

PMC convenes two Asia-Pacific streams for world conference



DEL ARCEDE/PMC

PACIFIC MEDIA EDUCATORS and trainers (pictured above) from around the Asia-Pacific region took advantage of the recent 4th World Journalism Education Congress (WJEC) to get up to speed on global trends and to strategise for the future.

Organised and hosted by the Pacific Media Centre at AUT University, the two Asia-Pacific streams totalling 12 people—funded with \$23,000 from donors—spanned both the Australian and Pacific pre-conferences and the main WJEC conference.

“I must give credit to a wonderful group of educators from what we always claim—not just in media but by our governments as well—to be our Pacific region,” says Misa Vicky Lepou, president of the recently formed association of Pacific journalism educators, the Media Educators Pacific (MeP).

Presentations included 11 papers and three live-streamed panels on corruption and the media in the Pacific; Post-COP21: climate change and the challenge facing journalism educators in the Asia-Pacific; and Pacific journalism education with a focus on recent unrest at PNG universities.

Also, Kalafi Moala, Tongan publisher and broadcaster and deputy chair of the Pasifika Media Association, gave an inspiring closing address.

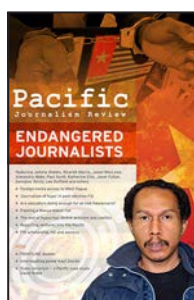
The Pacific group held a strategising “fono” at the PMC attended by the Pacific Media Assistance Scheme project manager Francis Herman, Australian Press Council research and communications director Michael Rose, Massey University PhD student Victoria Quade, UNESCO Pacific’s Aterina Samasoni-Pele, and Professor David Robie, director of the Pacific Media Centre.

“It isn’t always easy to get through at such huge international conferences to make your voices heard—not as individuals but as one voice,” Misa says.

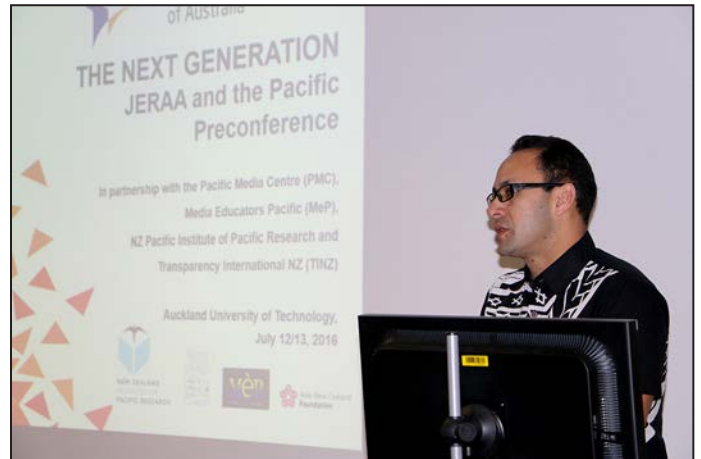
An early draft of the constitution for MeP was developed by Dr Robie in 2012. In recognition of Dr Robie’s work in journalism education in the Asia-Pacific region, the MeP invited him to be the group’s academic adviser.

Pacific Journalism Review will be publishing a special edition drawn from Asia-Pacific papers at WJEC later this year.

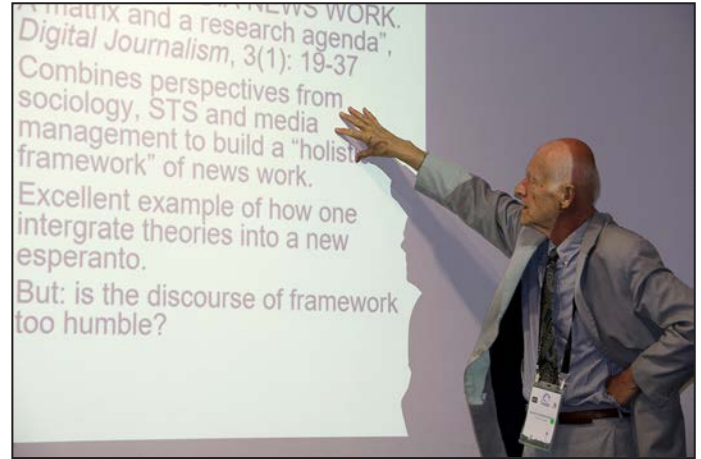
A West Papua and “endangered journalists” edition of the journal was launched at the conference by PMC Advisory Board chair Associate Professor Camille Nakhid.



JERAA , PMC and WJEC DAY 1 - 13 JULY 2016



WJEC DAY 2 - 14 JULY 2016



WJEC DAY 3 - 15 JULY 2016



WJEC DAY 4 - 16 JULY 2016



The logo for AUT (Auckland University of Technology) is displayed in a white, bold, sans-serif font within a white rectangular box. The background of the entire page features a pattern of overlapping orange circles and leaves, with a dark blue and purple nebula-like image in the lower half.

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A photograph of a young woman with long brown hair, smiling and wearing a black leather jacket over a striped shirt. She is positioned on the right side of the page, with a starry nebula background behind her.

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Elizabeth Blackwell

Master of Communication Studies student