

THE 2019 MOANA RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES REPORT

PACIFIC DATA SOVEREIGNTY

DAY 2

29 NOV, 2019

LIFE SOUTH, MANUKAU



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The undertaking of any event can often be overwhelming due to the amount of planning and organising activity that is required. However, the number of committed people and organisations made it possible to deliver on both Seminars. We are particularly grateful to Bright Sunday for leading the logistical planning and implementation and whose work behind the scenes did not go unnoticed, the Cook Island Development Agency New Zealand (CIDANZ) for the catering that was provided during the 2 days, and Life South, Manukau for allowing us to experience an awesome venue which provided a comfortable safe space and free carpark for all who attended. We are also grateful to the Ministry for Pacific Peoples for co-sponsoring Day 2 the Pacific Data Sovereignty Seminar.

Moana Research would like to extend our sincere thanks to all our keynote speakers, presenters and panellists, MCs, stallholders, children and preschools, and all who attended and participated in the Moana Research Seminar Series. We look forward to progressing the ideas and recommendations from both days.





Dr Rose Richards
PACIFIC DATA SOVEREIGNTY
Research Fellow, Te Kōwhiri

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THE 2019 MOANA RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES

29

Speakers

8

Workshops,
Panel &
Breakout
Sessions

134

Total
Registered

4

Exhibitors



DAY 2

PACIFIC DATA SOVEREIGNTY

Purpose

The purpose of this seminar was to provide a forum to bring together interested individuals and organisations to promote and discuss the concept of 'Pacific Data Sovereignty'.

Objectives of Seminar

- To discuss the importance of collecting, obtaining and protecting data.
- To have open conversations among delegates to progress collective thoughts and ideas on Data Sovereignty for Pacific Peoples.
- To bring together health, education, social development and other stakeholders who engage with Pacific communities.
- To discuss the importance and considerations in the Pacific framework.

Target audience

The seminar was targeted at individuals, agencies, organisations, sectors and professionals who have engaged or are likely to engage, with Pacific communities. Participants included health workers, teachers, social workers, policymakers, managers, researchers, funders and planners, tertiary institutions, students in midwifery, nursing, medicine, allied health and other health programmes, community health workers, childbirth facilitators, allied workforce and community leaders



OPENING 'SETTING THE CONTEXT'

Pacific peoples are a unique population who are often researched continuously. Findings often portray Pacific peoples from a deficit framework. Although this is pertinent, accountability to respond to these findings is also imperative.

The opening speakers were able to offer context around the importance of data sovereignty, particularly for Pacific peoples and addressed the significance of data as a potential solution in mobilising Pacific people's stories to provide positive outcomes. However, in order for this to occur requires having Pacific experts guiding the discussions and part of the decision-making process.

SPEAKERS

Andrew Sporle University of Auckland

Andrew is an active member with Te Mana Rauranga – that provide Maori data governance functions over relevant datasets in the absence of mandated Maori governance entities. Te Mana Rauranga support the establishment of appropriate protocols for iwi authority over data.



Dr Debbie Ryan Pacific Perspectives

Principal of Pacific Perspectives, a policy and research consultancy specialising in Pacific health. Dr Ryan has extensive experience in the health sector as a general practitioner, manager, senior public servant and researcher. She has qualifications in medicine, public management and company direction.



Seini Jensen Pasifika Futures

Director of Performance and Evaluation for Pasifika Futures, the Whanau Ora Commissioning Agency for Pacific Families. Seini holds a Bachelor of Laws and a Master of Arts (First Class Honours) in Anthropology, from the University of Auckland.

