



# AGM – Pasifika Report 2025

*This report was prepared by Pasifika Co-Presidents Caroline Ryan and Mary Ieremia-Allen, and presented at the AGM held on May 14, 2025. Email : [pasifikapresident@tetiraahupae.ac.nz](mailto:pasifikapresident@tetiraahupae.ac.nz)*

Our roles including those of our reps, commenced four weeks prior to the AGM, therefore this report is just a brief overview of what has been happening with Pasifika since the last AGM.

## Acknowledgements

- We, on behalf of our Pasifika student community would like to extend our gratitude to Te Tira Ahu Pae and Massey University (including Pacific Massey) for acknowledging the unique experiences and challenges that we face as Pasifika student and for creating a space for us to be heard and for providing the scaffolding to support our learning and wellbeing.
- We recognise that your ongoing support to Pasifika students have been an integral part in maintaining our identity and sense of community throughout our educational journey with Massey. This also has a positive contribution to our wellbeing.
- We take this time to thank the non-Pasifika students and staff who have supported and advocated for Pasifika to have a seat at the table. This includes but is not exclusive to our alliance reps, General student population and Māori cohorts.
- The contents of this report would not be possible if it weren't for the dedication and work of our 2024 Pasifika team – Thank you! [Wes Peters, Sosefina Filo Masoe, Anushika Prasad, Keino Palu, Krislon Su'a, Ruahine Apaola, Mary Ieremia-Allen, Caroline Ryan]

This year our **representation** team includes

- Sommer McKillop for Ōteihā
- Elva Opu'u for Pāmamao
- Telson Liuvaie for Manawatū
- Akanesi Polaulu for Pukeahu

We also have 3 **Pasifika Student Support services** personnel who plan and execute the events

- Stephine Petelo (Ōteihā)
- Sosefina Filo Masoe (Pukeahu)
- Ruahine Apaola (Manawatū)

*\*Note : this team reports through to Ryan Olivier – Clubs and Events Lead*





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## Events

Weekly across our physical campuses, the fale's are abuzz with activity.

- Wednesdays : Kai and talanoa's for all physical campuses remain well attended and includes hosting of Pacific Language Week activities and specials guests.
- Kava Nights, held on Thursdays, offered a more relaxed, evening setting. This is a chance to unwind, connect, and host community outreach. These spaces also enabled students to network with stakeholders outside of Massey University, widening access to community support and professional networks.
- On average campus events can draw numbers that average from 30-40 students weekly.
- Virtual events and consultations for Pāmamao campus ranged from 10-30 students, but even smaller attendances produced dynamic discussions and connections.

## Highlights include

- Culture Nights/Fiafia Nights
- Social Sports – Basketball, volleyball and netball
- Summer Camp end of 2024
- Sports Noho
- Collaboration with Vic Uni for Art Exhibition
- Sip and paint
- Field trips
- Pacific Art and Movie Screenings
- Virtual combined events to support Pāmamao activities
- Virtual engagement included updates of Pasifika, Te Tira Ahu Pae and Massey events
- Student spotlight profiles





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## **Guests for events and Pacific Language Weeks ranged from**

- Community leaders both locally and internationally based
- Local Pasifika entrepreneurs or artists
- Massey Alumni sharing their research
- Mental Health Week, included a special workshop with a Samoan Massey clinical psychologist, Dr Julia Ioane
- Pacific Dean Professor Tasa Havea presented in-person and virtual workshops relevant for students

Throughout the year, students were regularly updated about events, scholarships, grants, Te Tira Ahu Pae news, and internships, this ensured they had access to opportunities relevant to their development. Being present and visible to our cohort is important so that we are trusted individuals whom students feel comfortable approaching.





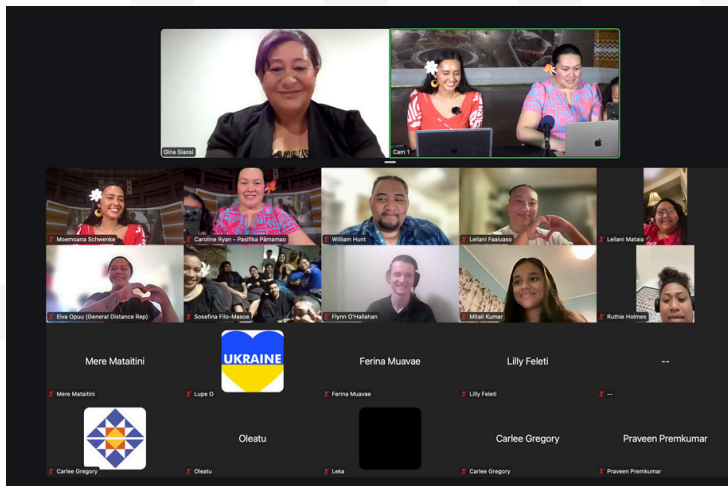


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## Consultations

- Advocating for fair access to Pacific scholarships, particularly for students who are not NZ Citizens but still contribute meaningfully to the university community.
- Identifying gaps in awareness of services and supports available to them.
- Consultations varied from group settings to individual one-on-one discussions.
- Trying to find ways to make an active Pāmamao student community
  - Encouraging access to on-campus Pasifika events
  - Study groups with areas or countries where they reside e.g. Cook Islands  
*[We have about 40+ students studying via distance from the Cook Islands, some have met together regularly and are supported through other Massey services]*

Student suggestions : Outdoor activities, Post-grad student presentations, Te Tiriti workshops, side-hustle workshops, movie nights, sip & paint, karaoke nights, social event themes, learning Pasifika songs for events





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## Future

- In the coming weeks, our Pasifika leadership team will regroup to strategise, conduct goal settings exercises, address gaps requiring personal development and refine ways to move forward:
- Launching regular student study sessions in the Fales
- Introducing a monthly Pasifika newsletter to share opportunities, stories, and updates
- Enhancing data collection from consultations and event attendance to better understand student needs
- Increasing student engagement through intentional, well-structured talanoa sessions
- Strengthening cross-campus connections between the three physical campuses and our Pāmamao cohort
- Ongoing strategic planning to identify what's working, what needs improvement, and how we can continue growing a sustainable, culturally strong Pasifika presence at Massey.
- Continuation of weekly fale events and build student community
- Explore further University collaborations
- Scholarship database e.g. PACIFICA, Le Va
- Pasifika Talent Bank
- Encourage participation with Massey Wellbeing and Strengths services
- Pasifika Leadership conference
- Explore opportunities for professional and personal development for our team and students

## Closing remarks

As Pasifika students, our success is never just our own, it extends to our families, communities and even our villages across the Blue Continent that is the Pacific.

*Faiākse'ea 'e garue.*

