

Thought Leaders Dialogue

With the Pacific.....About the Pacific

▾ **30–31 August 2007**

METOTIA FOU HALL
METHODIST CHURCH OF SAMOA – PAPATOETOE
19 ROSCOMMON ROAD, PAPATOETOE
AUCKLAND



Here, There, In Between

A dialogue to connect academic researchers, Pacific communities and government to describe, discuss and debate the latest research findings.



THE **PASIFIKA PROJECT** IS A SERIES OF RESEARCH PAPERS COMMISSIONED BY PUBLIC SERVICE CHIEF EXECUTIVES THAT CONSIDER NEW ZEALAND'S INTERACTION WITH THE PACIFIC.



THE PAPERS FOCUS ON THE PACIFIC ECONOMY IN NEW ZEALAND, THE ECONOMIES OF THE ISLANDS THEMSELVES, TRADE, BORDERS AND MIGRATION.

A symposium was held in Wellington in February to discuss the papers. We now want to involve the broader community in this research through facilitating a dialogue between the researchers and Pacific peoples. The Thought Leaders Dialogue will bring together researchers, Pacific communities and government to describe, discuss and debate research findings from the Pasifika papers.

NEW ZEALAND AND THE PACIFIC ARE INTERCONNECTED

The Pasifika project recognises that the size and influence of the Pacific community in New Zealand changes New Zealand and changes the way New Zealand operates in its neighbourhood.

Pacific communities in New Zealand retain important links with home communities making New Zealand part of a wider network which extends beyond the Pacific home countries to the Pacific Rim, including Australia.

Pacific people's economic fortunes in New Zealand are critical for them – and important for other New Zealanders. They also affect their home economies.

WE WANT TO CONNECT ACADEMIC RESEARCHERS AND PACIFIC COMMUNITIES...

... to provide a forum to describe, discuss and debate research findings from the Pasifika papers.

The Thought Leaders Dialogue will enable:

- Pacific communities to contribute knowledge, views and experience to the developing body of knowledge and analysis of Pacific issues
- researchers to test their findings and key assumptions with Pacific communities.



DAY ONE

HERE: WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT PACIFIC PEOPLE IN NEW ZEALAND?

DEMOGRAPHY: WHO'S HERE, AND WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THEM?

Paper 1:

Paul Callister, Institute of Policy Studies, Victoria University of Wellington & Robert Didham, Statistics New Zealand – **Some Emerging Demographic Features of the Pacific Population in New Zealand.**

The first paper presents an analysis of the latest census data on the makeup of the Pacific community in New Zealand. It looks at:

- sources and timing of migration
- demographic and socio-economic data
- changing achievements in education
- patterns of intermarriage.



Paul Callister

Dr Paul Callister is an economist who has undertaken research for a wide range of public and private sector organisations, addressing local, national, and cross-national issues. Paul is currently a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Policy Studies, School of Government, Victoria University,

Wellington. Paul's recent research has included a study of ethnic intermarriage, the transmission of ethnicity within households and family ethnicity measure. Other recent research has included a focus on the polarisation of work across households; fertility and 'family-friendly' policies; parental leave; and the changing role of fathers within families.

Robert Didham

Dr Robert Didham is a geographer, historian and demographer, and a member of the Demographic Research Programme in Statistics New Zealand. Robert is a specialist in Asian and Pacific geography, history and demography with research interests including ethnicity, migration, language, Buddhology and population dynamics.

PACIFIC PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION IN THE NEW ZEALAND ECONOMY

Paper 2:

Jean-Pierre de Raad and Mark Walton, NZIER, Wellington –

Pacific People in the New Zealand Economy: Understanding Linkages and Trends

The second paper takes a snapshot at the end of the first 50 years of migration. It uses economic modelling to take a look ahead. It considers:

- what drives trends in earnings?
- are the wages of Pacific people converging with those of the rest of New Zealand?
- what about Pacific people's wealth?
- how should wealth be defined in a Pacific context?
- are the ways people think about wealth changing?



Jean-Pierre de Raad

Jean-Pierre de Raad is Deputy Chief Executive at NZIER – the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research. His work primarily involves research and analysis of health, education and social policy.

Jean-Pierre has 15 years' experience as policy advisor in the public sector and as a consultant. Recent projects include: an evaluation of a GP and Radiology Financial Access Pilot; an assessment of the Government's 20 Free Hours early childhood policy; cost-benefit analyses of various health and education policies; a review of the approach to industrial relations in the health sector; and benchmarking of the quality of policy advice.

THERE: WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT HOW PACIFIC ECONOMIES WORK?

PACIFIC ECONOMIES

Paper 3:

John Gibson, Department of Economics, University of Waikato and Visiting Research Fellow Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies and Karen Nero, Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies at the University of Canterbury – **Are Pacific Island Economies Growth Failures? Geo-Political Assessments and Perspectives.**

This paper draws on different academic disciplines to ask how we think about Pasifika? It considers:

- given New Zealand's closest associations have been with Polynesia, do we give proper weight to Melanesia?
- how should we think about Pacific countries in terms of economic growth relative to other countries?

- how do the traditional parts of Pacific economies contribute?
- how do we think about remittances? Why are they so expensive to send?



John Gibson

Dr John Gibson is Professor of Economics at the University of Waikato Management School. A graduate of Lincoln University, John has a doctorate from Stanford University in the United States. His teaching and research interests are in microeconomics and in the micro econometric aspects of development, labour and the international economy. John is currently a Senior Research Associate at the Motu Economic and Public Policy Research Trust. His other research interests include poverty measurement, where he is a member of an expert group advising the United Nations Statistical Division, the design and analysis of household survey data, and economic development, especially in China and other Asian and Pacific economies.