KEY THEMES/IDEAS FROM THIS MORNING SESSION:

- In regard to Pacific Data Sovereignty, it is important to know and understand the diversity across all Pasifika, and what unifies us
- Two paradigms – Treaty Based Model and the South Pacific System
- It is beneficial to understand our ancestral heritage. “Nothing about us without us”
- Te Mana Raraunga – the group of Maori researchers have identified the importance of being unified within a workforce which is challenging. The experiences of Maori researchers seeking data and protecting their data is that it is not always an easy task.
- To advocate for “Our Data, Our Sovereignty, Our Future” is vital as the world moves into an increasingly open data environment. Data is subject to the laws of the nation which it is stored.
- Maori Data Sovereignty recognises how Maori data should be subject to Maori governance. It is supportive of tribal sovereignty and the realisation of Maori and Iwi aspirations.
- In regard to Pacific Data Sovereignty, it is important to identify why Pasifika data matters. In a country as New Zealand, the health statistics of Pacific people are poorer than mainstream groups. There needs to be a focus as to why this is. Data can ultimately provide that answer.
- The example of trends in life expectancy among New Zealanders, diabetes prevalence and rheumatic fever hospitalisations are issues in itself to address.
- The need for social connectedness despite the positioning of Pacific people is key. Identifying and playing to our strengths can enable movement.
- KEEP “Knowledge, Engagement, Enablement and Performance” are significant stages in gathering data among Pacific communities.
- Gathering Pacific communities to “talanoa” to assist in the improvement of health and wellbeing is needed.



DATA

This session allowed for some of our experts and biostatisticians to share insights around data, highlighting its value and worth. Furthermore, the application of the Tivaevae framework in research, emphasised the significance of cultural frameworks needed in research for Pacific peoples.

SPEAKERS

Dr. Jesse Kokaua & Dr. Rose Richards University of Otago

Jesse is a Research Fellow at the Centre for Pacific health working on an HRC funded project that explores associations and pathways between family education and good health outcomes over time within the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI). Jesse has worked for many years improving the data collection and analysis in the area of mental health.

Rose is the Director of the Centre for Pacific Health and Associate Dean (Pacific) for the Dunedin School of Medicine. Rose was part of the Better Start National Science Challenge Big Data team during 2017 and since then has retained an interest in the opportunities and challenges by work within the IDI.



Dr. Polly Atatoa-Carr University of Waikato

Public Health Physician within Child and Youth Health at Waikato District Health Board, and Associate Professor of Population Health at the National Institute of Demographic and Economic Analysis (NIDEA) at the University of Waikato.



Vince Galvin Statistics New Zealand

Chief Methodologist at Statistics New Zealand. His work has encompassed Environmental, Social and Economic measurement. He has been on a number of cross agency advisory boards advising on a diverse range of measurement issues. He currently is active in Statistical measurement in the Pacific, chairing the Pacific Methods board.



KEY THEMES/IDEAS FROM THIS MORNING SESSION:

- 'Just like land, once you lose data it's very hard, if not impossible to get it back.' – Andrew Spoole
- The Tivaevae framework, an indigenous research methodology... the use of a context-specific research model is critical when undertaking research that involves Pacific people. The Tivaevae is a handmade quilt – signifying the Cook Islands. The processes in creating a Tivaevae is a metaphor to how research is stitched together.
- There are challenges and issues with Pacific data sovereignty. It is understood when conducting research 'data belongs to participants', however it necessary does not. One of the common issues is when data is analysed and formed, and the results are not freely shared.
- One other issue is that there are a multitude of ethnicities under the Pacific heritage. There is significant diversity among Pacific people. With these differences, it is required to "Bridge the Gap". Bridging the gap between access to and collection of data.
- When it comes to research, there are both producers and consumers of data.
- The commission of data, is it for the people?
- The need for talanoa regarding the commission of data would be essential. To be aware of the issues for funding. Data can be likened as being transactional.
- There are mixed methods in gathering data – which ways work more effectively? How can we continue these methods?
- Our leaders in the government sector have influence in decision making.

ETHNIC SPECIFIC WORKSHOPS

It was important to recognise the cultural expertise in the room and provide a space to acknowledge the uniqueness that each group brought to the table. The afternoon session provided an opportunity to encourage talanoa among the participants in the Pacific Island nations. This allowed further talanoa in the various groups to progress collective thoughts and ideas of Data Sovereignty for Pacific peoples.

