Te Manahua | NZ Universities Women In Leadership

17 August - 21 August 2026, Bolton Hotel Wellington

Day One – Monday 17 August 2026

He Horopaki – Setting the Leadership Context

TIME	SESSION
9.00 am	**REGISTRATION**
9.30 am	**MIHI WHAKATAU**
9.40 am	**PROGRAMME WELCOME** **Te Manahua NZUWiL Steering Group:** Leanne Gibson, Chief Information Officer, Te Herenga Waka | Victoria University of Wellington and Te Manahua NZUWiL Steering Group Co-Chair and Alumna
10.00 am	**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:** Professor Neil Quigley, Vice-Chancellor, Te Whare Wananga o Waikato | University of Waikato
10.30 am	**PARAMANAWA | REFRESHMENT BREAK**
11.00 am	**PROGRAMME INTRODUCTION** **Facilitator**: Lisa Hunter, Te Manahua NZUWiL Programme Convenor
1.00 pm	**KAITAHI | LUNCH BREAK**
2.00 pm	**STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP IN TERTIARY EDUCATION – THE CONTEMPORARY CONTEXT** **Facilitator**: Megan Skinner, Assistant Vice-Chancellor, Strategy and Planning, Te Wānanga Aronui o Tāmaki Makau Rau | Auckland University of Technology and Te Manahua NZUWiL Alumna
3.30 pm	**PARAMANAWA | REFRESHMENT BREAK**
4.00 pm	**STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP IN TERTIARY EDUCATION – ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES** ***Dancing at the Intersections: Life as an Indigenous University Librarian and Leader*** **Guest Speaker**: Kim Tairi, Kaitoha Puka University Librarian and Kaihautū Tiriti, Te Wānanga Aronui o Tāmaki Makaurau | Auckland University of Technology and Te Manahua NZUWiL Alumna
4.45 pm	**KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA | WRAP UP** **Facilitator**: Lisa Hunter, Te Manahua NZUWiL Programme Convenor
5.00 pm	**SESSION BREAK**
6.00 pm	**THE DR DIANNE MCCARTHY MEMORIAL DINNER AND GUEST SPEAKER – STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP BEYOND THE SECTOR** ***My Story – 'Experiences and Insights into Strategic Leadership'*** **Host**: Sue Roberts, Te Manahua NZUWiL Steering Group and Alumna **Guest Speaker**: Stacey Mendonça MNZM, Newcrest Construction, Senior Quantity Surveyor and Estimator and Co-founder and Past National President of National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) FNZIQS

Day Two – Tuesday 18 August 2026

Tūhononga me te Aweawe - Engagement and Influence

TIME	SESSION
9.00 am	**KARAKIA TĪMATANGA | CHECK IN** **Facilitator:** Lisa Hunter, Te Manahua NZUWiL Programme Convenor
9.15 am	**LEADERSHIP FOR ENGAGEMENT IN THE UNIVERSITY CONTEXT - PART 1** **Facilitator:** Jayne Austin, Director of Marketing, Communications and Events, Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | University of Canterbury and Te Manahua NZUWiL Alumna
10.30 am	**PARAMANAWA | REFRESHMENT BREAK**
11.00 am	**LEADERSHIP FOR ENGAGEMENT IN THE UNIVERSITY CONTEXT - PART 2** **Facilitator:** Jayne Austin, Director of Marketing, Communications and Events, Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | University of Canterbury and Te Manahua NZUWiL Alumna
12.00pm	**KAITAHI | LUNCH BREAK**
1.00 pm	**THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP: ENGAGING EFFECTIVELY WITH RESEARCHERS** **Facilitator:** Professor Tracy Riley, Dean Research, Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa | Massey University and Te Manahua NZUWiL Steering Group Member and Alumna
2.30 pm	**STRETCH BREAK**
2.40 pm	**REFLECTIONS ON STRATEGIC INFLUENCING IN THE UNIVERSITY CONTEXT** **Facilitators:** Ali Wilkinson, Associate Director Organisational Development, People and Capability, Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato | University of Waikato and Te Manahua NZUWiL Steering Group Member and Alumna and Lisa Hunter, Te Manahua NZUWiL Programme Convenor
3.30 pm	**KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA | WRAP UP** **Facilitator:** Lisa Hunter, Te Manahua NZUWiL Programme Convenor
3.45 pm	**OPTIONAL PROGRAMME** **Explore Wellington / Free Time**
6.00 pm	**DINNER** **Free Time |'In House' at the Bolton Hotel**

Mā mua ka kite a muri, mā muri ka ora a mua.

