

## PhD Scholarship in “*Inter-Ethnic Racism and Ethnic Minorities in Aotearoa New Zealand*”

Applications from suitably qualified candidates are invited to undertake a fully-funded PhD in the topic area of ‘*Inter-ethnic racisms and ethnic minority communities in Aotearoa New Zealand*’. ‘Ethnic’ here is defined as non-Māori, non-Pākehā, non-Pacifika population groups in New Zealand, and commonly refers to peoples coming from Asia, Africa, the Middle East, South and Latin America, and continental/Eastern Europe.

The scholarship is offered as part of a five-year MBIE-Endeavour funded research project entitled ‘Working to End Racism (WERO) in Aotearoa New Zealand’, based at the University of Waikato.

The PhD., supervised by Assoc. Professor Rachel Simon-Kumar, will be undertaken at the School of Population Health, The Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, The University of Auckland.

### **Working to End Racial Oppression (WERO): Background**

WERO is a five year inter-disciplinary research programme funded by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment. WERO investigates the costs of racism, the systems that produce and reproduce racism, and transformative responses to reduce racism. The programme comprises knowledge experts in Māori studies, Pacific studies, immigration, economics, data science, human geography, sociology and psychology, with the intent of amplifying innovation by bringing these knowledge systems into dialogue, towards the transformational long-term agenda of ending racial oppression in Aotearoa.

The main objectives of the programme are as follows:

1. To examine the individualised, community and societal costs or impacts of racism
2. To understand how inequities are created and perpetuated in social and institutional systems
3. To identify transformative responses that government, institutions and communities can use to challenge racism.

These objectives are operationalised through four research aims that focus on (a) employment; (b) housing; (c) institutions; and (d) community. Each research aim addresses key societal domains where racism’s costs are felt acutely, systemic forms of racism are evident and where research and end-user engagement can lead to meaningful and impactful responses. The findings from the WERO research will enable evidence-based discussion of the current impacts and operation of racism in society making it possible to develop strategic planning and responses to enduring racism.

Within the broader objectives of the WERO programme, the topic of “Inter-ethnic racisms” will focus on the constructions and representations of ‘minorities by minorities’; the influence of extraterritorial historic and cultural contexts in framing these representations and their implications for contemporary social and political cohesion in the NZ context.

### **Candidate Qualification**

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates with a high motivation to contribute to an emerging area of racism scholarship in New Zealand. Students with strong grounding in critical theories relevant to racism and group differences, social cohesion and ethnic minority politics are invited to apply. Students must have past experience of undertaking qualitative and/or quantitative research. Familiarity with and/or prior work experience among New Zealand’s ethnic minority communities and political systems is an advantage.

Students must ideally have the capability and capacity for independent work required for the fulfilment of the requirements of a PhD at the University of Auckland while also contributing to the research objectives and goals of the wider WERO programme. Timely completion is vital to this project and students who have a track record of successfully managing deadlines are especially invited to apply.

### Application Details

Students eligible to enrol in a PhD. may express an interest in the project to Associate Professor Rachel Simon-Kumar by **15<sup>th</sup> October, 2021**. Please provide (a) a cover letter outlining your interest in this project; (b) your curriculum vitae including academic qualifications, any publications, research and work experience, and the names and contact details of two referees; (c) a one-page statement of research interests/proposed topic related to the theme of this scholarship; (d) copies of academic transcripts; and (e) a sample of your writing, either published or part of previous course work.

The Scholarship is valued at NZ\$28,000.00 per year plus approx. \$7,500.00 towards compulsory domestic fees for three years. This scholarship is available to New Zealand citizens, permanent resident holders, residence visa holders and qualified candidates of all nationalities and visa statuses who are currently resident in New Zealand.

To be eligible to pay domestic PhD fees, awardees who are permanent residents of New Zealand or Australia, Australian citizens or international students may only be resident outside of New Zealand for a maximum total of twelve months over the period of their enrolment in their PhD and only for the purposes of conducting research.

For more information contact:

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