TONGAN



To reflect on key learnings from the Pacific Data Sovereignty workshop so far.
What they would like to do in the space of Pacific Data Sovereignty.

- There needs to be a Pacific presence "there needs to be Tongans at the table to question variables"
- "... in quantitative research we are given variables and they're not flexible, because the variables are tied to specific questions and I think that is the first issue in terms of data sovereignty."
- Quantitative and qualitative have an equal importance among one another. It requires skills to ask questions and get a response for data. Qualitative is more time-consuming, investment is needed.
- There is a need for Tongans to mobilise communities. To ensure issues are addressed. Building capacity and capability in different areas, among Tongan professionals.
- The need is significant for times where data is difficult to obtain. "I think the thing is Pacific NGO's and government agencies are so defensive when it comes to data, and its ownership. It's so hard to pull data out from other agencies and it gets pretty toxic. I'm hoping we can seek that out. We have to understand the system."
- When it comes to data, the need for ethnic specificity is required. To read data and understand data specific to Tongan people is advantageous.
- Action points which were discussed included:
 - Set up a Tongan database
 - Use the database to mobilise Tongan communities to connect/ unite and converse.
 - Duty of Care. Must not exploit our communities for the sake of evidence gathering. Protection is required among our communities.

SAMOAN

What is your understanding of Pacific Data Sovereignty?

How can we understand Pacific Data Sovereignty from a Samoan perspective?

- With regards to Pacific Data Sovereignty there were strong views and discussions concerning how Pacific Data Sovereignty is similar to the Treaty of Waitangi. The word “sovereignty” and “ownership” leaves the question – who actually owns the data?
- Whenever it comes to data collection, there is a grey area with research and data. When looking at collecting health data, there is questions about whether health professionals are there just to collect data or provide the actual health service. “We live in a society where nobody is really consenting you for it you just think that it’s for the greater good and you just do it.”
- There needs to be a literal translation of the word sovereignty in the Samoan language. There may be different interpretations and each island may have their own views on sovereignty. To have a correct definition of sovereignty in the Samoan language may assist in effective data collection and future research.
- As we generously share knowledge – how do we balance generosity with protection? What are new interventions in gathering data and retaining it?
- Data is our identity. Further action points from today is to begin the conversations about what are effective ways about protecting data? How can we protect ourselves from being exploited via data?
- At times, the need to challenge the system is vital, there needs to be questions to the policies and laws. Having someone of Samoan descent in government level positions may be of help.
- When we look at qualitative and quantitative research, both methods are vital for data collection – the need to identify which one is more beneficial to our Samoan people could help further effective researching.

REALM COUNTRIES

Niue, Cook Islands and Tokelau



What is data sovereignty and what were some key learnings from today?

Why is it important to protect data for Pacific nations?

- It is important to look at the aspects of collecting data and protecting data. Are these efficient? What can be changed/what needs to be changed. It would be great to use data to link to the genetics behind our people.
- The way we are currently using data, is it benefitting our people? For example, as we identify data from education systems, can we use this information to improve education outcomes within schools. A look at the number of ‘underachieving’ students among Maori and Pacific, does not necessarily tell us the ‘why’ behind it. Is there a specific problem with our Maori and Pacific children or is at an issue with the education system? Or is it the poor quality of teaching?
- How are we using data to enhance the livelihoods of our populations? It is vital to look at how data can be collected, who is collecting it and whether it is a correct reflection into questions/concerns for our Pacific people.
- As government agencies collect data for various causes, how effective are these agencies in engaging with and gaining a response from Pacific families. It is concurrent how Pacific people ‘tell you what you want to hear’ rather than what is necessarily accurate. Why is this the case? Language barriers? Difference in understanding? All important aspects to identify and make changes towards.
- It is important to be mindful of the cultural biases and the measures taken to attain data. When we look at the national census, why is the response rate from Pacific families very low?
- The most important issue is how we can better address the deficit present within data sovereignty. How can we move forward from here? What is classified as a great need?