Those who lead give sight to those who follow, those who follow give life to those who lead.

Day Three – Wednesday 19 August 2026

E Taki ana I te Panonitanga – Leading Change and Innovation

TIME	SESSION
9.00 am	**KARAKIA TĪMATANGA | CHECK IN** **Facilitator:** Lisa Hunter, Te Manahua NZUWiL Programme Convenor
9.15 am	**STRATEGIC CHANGE AND INNOVATION IN THE UNIVERSITY CONTEXT** **Facilitator:** Leanne Gibson, Chief Information Officer, Te Herenga Waka – Victoria University of Wellington and Te Manahua NZUWiL Steering Group Co-Chair and Alumna
10.30 am	**PARAMANAWA | REFRESHMENT BREAK**
11.00 am	**ACTION PLANNING FOR A CHANGE INITIATIVE AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT** **Facilitator:** Leanne Gibson, Chief Information Officer, Te Herenga Waka – Victoria University of Wellington and Te Manahua NZUWiL Steering Group Co-Chair and Alumna
1.00 pm	**KAITAHI | LUNCH BREAK**
2.00 pm	**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT OF SELF AND OTHERS: STRATEGIES AND APPROACHES** **Facilitator:** Professor Maree Roche, Leadership Psychology, Department of Management and Business, Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland and Te Manahua NZUWiL Alumna
3.30 pm	**PARAMANAWA | REFRESHMENT BREAK**
4.00 pm	**REFLECTION AND REVIEW | KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA** **Facilitator:** Lisa Hunter, Te Manahua NZUWiL Programme Convenor
4.15 pm	**SESSION BREAK**
6.00 pm	**FIRESIDE PANEL DISCUSSION AND DINNER** ***From there to here | Leadership stories of Te Manahua – NZUWiL Steering Group Members*** **Host:** Lisa Hunter, Te Manahua NZUWiL Programme Convenor **Guest Speakers:** Te Manahua NZUWiL Steering Group Members — Margaret Morgan (University of Otago), Tracy Riley (Massey University), Candice Harris (Auckland University of Technology), Sue Roberts (University of Auckland), Ali Wilkinson (University of Waikato)

Ehara tāku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini.

My success is not mine alone, but the strength of the many.

Day Four – Thursday 20 August

Ngā Rautaki Whakawhanake Rangatira – Leadership Development

TIME	SESSION
9.00 am	**KARAKIA TĪMATANGA | CHECK IN** **Facilitator**: Lisa Hunter, Te Manahua NZUWiL Programme Convenor
9.10 am	**LEADING IN THE VĀ: A Pacific perspective on developing self and others** **Facilitator:** Dr Emma Dunlop-Bennett, Assistant Vice-Chancellor, Pasifika, Te Herenga Waka | Victoria University of Wellington
10.30 am	**PARAMANAWA | REFRESHMENT BREAK**
11.00 am	**CAREER ADVANCEMENT - MAKING CHOICES AND OVERCOMING OBSTACLES** **Facilitators:** Margaret Morgan, Director, Quality Advancement, Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka | University of Otago and Te Manahua NZUWiL Steering Group and Alumna and Michelle Jordan-Tong, Strategic Lead Accreditation and Operations, NZ Graduate School of Medicine, Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato | University of Waikato
1.00 pm	**KAITAHI | LUNCH BREAK**
2.00 pm	**ENHANCING UNDERSTANDING OF ORGANISATIONAL CULTURE BASED ON TE TIRITI O WAITANGI PART 1** **Facilitator**: Dr Rangimārie Hāhunga-Mahuika, Executive Director, Te Tiriti Systems, Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Māori, Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa | Massey University
3.30 pm	**PARAMANAWA | REFRESHMENT BREAK**
3.45 pm	**ENHANCING UNDERSTANDING OF ORGANISATIONAL CULTURE BASED ON TE TIRITI O WAITANGI PART 2** **Facilitator:** Dr Rangimārie Hāhunga-Mahuika, Executive Director, Te Tiriti Systems, Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Māori, Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa | Massey University
4.30 pm	**KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA | WRAP UP** **Facilitator:** Lisa Hunter, Te Manahua NZUWiL Programme Convenor
4.45 pm	**SESSION BREAK**
6.00 pm	**INFORMAL DINNER** **Venue:** Thistle Inn, Mulgrave Street, Thorndon, Wellington **Host:** Margaret Morgan, Director, Quality Advancement Unit, Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka |University of Otago and Te Manahua NZUWiL Steering Group and Alumna

Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourou ka ora ai te iwi.

