#### **EDITORIAL**

# Nau mai ki Rangahau Aranga!

# **Welcome to AUT's Graduate Review**

# Rangahau Aranga Editorial Team

It is with profound pride and genuine excitement that we welcome you to the inaugural issue of Rangahau Aranga, Auckland University of Technology's first postgraduate student-run, peer-reviewed open access journal. This initiative has come about through a combination of inspiration, perseverance, and an overwhelming desire to create a safe, dynamic and open platform for academic expression at Te Wānanga Aronui o Tāmaki Makaurau.

Rangahau Aranga will run a rolling publication schedule, which means this first volume will incorporate all submissions accepted for publication by the editors until submissions close towards the end of 2022. Being multi-disciplinary, each volume will be made up of a diverse range of subjects presented in a variety of formats; we invite you to submit something of your own, be it commentary or review, creative work, short – or long – form research article. Help to shape the publication in a way which is reflective of, and which celebrates, the richness and diversity of postgraduate scholarship alive and growing within our institution.

We are launching this issue with the publication of a set of abstracts from AUT's 2021 Postgraduate Research Symposium. Each of these abstract authors gave an oral or poster presentation at the Symposium, which was held online for the first time ever due to COVID-19. These authors capably communicated their research in a time of great challenges. Their abstracts as collected here represent not only the incredible breadth of postgraduate research at AUT, but also the resilience of our postgraduate students, who have persevered despite immense disruptions to their research plans. Some have not been able to collect data; others have had to change topics completely. Some are not even in the same country as their supervisors. And yet, this cohort of authors has continued the urgent work of performing and communicating their research at a time when research has never been more sorely needed. We are proud to launch Rangahau Aranga by celebrating the work (and perseverance) of these authors, and the stunning variety of research they conduct here at AUT.

**Lugman Hayes & Anaise Irvine (advisors to the Editorial Team)** 

I am thrilled to be a part of the first issue of Rangahau Aranga. I am a staff member from the AUT Student's Association (AUTSA) and have joined the editing team as part of my commitment to amplifying the student voice and raising opportunities for AUT students. The COVID-19 pandemic has made me reflect on the importance of being able to access research and to uplift those who undertake it. Research got us through the pandemic and will help us recover from it. I hope this journal will make research more diverse and equitable so that we can better care for our communities during times of both hardship and normalcy. It has been a real privilege to read through the abstracts submitted. AUT has some incredibly talented researchers with powerful voices, and I am so grateful I get to be a small part of their publishing journey.

## Eliza Lyon

I applaud the earlier discussions held by AUTSA and AUT Library's Tuwhera to shake up the university system, alongside AUT postgraduate students through the launching of this open-access peer reviewed journal set up for AUT Postgraduate students to disseminate their research. This idea of shaking up the system known as the academy to create positive transformational change resonates with the changing tides within varying contexts in Aotearoa New Zealand society. After spending a four-year period working on my doctoral studies within Te Ipukarea Research Institute in the Faculty of Design and Creative Technologies, it was natural for me to want to give back by way of service and manaaki (support) to AUT. As part of the inaugural editorial team, I am inspired by the meaning behind the naming of our journal – "speak to the emerging and arising voices in our academic community". Through mahitahi (collaborative practices), it is my belief that this inaugural journal will be one portal where many postgraduate students at AUT can start to share their voice and put their stake in the ground to bring transformative change to themselves, their families and communities and society.

## **Hazel Abraham**

As a student led initiative, Rangahau Aranga is an academic journal for students by students. This is an exciting opportunity for emerging researchers like myself to have such a platform to publish my work and contribute to the wider academic community. I am thrilled to be part of this project as I, like many of my peers, recognise the barriers for students to publish. Thus, this journal aims to offer a safe space to promote student research as well as provide a positive introduction to academic publishing. It is my hope that this journal can help increase students' interest in academia and potentially be a motivating factor for some to purpose a fulltime

research career. I'm looking forward to contributing to this journal, as an author and an editor, and be able to gain invaluable experience to the peer review and editorial process.

## **Kelsey Cornthwaite**

When I heard about having the chance to be part of Rangahau Aranga, a journal run for students by students, I immediately thought of the enormous benefit this will create for many students at AUT that are willing to share the diversity of their research in an open access journal. Certainly, this journal will open a space where everyone at AUT has a voice and a place to express. My personal interest is to gain an insider's view of publication dos and don'ts which could help me to accelerate my own publications. In addition, becoming part of a multidisciplinary team where I can expand my knowledge has always been in my mind as part of the skills I'd like to develop as a young researcher in Marine sciences.