ENGLISH



What are some of the key elements learnt/heard from today?

What was something you did not know beforehand, and would like to explore?

- Across the Pacific, what are the similarities present when Pacific nations look at health and well-being? What are the similarities and differences when looking at the use of data?
- It is important to gauge how there are similarities and differences in the way definitions are defined. “I think what I wonder about – our definitions that we have, are they really full statistics, are they really applicable to the Pacific people...” With regard to the definition of “overcrowding”, statistics show that overcrowding is quite high among Pacific families compared to others... immediately the association of overcrowding and poor health is made. However, looking at the satisfaction of life, Pacific families are quite happy.
- There is a need to specifically identify what framework works best for how data is collected and applied among Pacific communities. To ensure this, engagement is essential.
- As we gather data surrounding Pacific peoples, there is also an issue of multiethnicity. As we collect data, for individuals that identify oneself as both of Maori and Pacific decent – ultimately only Maori is counted. Thus, they are counted as data for Maori.
- The need for clarity into collecting data relating to individuals with multi ethnicity is required.
- “If you’re not around the table, you’re probably on the menu.”
- There needs to be a Pacific presence advocating for the protection of data. It is important to realise how a platform is needed.
- The various health interventions being introduced, how well are they working for Pacific people? If we look at data relevant to health issues in NZ, are the outcomes a reflection of how effective the health interventions are?
- A look into codes... Codes is different from statistics. Codes is more purpose and statistics more limited. Codes can break the statistics. Codes looks at the diversity and the difference. Statistics is more about ‘control’.
- Action points in moving forward: a rediscovery frame. Overcoming the deficits. Creating more room for engagement. Identifying the capability of our people. The systems already in place in regard to Pacific Data Sovereignty... are they truly working? That is the real question...



TONGAN

“It is fundamental to have a Tongan or Pacific voice around the table, whether it be deficit or strength based. It should be asked and reviewed by people who understand context”



SĀMOAN

“An analogy: that losing data is likened to the loss of land back in Samoa. How can we protect our data? Just like the efforts in protecting our lands. Some lands are lost from loss of power, some lands are lost from the result of disestablishment. There is a strong requirement to protect our data.



NIUEAN & COOK ISLAND

When we think of Pacific data sovereignty, it is how we protect data, how we protect ourselves, how we protect ourselves from being 'used' or exploited. When health professionals are providing care, is it to provide the health service or just to add to the data?



ENGLISH

There is definitely a strong family centric approach, Pacific families are embedded in their culture and to apply certain frameworks to Pacific families, this needs to be taken into consideration.



SUMMARY

Dr Jean Mitaera

Dr Jean Mitaera provided a summary for the day highlighting the first action being support of the group's 'purpose'. The purpose to continue to build and unify the cause. Emphasis for Pacific researchers necessitates a collective response to engage and converse in Pacific Data Sovereignty.

Consideration of the experiences and journey of the Tangata whenua was fundamental for insight to the lay of the land as it is today. An integral aspect to remember so that sight is not lost of the lay of the land. Through learnt experiences, progress can be made. It is essential that action is taken in moving forward. As Pacific researchers there is a duty to begin and carry the momentum on.



- As Pacific people we have a rich and diverse heritage. As we look at how the world describes us and how we describe ourselves – there is a need for clarity. Clarity for who we are in order to build our capacity as one.
- There are issues present in how data is collected and presented. In IDI there may be statistics collected out of the Census. There is an individual responsibility as researchers to recognize where we get our data from, how we present it and how we represent. How can we strengthen our ability to influence others over how they present the same data?
- As we progress forward, it is important we identify that as Pacific nations our populations do not stay in place “When we talk about finances, when we talk about resources, when we talk about a whole range of things, we’re talking about this population that keeps crossing the same ocean.” We are not settlers who stay forever in one place. Our relationships and networking we have with one another is important.
- As we accept our purpose, and understand we have a Duty of Care to our Pasifika people we can continue the momentum to uphold each other and continue the narrative “Nothing about us without us”.
- There was emphasis on clarifying who we are as Pacific peoples and defining Pacific Data Sovereignty. The importance of understanding what narratives are being told around how Pacific peoples are described, how others are describing Pacific peoples and how Pacific peoples describe ourselves. Recommendation of an established network to encourage momentum and encourage interactions and talanoa around data sovereignty was priority.
- Differentiate between Pacific and Indigenous sovereignty as in the global community it is Indigenous Sovereignty.
- The ability to network allows us to do the next thing: to talanoa and to actually build our capacity 1. of knowing the definition of self and others and 2. to build our capacity so that we can enter into this dialogue of some kind. But to also not let

