NZIPR
Introducing the Institute
• Launched in March 2016.
• Key funders: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade & the Pacific Cooperation Foundation
• A consortium of University of Auckland, Otago University and the Auckland University of Technology.
• Housed in the Fale Pasifika Complex at Auckland.
• With relationships with the Secretariat for the Pacific Community, NZIER, KVA Consult, USP, ANU, Univ. of Hawaii, USP and Peking University.
Institute Leadership

- Director: Damon Salesa
- Research Manager: Dr. Gerard Cotterell
- Board:
  - David Nicholson MFAT
  - DVC Jenny Dixon UoA
  - PVC Tony Ballantyne UoO
  - DPD Walter Fraser AUT
  - PCF in attendance
- Research Advisory Group
- Project Leaders
NZIPR Strategic Vision

To position the NZIPR as global thought leaders in Pacific research.
Strategic Development

• Strengthening collaborative ties within the consortium and national and international partners.
• Helping develop world class Pacific researchers, especially where there are identified scarcities.
• Pursuing sustainable funding streams for the Institute.

enabled by

• Making important, distinctive, excellent, impactful research interventions in the Pacific.
• Researching in Pacific-centered, ethical, sustainable and collaborative ways.
Research Engagement

• Engaging and collaborating with policy makers, leaders and other difference makers
• Comms strategy (with universities and PCF)
  – nzipr.ac.nz
  – @nzipr
• Supporting initiatives like ‘Pasifika Futures’
• Pursuing public engagement via media
• ‘Research Fellows’ and ‘Lali’ (Research commentaries)
2016 Research Projects

1. Mapping donor contributions in the Pacific (Dr. Teuila Percival/AP Damon Salesa)
2. Labour markets for sustainable economic development in the Pacific (AP Yvonne Underhill-Sem)
3. Commercial potential of land in the Pacific (AP Jenny Bryant-Tokalau/Dr. Iati Iati)
4. Private-sector investment in the Pacific (Prof. Simon Milne)
5. The role of sovereign trust funds (Aaron Drew)
Labour Markets for Sustainable Economic Development in the Pacific

• Project lead – AP Yvonne Underhill-Sem
  – Identify and consolidate the research findings on labour markets, labour mobility and sustainable livelihoods
  – Provide Pacific and NZ policy-makers the opportunity to examine these research findings
  – Provide a report which summarises research learnings and provides recommendations for policies that will support labour markets for sustainable economic development

• Major report to be published in February 2017
Commercial Potential for Land in the Pacific

- Project lead – AP Jenny Bryant-Tokelau/Dr. Iati Lati

- Research objectives
  - Explore issues & potential options for sustainable economic development of customary land in the Pacific.
  - Demonstrate through case studies/examples what enables commercialization to take place.
  - Examine perspectives from a range of sectors, on whether customary land tenure can be secured to support financing development and how this might be carried out.
Private-Sector Investment in the Pacific

• Project lead – Prof. Simon Milne
• Research objectives
  – Understand the role and importance of private investment in developing island economies.
  – Provide estimates of the potential economic and social benefits from higher levels of private investment.
  – Identify barriers to private investment in the Pacific region.
  – Identify investment sources.
  – Identify practical Pacific Island-appropriate policy reforms and investment attraction strategies.
The Role of Sovereign Wealth Funds

• Project lead – Aaron Drew, NZIER
• Research objectives
  – Understand the purpose of Sovereign Funds and the roles they can play in sustainable economic development initiatives in Pacific Island economies
  – Provide insight into practical elements and considerations, and outline critical success factors.
  – Provide recommendations for best practice
Mapping Data in the Pacific

• Project leads – Damon Salesa and Teuila Percival

• Research objectives
  – Develop a taxonomy, database and visualisation tool for aid donor contributions
  – Explore opportunities to integrate and visualize data sources

• Stage 1 complete August 2016
• Stage 2 scheduled for end March 2017
Other Activities

Supporting and developing research activities including:

• Speakers and seminars
  – Prof. Jim Skea (IPCC)
  – Pres. Robert Anacleus Underwood

• Events and Conferences:
  – ‘Pacific Wave’
  – Pacific panel, World Journalism Conference

• Contributing to institutional and national research capacity
Other Institute Projects

1. **Multi-Year Workplan**
   (Finalized February 2017)

2. **Research Portal and Repository**
   Draft launched by March 2017

3. **Lali**
   Ongoing Research op-eds and news

4. **NZIPR Research Fellows**
   Developing a constituency to whom we look for expertise and support.

5. **Post-Grad Research Institute**
   (July, roughly)
Contacts

Assoc. Prof. Damon Salesa
Director
d.salesa@auckland.ac.nz

Dr. Gerard Cotterell
Research Manager
g.cotterell@auckland.ac.nz