#### **Natalia Bullon**

Journals provide the opportunity for academics and creatives alike to share their knowledge and passions, and Rangahau Aranga is no different. This open access journal will enable AUT students to present their hard work in an easily-digested manner with other students and academics.

I am very pleased to be a part of this project and look forward to seeing it grow with the support of the AUT community behind it. My desire to be part of this project stems from my passion for sharing hard-earned knowledge, presenting it in a way that is clear and easily consumed. I look forward to contributing to the journal through editing and giving feedback to authors, and through the promotion of a free space for free thinkers. I hope you enjoy!

#### **Nathan Fehr**

Kia ora koutou, kamusta po, hello! As the 2022 Postgraduate Affairs Officer and as a young researcher within the field of Criminology and Criminal Justice, I am pleased to be a part of the editorial team for this new initiative. I am especially delighted that this initiative is one where young and upcoming researchers like myself are able to develop critical skills within the world of academia and be introduced to the processes of publishing their work and peer review, whilst also having support as they take part.

Personally, when I first heard about Rangahau Aranga, one of my first thoughts was that this student led journal that would allow for us as a community to learn from each other, while also showcasing works from the many disciplines being studied across the AUT community. My hope is that as this journal continues to develop and more students within the AUT community become more involved, the diversity of the research being showcased will continue to grow as well.

To the AUT Postgraduate Community, Haere mai!

# Psalma Angela Zabala

With big excitement we are looking forward to presenting the first ever issue of Rangahau Aranga, and for you, the readers, to hopefully enjoy reading and dive into the content from the AUT's 2021 Postgraduate Research Symposium. I have been part of the AUT Team since 2017 and I have to say that it is the first ever university that I am really proud to be part of and contribute to, and see it growing through the years. When I heard about the call to join the editorial board of the Rangahau Aranga journal, I knew it was a call that must be answered. I have contributed previously with articles to international journals, and I have reviewed articles for other journals as well. Thus, I jumped on the opportunity to be able to give back to the community and provide helping hand in nurturing the writing of others. It is important to uplift others and see them flourishing, since there are too many factors already out there pushing academics down. That being said, you must do the mahi, otherwise you will be back to square tahi.

#### Rumen Rachev

To express oneself is to develop not only oneself but a part of the greater hapori.

It is with a sense of gratitude that I am able to contribute to being part of the opening venture of Rangahau Aranga. To provide measures by helping guide the journey is a referential point of time, the embarking incursion is for all those who are involved. all academia at large.

It is not said enough that researching, providing articulation, disseminating, and communicating ideas is a sacrosanct act permissible today. The act of expression, to convey one's mana to the community is what we seek. Through the formation of this journal, we join hands as a community, as a whānau. By gathering perspectives and deciding what measures must be made to guide ourselves. To all future students and graduates, I welcome you with the warmest

of mihi. Find and recognise this journal as a welcoming space for the transmission of your perspectives ideas and truths. For it is our verdant hope that Rangahau Aranga becomes a focal point for intellectual discussion.

By the formative vision of this journal, we have sought not only to provide a useful tool but a space but to establish and promote the criticality of analysis. To Convey the actions to help redefine a diverging world that transmutes with ever-shrinking boundaries.

It is with deep honour and to AUT that I have contributed to this venture to the journal of Rangahau Aranga. Not an honour for me, but an honour within the wider social context - to bring mihi for the university, the faculty's lecturers and all-new incumbent students. and, of course, Aotearoa.

I hope that the creation of the journal leads to change. The world's path exists solely in your hands – seek the impossible and achieve it.

Ngā mihi

## Shan Iyer

Kia ora koutou katoa – welcome to Rangahau Aranga. The name Rangahau Aranga drew me to this journal – the opportunity to seek knowledge from my peers and to showcase the emerging voices and solutions to the world's problems was unmissable. I am thrilled and proud to join the editorial team and create a collaborative environment where postgraduate students can share their passionate and excellent research with the world. At a time when rejection rates are high and journals incredibly competitive to publish in, I am glad we can provide a space for postgraduate students to take their step into the publishing world and feel welcome.

I hope this journal will reveal a diverse range of perspectives and experiences and that every reader finds something that resonates with them. It is a learning experience for all involved, and I hope we can discover new ways for the editorial team to connect with emerging scholars. In particular, I look forward to learning about collaboration and research approaches from Māori and indigenous perspectives, and from perspectives of students and scholars with disabilities or impairments. To the postgraduate students of AUT I say: be welcome, be heard, and be valued. Ngā mihi.

# Sophie Hayden