go of our Tangata whenua friends who have already started this journey. We need to be walking with them and actually that’s a good demonstration of the nature of our relationship.

- (Polly) reminded us of how data is collected, how it is presented and what’s wrong with half of it. Especially the IDI stuff and the statistics that have been collected out of the Census. One of the things that we have to brush up on, this is an individual responsibility, is to consider when we as researchers, as budding researchers or as long-term established researchers, where do we get our data from, how we present it, how we re-present it and how do we strengthen our ability to influence others over how they present that same data. So, it’s not just about building our capacity but how we use our influence and I thought Polly if you took that presentation to every institution, every tertiary institution and research centre, that will help to shape up the lens other people place on certain types of data, particularly Pacific data.
- One of the things about research and reflective practice is to actually say this is what I think, this is what I planned, and this is what we did, and this is what we learnt as a consequence and what we would do differently next time. And I think for me that is the point of intervention from Pacific, what we can do to influence what can be done different next time. So, I’m hopeful that the conversation will continue to grow and particularly the fact that you’re not only have a NZ context, but you have an across the Pacific context. That’s really important to us, our population doesn’t stay in one place. When we talk about finances, when we talk about resources, when we talk about a whole range of thing, we’re talking about this population that keeps crossing the same ocean. We’re not settlers who stay forever in one place, we are forever going back and forth. So, our
- relationships are really important. And through you the relationship with the other statisticians across the Pacific, not only to perhaps influence them but to get a better line of sight of what it is that they are considering, what’s important and how might we collectively as a network, or individually from the particular lens that we hold contribute to.
- If we accept our purpose, if we understand that we have a Duty of Care, that is the difference, I think. We are not talking about research or data that is conducted over a foreign group of people that we have no connection to, we are talking about our own people, our own kin, our own community our own ocean. And I’m suggesting to you that the motivation for this conversation is born out of the fact that we understand that we have a duty of care for each other. We mustn’t recycle the momentum; we mustn’t recycle each other and our ability to uphold each other.
- The Cook Island concept of Tūranga, everyone is born with Tūranga, whether you are a mother, an academic, a first born, or a cleaner, you have a particular Tūranga and every Tūranga has a set of relationships. Pirianga – every Tūranga has Pirianga, we, each of us in this room come with government, come with NGO, come with institutional Pirianga, we have Tūranga in all these spheres. Thirdly we have Akaueanga – Duties of Care, so that Tūranga that you hold as the lecturer, that Tūranga you hold as a professor, that Tūranga you hold as a lead researcher, that Tūranga you hold as a statistician, that Tūranga you hold as a masters student, PhD student, that Tūranga you hold as a community leader – that Tūranga requires you to grow and support the relationships that will help you and uphold you to affect your duty of care, for who, for your people. Who are your people – the entire Pacific Ocean.

Dr 'Ana Taufe'ulungaki

Dr 'Ana Taufe'ulungaki is a teacher and has been teaching for over 50 years and continues to teach. She proudly represents the 5th generation of teachers in her family. She is a proud Tongan and a staunch Christian.