Karen Nero

Karen Nero is the Director of the Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies at the University of Canterbury. She was trained as a cultural and social anthropologist at UC Berkeley and through her work as a researcher for and with the Community Action Agencies, health providers and indigenous historians and museums in Micronesia. Karen's recent work in the Northern Pacific and since 1993 in Aotearoa, concerns indigenous cultural and political economies and their interactions with colonial, post-colonial and global processes. In particular she is concerned with how understandings of island nations and Pacific trans-local communities could be enhanced through a better understanding of economic activities that are not counted or represented in official statistics.

DAY TWO



IN BETWEEN: HOW DO PEOPLE, TRADE AND INVESTMENTS FLOW BETWEEN NEW ZEALAND AND THE PACIFIC?

TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Paper 4:

Bob Warner, Centre for International Economics, Canberra & Sydney
– **Pacific Island Economies: The role of international trade and investment.**

This paper considers trade and investment issues for Pasifika in the context of changing international trade rules. It considers:

- does trade liberalisation make sense for Pacific countries?
- what are the advantages and disadvantages of regional and multilateral liberalisation for Pacific countries? Alternatives?
- how should we deal with export of labour (including temporary labour schemes?)



Bob Warner

Bob Warner is the International Projects Manager at the Centre for International Economics in Australia. Previously, he worked for 12 years at the Industries Assistance Commission (now Productivity Commission) and for 6 years at the World Bank. Bob's areas of expertise include: trade, investment and industry policy and assessing the socio-economic effects of integration; public finance, including taxation reform and public expenditure analysis and management; private sector development and enterprise reform; and analysis of the impacts of policy change on poverty and income distribution. Bob has international experience in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Lao PDR, Mozambique, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Thailand, Tanzania, Vietnam, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

MOBILITY OF PEOPLE

Paper 5:

Richard Bedford, Population Studies Centre, University of Waikato
– **Pasifika Mobility: Pathways, Circuits and Challenges in the 21st Century.**

This paper broadens out the discussion on trade and investment. It provides an up to date analysis of the movement of Pacific people in and out of New Zealand, looks at Trans-Tasman flows and Australia's stake in the discussion. The paper considers these issues in the context of the different demographics of Polynesia and Melanesia. It asks:

- what is the real migration picture over the last 10 years?
- how do our migration arrangements sit with demographic trends?
- what are the implications for New Zealand and for the Pacific states from transnational populations?
- how does migration affect the way we define ourselves and our place in the region?



Richard Bedford

Professor Richard Bedford is Professor of Population Geography and Director of the Population Studies Centre at the University of Waikato. He is also Director of a national cross-university initiative, funded by the Tertiary Education Commission, the Building Research Capability in the Social Sciences (BRCSS) Network. Richard is a specialist in migration studies and since the mid-1960s he has been researching processes of population movement in the Asia-Pacific region. He has published extensively on aspects of migration and is a regular contributor to debates about immigration policy in New Zealand.

BORDERS IN A BORDERLESS WORLD?

Paper 6:

Michael Moriarty, Consultant – **Border Management in the Pacific Region.**

This paper considers the ways we think about our borders. A lot of the stresses in the relationship between New Zealand and Pasifika take place around borders. We have different views about how different flows of goods and services should be treated, including how they should affect the movement of people. We also take joint action to extend them and manage them. In the era of globalisation, borders can at once seem irrelevant, and be the locus of new stresses and tasks.

The paper considers:

- ways of thinking about borders
- Pacific border management problems in the era of globalisation
- regional cooperation – can it be extended?



Michael Moriarty

Michael Moriarty spent most of his career in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and as a senior manager in the Treasury and the State Services Commission. He resigned from the public service in 1993 to pursue a career providing development policy and management advice to the governments of developing countries. Michael has worked for the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, AusAID and NZAID. He has worked in every independent Pacific Island country, in various Asian and African countries and in the Middle East. He combines his teaching in development policy and management with consulting work in the public sectors of Asian and Pacific Island countries.



DIALOGUE PROGRAMME

THURSDAY 30 AUGUST

**Venue: Metotia Fou Hall, Methodist Church of Samoa
19 Roscommon Road, Papatoetoe, Auckland**

8am	Registration Opens
9am	Welcome and Introduction
	Key Note Address
	Morning Tea
	Theme 1 – Here
	Demography: who's here and what's happening to them – Paul Callister and Robert Didham
	Panel discussion and questions/audience participation
12.30pm	Lunch
	Pacific peoples' participation in the New Zealand economy – Jean-Pierre de Raad
	Panel discussion and questions/audience participation
	Afternoon Tea
	Pacific Economies – John Gibson and Karen Nero
	Panel discussion followed by questions/audience participation
5.00pm	Closing
7.00pm – 10.00pm	Pacific Banquet

FRIDAY 31 AUGUST

9am	Welcome / Reflection on Day One
	Theme 3 – In between
	Trade and Investment – Bob Warner
	Panel discussion and questions/audience participation
	Morning Tea
	Mobility of People – Richard Bedford
	Panel discussion and questions/audience participation
12.15pm	Lunch
	Borders in a Borderless World – Michael Moriarty
	Panel discussion followed by questions/audience participation
	Afternoon Tea
	Public Service Chief Executives Panel
4.30pm	Closing

To register download information at www.dol.govt.nz/news/events/index.asp
or call 09 970 3988 or 04 915 6564

The Pasifika papers are available from the Institute of Policy Studies website:
www.ips.ac.nz under "Previous Events and News", "Pasifika Project".