery. If I could go back and talk to first-day halls Paige, I'd tell her to give herself grace. It won't be perfect right away, and you won't feel settled immediately. Sometimes you'll forget where the fabric softener goes in the washing machine and have to call your mum for help. But there is more support around you than you realize. Take the time to figure out what works best for you, because at the end of the day, you came here for a reason. Let yourself show you why.

APPLY NOW

For Accommodation in 2026

Accommodation Scholarships

\$5,000

Available to New to Massey school leavers
Apply by 1 September



VETMAP STUDENTS CELEBRATE GRADUATION MILESTONE

VetMAP is a dedicated pathway within Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa Massey University's Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc) that fosters equity, success and cultural connection in the veterinary profession.

VetMAP was introduced in 2020 as an outcome of the PhD research of Professor Eloise Jillings, Ngāti Maru, which explored access to veterinary education for Māori. The initiative is a targeted entry and support pathway offered by Tāwharau Ora School of Veterinary Science.

There are several key reasons why VetMAP was established. Firstly, it aligns with Massey's commitment to being a Tiriti-led institution. Secondly, the kaupapa aligns with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, supporting access to all levels of education for Indigenous peoples. Finally, VetMAP supports students in achieving their goals while helping the veterinary profession reflect the diversity of Aotearoa New Zealand.

The programme has had a significant impact since its inception. In the five years since VetMAP started, 79 Māori and Pacific students have been selected into the veterinary programme – compared to only 13 in the three years prior. This increase underscores the importance of creating welcoming and inclusive spaces where Māori and Pacific students feel a sense of belonging and see role models who reflect their backgrounds.

Through tailored mentoring, academic support and a strong sense of community, VetMAP ensures that students are well-equipped to thrive during the rigorous BVSc programme and beyond. Academic support includes funded tutorials and development of study communities. Holistic pastoral care is also central, with the kaiurungi (carrier) acting as a trusted point of contact for students. They also benefit from the support of the Pacific Student Success team and Te Rau Tauawhi Māori Student Centre.

VetMAP Kaiārahi Coordinator Pauline Seymour says the programme is grounded in the values of manaakitanga and whanaungatanga.

"VetMAP is about walking alongside our students from the beginning of their journey to the moment they graduate. We want them to feel confident, connected and proud of who they are and where they come from."

This week's graduation is particularly meaningful as these students not only complete a demanding professional degree but also represent a growing legacy of Māori and Pacific excellence in veterinary science.

BVSc graduate Ariana Miller, Ngāpuhi, says looking back over the past five years of vet school brings a wave of emotions like excitement, frustration, fear, pride, exhaustion and relief.

"From the uncertainty of pre-vet to the joy of securing my place in the programme, every moment has been part of a transformative journey. VetMAP has been a constant source of awahi and tautoko throughout, helping to shape not just the vet I am today but the person I've become. I'm deeply proud to have grown alongside my VetMAP whānau and to now support the next generation of tauira as they step into their own paths. Kia māia, kia kaha, kia mau – your time will come."

Fellow BVSc graduate Taylor Waterson, Whakatōhea, says VetMAP was her designated home away from home throughout her studies.

"It was a place of whānau, belonging, aroha and acceptance where everyone would always manaaki one another no matter the challenge. Knowing there were others on the same journey to lean on was a huge source of comfort early on and those connections have turned into lifelong friendships. I'm tremendously proud of the mahi my colleagues and I have put in to get to where we are today."

BVSc graduate Tamara Anderson, Kūki 'Āirani, says VetMAP had a significant impact on her during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

"The community of VetMAP during the pandemic and lockdowns led to friendships that I still hold dear; and even though our graduate jobs have taken us all over Aotearoa, I now have the privilege of working alongside one of those friends as a fellow intern at Massey University. As a tuākana of this initiative, it's been amazing to see how much VetMAP has grown in size and strength."

Head of Tāwharau Ora School of Veterinary Science Professor Jon Huxley extends his congratulations to the graduates.

"I am very proud of the whole VetMAP whānau and what they have achieved, and I would like to take the opportunity to wish our graduates all the very best in their careers. Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi – with your food basket and my food basket, the people will thrive."

UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS ABOUT VETERINARY SCIENCE

Auckland Campus Open Day
Friday 15 August

Manawatū Campus Open Day
Wednesday 6 August

REGISTER to attend and receive a copy of the Open Day schedule



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1st
IN VETERINARY SCIENCE
IN AUSTRALASIA AND ASIA

QS World University Rankings by Subject 2025

MEET YOUR **FUTURE STUDENT** LIAISONS 2025

Click on a photo to make contact



Antoinette Vaha

Associate Director, Student Recruitment
AUCKLAND | TĀMAKI-MAKAU-RAU



Barbara Scott

Team Leader
WELLINGTON | TE WHANGANUI-A-TARA



Dane Anderson

Future Student Advisor
AUCKLAND | TĀMAKI-MAKAU-RAU



Derek Lowe

Future Student Advisor
WELLINGTON | TE WHANGANUI-A-TARA



Camila Rossi

Future Student Advisor
AUCKLAND | TĀMAKI-MAKAU-RAU



Mariah McCarthy-Wilson

Future Student Advisor
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