Key ideas/themes (gathered from her formal address to the delegates):

- In Pacific history, our Pacific ancestors left their homes across Asia, to sail into the ocean in search of the mystery that lied beyond the horizon... sustained only by the strength of their vision and faith in their knowledge and skills.
- There has always been an innate desire within Pacific people to explore and venture, to discover and create, the possibilities are endless.
- Over time there are challenges Pacific nations constantly face "... our small vulnerable cultural and language communities are in the process of being further eroded and emasculated, by other more powerful and dominant cultures and languages."
- It is important to engage with/attempt to sustain the Pacific heritage... "...to sustain our unique linguistic, cultural, epistemological and technical systems"
- Pacific people "...are faltering and have gone somewhat astray, because for too long we have allowed our faith to waver, we have allowed others to write stories, sing our songs, name our world and define who we are and we have allowed others to validate, authenticate and legitimize who we are"
- There is a need to take ownership over who we are, what we are and what we call our own. "...the sources of our liberations are live in us, in the form of languages and core values of our Pacific societies and especially our Christian faith." In order to keep hold of what has shaped and created Pacific people.
- By taking responsibility over our survival and growth in the choices we make, we can influence the future generations to come.
- Data sovereignty involves the collection, storage, retrieval, accessibility, application and dissemination of individual groups and cultural information.
- Education is essential in allowing Pacific peoples to increase their knowledge and understanding; ultimately creating strong foundations for future Pacific generations to come.
- It is vital that Pacific researchers have meaning in their endeavours. Affirming the Pacific duties and responsibilities will allow growth.
- "We are on a crusade not just to create a better future for our Pacific people, but to give our children and people something grander, something worthy of their commitment skills and time."

Dr. 'Ana Taufeulungaki (Transcript)

I am in many ways the outsider looking in. Tapu moe 'afio 'a e 'Otua 'i hotau lolotonga, pea tapu kiate kimoutolu katoa 'oku mou me'a heni he 'efiafi ni.

I acknowledge the tangata whenua of Aotearoa, I acknowledge the Managing Director of Moana Research, Jacinta Fa'alili-Fidow, I acknowledge Dr 'Ana Hau'alofa'ia Koloto and the Ministry of Pacific Peoples. Fellow participants, may I beg your indulgent for a few more minutes to say a few words.

5,000 years ago, our Pacific ancestors left their known homes in Asia and sailed off into an Ocean. Drawn ever on by the mystery of the beckoning horizon, and the majesty of the far and tranquil Pacific Ocean. Their own guides the winds, the waves and the stars. Sustained only by the strength of their vision and their faith in their knowledge and skills.

They bought with them the traditions, values beliefs, religions, crafts, arts, plants, animals and languages of their homelands. And the thousands and one island of Oceania, forged them into unique cultural and linguistic heritages. The children of Maui thrived and multiplied, and then the white man came and yet more others. The impacts have been in some cases catastrophic.

Tonga's late Epli Hau'ofa once wrote in the case of Tonga,

"Yesterday Tangaloa made man, but the God of love creates children."

Today, many parts of the Pacific including the new Pacific diaspora, as we've seen today and during the week, our small vulnerable cultural and language communities are in the process of being further eroded and emasculated, by other more powerful and dominant cultures and languages. Most, if not all of us are engaged not only in desperate attempts to sustain our unique linguistic, cultural, epistemological and technical systems but crippled too, with the growing problem of how to nurture, protect, maintain, promote and sustain enough members who have pride in themselves, their communities and their shared identities.

As much as I respect and admire my late countryman and relative Professor Hau'ofa, I do not believe that the God of Love breeds children, in fact we have survived and are here today because of our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour the Lord of the Universe. To Him be all glory and honour. By His love and grace and mercy we are here and by His will we will go forward to inherit a new future and a new Pasefika.

I believe that we are faltering and have gone somewhat astray, because for too long we have allowed our faith to waver, we have allowed others to write our stories, sing our songs, name our world and define who we are and we have allowed others to validate, authenticate and legitimise who we are.

We were once the children of Tangaloa, and we traversed, settled and thrived in Oceania, but we are now the sons and daughters of the living God, why are we afraid?

