

# Pasifika at Victoria University of Wellington

VICTORIA  
UNIVERSITY  
WELLINGTON

TE WHARE WĀNANGA  
O TE ŪPOKO O TE IKA A MĀUI



**KNOW  
YOUR  
MIND**  
MĀ TE MŌHIO



# Welcome

Talofa lava, mālō e lelei, kia orana, ni sa bula vinaka, faka'alofa lahi atu, fakatalofa atu, kam na mauri, gud de tru, kaselehlie, halo olgeta, ia orana, aloha mai e, kia ora and warm Pasifika greetings.

Welcome to Victoria University of Wellington, your place of departure for the journey of your life. I am very pleased you are considering studying at Victoria University. By choosing Victoria University, you can achieve academic excellence through discovery and learning at a capital city university with award-winning facilities and exceptional, outstanding and unique Pasifika support services.

You are not travelling alone. There are many other students sharing your journey who will have similar ambitions to you and will face similar experiences. Together, with your family and community, fellow students will help you navigate your way and there are many dedicated staff who can provide support services to guide and encourage you. We also have communities of Pasifika students represented in various Pasifika student associations, where you will find a place of belonging and ensure your cultural values and beliefs are enhanced.

The University has many Pasifika graduates who started their journey here and are now flourishing in New Zealand and throughout the world. You are following the pathways of their voyages.

Manuia lou malaga! Good luck on your journey.

Associate Professor Hon. Luamanuvao Winnie Laban,  
Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Pasifika) QSO

[www.victoria.ac.nz/vicpasifika](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/vicpasifika)

# Support

## Pasifika liaison officer

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Tapu Vea, the Pasifika liaison officer, is your first point of contact if you are considering studying at Victoria University. She will be happy to answer you and your family's questions about course planning information, entrance and

admission enquiries, scholarships, university life and study. She can also help you through the application process and connect you with the Pasifika support team here. There are opportunities for Pasifika students and their aiga to attend Pasifika Orientation, have customised campus visits and attend information evenings and open days throughout the year.

**Phone** 04-463 6670

**Email** [tapu.vea@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:tapu.vea@vuw.ac.nz)

## Pasifika learning adviser

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Kura Moeka'a, the Pasifika learning adviser, is part of the Student Learning team and works with students to foster successful study and develop independent, active learners. Free and confidential help and advice is available to students

on a one-to-one and small group basis and the team also run workshops or weekly sessions.

**Phone** 04-463 5999

**Email** [kura.moekaa@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:kura.moekaa@vuw.ac.nz)

## Te Pūtahi Atawhai

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Te Pūtahi Atawhai (TPA) translates as 'where people come together to get assistance'. The Pasifika success coordinators at TPA encourage and assist Pasifika students to participate and succeed at university. They can provide you with a kete (basket) of specific support based on your individual needs, and they can link you to other services in the University that can help you. An academic mentoring programme in which you can work alongside a senior student is also available.

**Phone** 04-463 6794

**Email** [te-putahi-atawhai@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:te-putahi-atawhai@vuw.ac.nz)

## Te Rōpū Āwhina

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Te Rōpū Āwhina (Āwhina) is the on-campus whānau for Pasifika and Māori students in the Faculties of Science, Engineering and Architecture and Design. Āwhina is about collective success, high expectations, aspirations, achievements and inclusiveness. It provides academic mentoring and holistic support from students' first-year study to postgraduate-level study.

**Phone** 04-463 5987

**Email** [teropuawhina@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:teropuawhina@vuw.ac.nz)

## Pasifika law coordinator

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Lagi Tuimavave, the Pasifika law coordinator, aims to nurture and promote academic excellence at the Law School, empowering Pasifika Law students so that their experience is both enjoyable and inclusive by providing support,

mentoring and tutorials. She also supports and fosters relationships with the wider Law Faculty, Pasifika staff, the local community and the Pasifika Law Students' Society. Lagi is a Law graduate, so understands from experience what is required to succeed in Law at Victoria University.

**Phone** 04-463 6303

**Email** [lagi.tuimavave@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:lagi.tuimavave@vuw.ac.nz)

## Scholarships

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There are databases of awards, scholarships and grants for university study. You can search by subject, level of study and Pasifika. Access the databases below to find funding relevant to you.

[www.victoria.ac.nz/scholarships](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/scholarships)

[www.victoria.ac.nz/pasifika-scholarships](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/pasifika-scholarships)

## Student adviser, Victoria Business School

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Ateli Perez assists with admission requirements, degree planning, transfer of credit from other tertiary institutions, graduation and any other issues that may arise relating to your studies at Victoria Business School.