With your food basket and my food basket, the people will thrive.

Day Five – Friday 21 August

Te Tukanga o te Hautūtanga – Leadership in Action

TIME	SESSION
8.00 am	**CHECKOUT COMMENCES**
9.00 am	**KARAKIA TĪMATANGA | CHECK IN** **Facilitator**: Lisa Hunter, Te Manahua NZUWiL Programme Convenor
9.15 am	**EQUIPPING FOR LEADERSHIP CHALLENGES** ***Developing your Internal Capacity*** **Facilitator:** Sue Roberts, Director, Te Kahu Tauira | Student and Scholarly Services, Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland and Te Manahua NZUWiL Steering Group and Alumna
11.00 am	**PARAMANAWA | REFRESHMENT BREAK**
11.30 am	**EQUIPPING FOR LEADERSHIP CHALLENGES** ***Beyond Wolves, Cliffs, Ceilings, and Leaning In: Rethinking Women's Leadership*** **Facilitator:** Professor Candice Harris, Professor of Management, Faculty of Business, Economics and Law, Te Wānanga Aronui O Tāmaki Makau Rau | Auckland University of Technology and Te Manahua Steering Group Member and Alumna
12.45 pm	**KAITAHI | LUNCH BREAK**
1.45 pm	**PROGRAMME EVALUATION**
2.00 pm	**EXERCISING LEADERSHIP, DEVELOPING ACTION PLANS FOR LEADERSHIP INITIATIVES** **Facilitator:** Lisa Hunter, Te Manahua NZUWiL Programme Convenor
2.30 pm	**POROPOROAKI | PROGRAMME CLOSE** **Facilitators:** Leanne Gibson, Te Manahua NZUWiL Steering Group Co-Chair and Alumna and Lisa Hunter, Te Manahua NZUWiL Programme Convenor
3.00 pm	**PROGRAMME CONCLUDES**

"Do not think your single vote does not matter much. The rain that refreshes the parched ground is made up of single drops"

Kate Sheppard who led the NZ Women's Suffrage Movement

Programme Objectives and Benefits

Te Manahua New Zealand Universities Women in Leadership Programme
An initiative for the New Zealand tertiary education sector
Funded by: Universities New Zealand – Te Pōkai Tara

Objectives

This programme aims to enhance and accelerate women's leadership capacities and influence within universities. It will provide opportunities for participants to:

1. Explore and reflect on leadership approaches and strategies.
2. Increase their understanding of the tertiary education sector and the governance, strategic management and resourcing of universities in Aotearoa New Zealand.
3. Enhance their understanding of organisational cultures and leadership based on Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
4. Advance their research leadership capability for the management, translation, and impact of research.
5. Build national networks for collaboration and influence both within individual institutions and across the tertiary sector.
6. Cultivate strategies and techniques for driving change, leading people, managing risk, building resilience in Aotearoa New Zealand universities.
7. Be in a learning environment that builds on the diversity of experience within the group.

Benefits

As a result of this programme, the university sector in Aotearoa New Zealand will benefit by:

- Increasing the pool of women in senior academic and managerial positions in the tertiary education sector through their identification and encouragement to fulfil their potential, increased visibility and their desire to "come to notice".
- Assisting Universities New Zealand – Te Pōkai Tara to address, in a cost-effective manner, gender imbalance in senior academic and managerial positions and progress equitable employment outcomes at a time of public interest and of tertiary sector reform.
- Creating a New Zealand-wide network of women in academic and university leadership that connects both with other senior academic women as well as other leaders and role models in the public and private sectors for on-going mutual benefits.
- Building research, teaching and administrative leadership capability for individual participants, and enhancing the leadership capability of the universities.
- Strengthening individual institutions through structured follow-up activities after each programme through networking by programme participants with other university women and senior staff.