We must take ownership of who we are, and what we are, and what we call our own, ours. Our data, our Pacific heritages, our new creations. The sources of our liberations are alive in us, in the form of our languages and core values of our Pacific societies and especially our Christian faith. From these we can create the tools and institutions that can set us free and allow us to thrive once more as proud and independent daughters and sons of the living God.

In taking responsibility for our own survival and growth in the choices we make we gain meaning and worth. For the seeds that we will sow in our children today will be watered with the vibrant colours of our truths, nourished in the laughter of our triumphs and the tears and blood of our struggles. The power of ideas will fuel our survival and transformation. Ideas weathered in action. For in our Pacific way, our role is not to contemplate the universe but to transform it.

Data Sovereignty is not just about ownership of the collection, storage, retrieval, accessibility, application and dissemination of individual groups and cultural information. It is about taking charge of our own destiny. Education and our ever-unwavering faith rooted in our Pacific and Christian values give us understanding of who we are and where we came from. And in that understanding we will ultimately find a way to where we wish to be, and what the foundation, core and shape of colours of that future might be.

We should take heart from what Max Endermann's view that history shows that people who left only monuments behind as a record of their existence have vanished whereas those who have left ideas have survived. New nations took their place by force of arms, others by might of their cohesive ideas. We should determine to create for ourselves and our children an oasis of Pacific ideas embedded in Pacific and Christian values in the desert of institutional globalisation.

We as Pacific researchers and practitioners should know what our consuming purpose is to give meaning to our endeavours. We are on a crusade not just to create a better future for our Pacific people, but to give our children and people something grander, something worthy of their commitment, skills and time. We need to ensure that our children are taught not just about rights but about values. An education that is not just about the creation, transfer, actions and application of new knowledge and skills and the protection of existing creations. But it is also about understanding themselves as Pacific people and the duties and responsibilities that go with that.

They should become Pasefika citizens, to recognise the privacy of the group and are able to demonstrate generosity of spirit, love and respect for others, humility in the knowledge and skills they possess, and loyalty to and pride in their Pacific and Christian heritage.

I would like to sincerely thank Moana Research and the Ministry of Pacific People for the kind invitation to be with you today. I have sat here and listened to all the presentations and the talanoa. And my heart was warmed, filled and bubbling over with hope, by the 'ofa, passion and commitment of all of you to our common Pacific future. And in our fathers loving, guiding hands our future is most secure. May He extend His grace and love to bless you all. Tu'a 'ofa.



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

Below is a list of recommendations to be facilitated by Moana Research, Ministry for Pacific peoples and other existing partners:

- Establish a Pacific Data Sovereignty Network – Allow interested participants to sign-up to the network, soon after the Seminar to maintain momentum.
- Organisations to signal their interest in supporting a Pacific Data Sovereignty Network.
- Consider the development of a Charter or a guiding document to outline an agreed definition/description of Pacific Data Sovereignty and the key principles for data and information about Pacific peoples.
- Consider the difference between Pacific Data Sovereignty indigenous to Pacific nations and that which is related to the diaspora in New Zealand.
- Consider the establishment of Pacific Data Sovereignty Network branches e.g. a separate Tongan branch, Samoan branch, etc. to allow for exploration of Pacific Data Sovereignty concepts within Pacific-specific languages, cultures and contexts.

It was also agreed that the Seminar on 28 November 2019 became an Inaugural gathering of the new Pacific Data Sovereignty Network.

A meeting will be held late January/early February 2020 with the following existing partners to discuss how we can action the above recommendations and to progress activities for the new network.

- Jacinta Fa'alili-Fidow, Moana Research
- Dr 'Ana Koloto, Ministry for Pacific Peoples
- Dr Polly Atatoa-Carr, Waikato University
- Dr El-Shadan Tautolo, Auckland University of Technology
- Dr David Schaaf, Counties-Manukau Health
- Ivan Tava, Social Investment Agency
- (TBC), Statistics New Zealand

We look forward to partnering together on this new initiative to progress the need for Pacific Data Sovereignty to protect and benefit Pacific peoples.



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