**Phone** 04-463 5941

**Email** [ateli.perez@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:ateli.perez@vuw.ac.nz)



# Student Health / Mauri Ora

## Student Counselling

Make an appointment for professional, confidential counselling, available at all campuses, for any issue affecting personal or academic success.

[www.victoria.ac.nz/counselling](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/counselling)

## Student Health

Get access to a full range of affordable general practice medical services on campus. Consultation pricing is varied and is low cost for most students.

[www.victoria.ac.nz/student-health](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/student-health)

# Victoria Accommodation

Victoria Accommodation can assist you in finding suitable accommodation in any of our halls of residence, arrange homestays for international students and offer advice about other accommodation options.

[www.victoria.ac.nz/accommodation](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/accommodation)

# Victoria International

Get your world-class education as an international student at Victoria University of Wellington—New Zealand's globally-ranked capital city university. In Wellington, you'll be in the creative heart of New Zealand, surrounded by arts and culture. You'll be living in a compact, vibrant, safe and fun city that Lonely Planet called the coolest little capital in the world and you'll have all of New Zealand's awe-inspiring natural beauty on your doorstep.

**Phone** +64-4-463 5350

**Email** [victoria-international@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:victoria-international@vuw.ac.nz)



# Victoria Recreation

It is important to balance study and other stimulating activities throughout your journey. Victoria Recreation provides sport, recreation, wellbeing, fitness and club services for the University's community.

[www.victoria.ac.nz/recreation](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/recreation)

# Pasifika spaces on campus

## Pasifika Haos

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Visit the place of belonging for all Pasifika students on campus, run by the Pasifika Students' Council and leaders of the Pasifika students' associations. Use the study and social spaces, including computer rooms, meeting rooms and kitchenette.

### **Pasifika Haos**

**15 Mount Street**

**Kelburn Campus**

**Phone 04-463 6242**

**Email [pasifikavuw@outlook.com](mailto:pasifikavuw@outlook.com)**

**Web [www.victoria.ac.nz/pasifika-haos](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/pasifika-haos)**

## Wan Solwara

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Wan Solwara means 'one ocean, one people'. The Wan Solwara space in the Library highlights and promotes the Library's Pacific collections and makes them easier for students and researchers to use. The space also provides the opportunity to celebrate and promote cultural distinctiveness, while still offering an inclusive space available to all.

**Level 2, Rankine Brown Building**

**Kelburn Campus**

**Phone 04-463 6186**

**Email [library@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:library@vuw.ac.nz)**

**Web [www.victoria.ac.nz/wan-solwara](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/wan-solwara)**

## Campuses

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Friendly spaces for Pasifika and Maori students to study are located throughout our campuses.

**Te Aro Campus Āwhina Room**

**Pipitea Campus Te Kauwae Parāoa / Law Library,  
Level 2, Government Buildings**

**Tabua/Ngā Taura Umanga,  
Mezzanine Floor, Rutherford House**





“Victoria University has given me the grounding and opportunities to succeed and lead. The University really invested in me as a person, with support from the Pasifika law coordinator, Te Pūtahi Atawhai and Student Learning helping me to thrive at university, while being comfortable with who I am as a Pasifika person.”

**Wiliame Iupeli Gucake, Student, Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Laws  
Fiji/Samoa**



“Being awarded the Toloa scholarship has given me confidence and support in lifting a financial burden and providing me with a quality mentor. I have also had support and guidance through Te Rōpū Āwhina since I began studying at Victoria University.”

**Zoe Pelepetua Kolotita So'otaga, Student, Bachelor of Building Science  
Samoa/Tokelau**



From left: Timi Melei, MA (Tuvalu/Samoa),  
Luamanuvao Winnie Laban, and  
Kate Marina Teremanuia Ngatokorua, BA  
(Cook Islands)



“The opportunity of studying at Victoria University has increased my self belief and confidence. As an international student, the environment and academic standards have been a challenge. However, through the support of NZAID and the Pasifika community at Victoria, I have been provided the best quality of student services that supported me throughout my time of study.”

**Zefi Keritina, Student, Master of Professional Accounting  
Solomon Islands**



“I love helping people and being on the Pasifika Students’ Council has given me an opportunity to do that while also putting my learning to use.”

**Archie Temai, Graduate, Bachelor of Commerce  
Kiribati/Tuvalu**



“When it came time to decide whether to play sport, go to work, or go to university, I chose to come to university. No one in the family had done it before and I was keen to do something new for myself and for the family—so the next generation of my family can see that it’s possible.”

**Petone Groom, Student, Master of Design Innovation  
Samoa**