



Our Vision

A world shaped by love, compelled and informed by the Gospel.

Our Mission

To equip students and scholars to renew their communities with a faith as intelligent as it is courageous.



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From the National Principal/ CEO

Tēnā koutou.

2017 has been a year of hard work and early fruits of new initiatives, with much to be grateful for, and much to hope for from what has been planted.

Our primary work remains forming and equipping people for the work of the Gospel in Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond. During 2017 nearly a thousand students have been enrolled in Laidlaw courses, and we have sent out more than three hundred graduates, better equipped to renew their communities. What is hard to demonstrate in numbers is the extraordinary work of mentoring, discipleship and teaching by our lecturers, tutors and other staff. This can look like helping students gain the confidence and skills to achieve academically or professionally for the first time, wrestling together with what the Bible says on key issues, or cultivating the reading and research of brilliant emerging scholars. It has been a joy to have the first students taking our Indigenous Theology programme complete their Graduate Diplomas, to celebrate the first cohort of interns through our partnership with Arise Church, and to mark the completion of the first Bachelors degrees at our Manukau campus. The fruit of this diverse and often unseen work of equipping is in the faithfulness and impact of our graduates - in classrooms, counselling rooms, pulpits, offices, boardrooms, community centres, homes and street corners.

As a College, we have a collective vocation to be a spiritual and intellectual community, as we engage together in the business of education. During the past year, we have spent time as a staff team focusing on our common life and affirming our core commitments to the Gospel of Jesus, the authority of the Bible, the community of the Church, and to participation in God's mission to renew all of creation. We have reconfigured the teams that support students, creating a single Centre for Learning to assist our Schools and lecturers across campuses. We continue to value and produce high-quality research that informs how we live out the good news of Jesus in the world. In an environment with high and increasing compliance and funding pressures, we are working to strengthen our core business and grow new income streams to ensure that we can continue to grow as a College over the coming decades.

Beyond Laidlaw, we serve a much wider ecosystem of churches, missions and other Christian organisations, and communities, across New Zealand. It has been deeply encouraging during 2017 to see the energy and growth of our Pasifika Council, culminating in a gala dinner for Pasifika graduands and Pasifika church, political and educational leaders. We continue to work to strengthen ties to Church denominations and networks, and to the professional sectors of teaching and counselling, through formal and informal partnerships, and it is a rare evening during termtime when one of our campuses is not hosting some sort of event. We see Laidlaw's flourishing as intrinsically tied to the flourishing of the wider Church, and are committed to working to better serve the wider ecosystem through training leaders and servants for the work ahead.

Looking forward from 2018, it is exciting to see the fruits of new initiatives. The first students taking our postgraduate Vocational Theology track are finishing their Foundations course. Serious investment in our student support and government compliance knowledge and systems will allow us to improve student achievement, and gives us room to innovate in how we deliver programmes. Our support from donors is growing, which allows us to invest in the future of our mission.

Thank you for your part in Laidlaw's mission and community, and please continue to pray and work with us towards the hope that we have in Jesus – a world shaped by love, compelled and informed by the Gospel.

Ngā mihi nui,



Dr Roshan Allpress National Principal/CEO



From the NGC Chair

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. 1 Peter 1:3-4a

A living hope, hope as represented by the resurrected Jesus Christ. And an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. As change accelerates in the world around us, the relevance of these two statements becomes increasingly relevant.

2017 saw the first year of Roshan Allpress as Principal of Laidlaw College. The long hoped-for property transactions on the western boundary came to fruition through faithful work by the Laidlaw College Foundation. The Manukau Campus continues to consolidate and Christchurch sees increasing strength in the demand for counselling qualifications.

With Christians now a minority in this country, with trusted sources of information challenged, and a surging increase in use of the word 'fake', we increasingly see the need to equip our students to interact within their communities with a faith as intelligent as it as courageous. We must also 'be' the gospel - in action as well as thought. How do we best both know and live the gospel of Jesus Christ, wherever we are? How do we help our own constituencies become 24/7 Christians, confident and yet gracious in their living out and speaking of the gospel?

We eagerly look forward to the year ahead, and to serving the wider community of Christian faith as we grapple with these issues. We are deeply thankful for the wide and generous support we receive from volunteers, donors, and prayer partners. A huge thank you to you all.

As we delight in the living hope, our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, may we encourage and strengthen each other in the faith, for the glory of God.



Graham Burt Chair - National Governing Council

From the Runanga Chair

Epeha 2:13

Na, inaianei i roto i a Karaiti Ihu, ko koutou, ko te hunga i tawhiti i mua, kua meinga e nga toto o te Karaiti kia tata.

Ephesians 2:13

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

Laidlaw College Runanga celebrated their 25 years with a celebratory dinner and cultural items on 25 May 2017. Dr John Hitchen (former National Principal of the then Bible College of New Zealand) and Kathy Eruera (current Secretary / Treasurer of the Runanga) were our guest speakers. Both were also founding members of the Runanga. Dr Hitchen spoke about the impetus behind the formation of the Runanga and gave a brief historical overview, whilst Kathy Eruera spoke of several past Runanga members and their respective contributions over the last 25 years.

Runanga members continue to give thanks to the Lord for His continued blessings on the Indigenous Theology programme as we enter our fourth year. The development of the programme is still under modification. Many thanks to Dr Moeawa Callaghan for her stellar leadership and on-going contribution to the overall programme.

In 2017, Runanga lost two former members who had an enormous impact on the Runanga. We lost Jason Hotere who was an alumnus of the College, and served as a student representative on the Runanga whilst a member of the student leadership team. Towards the end of the year we lost Angie Hayward who served on the Runanga for 20 years. Many thanks to all Runanga members for the commitment and service to the Runanga and to our wider whanau, Laidlaw College.

Naku na.



Matt Hakiaha Chair – Runanga

2017 in review



students

teaching sites around NZ



D major events and

public lectures



peer-reviewed articles and chapters published by faculty 90 academic conference

academic conference papers delivered



sermons preached by staff



hot drinks served at the Laidlaw cafe



Research theses

deposited into the library



houses relocated on Henderson campus

3,360

practicum hours by School of Social Practice students

68 courses taught by School of Theology 47

courses taught by School of Social Practice



books and e-resources loaned by the Laidlaw libraries

Snapshots of Laidlaw around the country in 2017

Across our campuses and events there are too many things going on to list them all. The following is a series of snapshots of Laidlaw during 2017.

JANUARY - Nationwide

Summer School students studying Biblical theology and interpretation, New Zealand history, pastoral care, and formation, were working around the country during January, supported by our team of world-class tutors.

FEBRUARY - All campuses

In February we welcomed new students and a new National Principal to our College with a series of powhiri.

MARCH - Raglan

Students on our *Ecology, God and Community* course spent a few days on the field practising a Christian response to the care of creation, including making rat traps, learning about sustainable farming practices, and planting in conservation areas, in partnership with A Rocha Aotearoa.

APRIL - Christchurch

The theme for our Christchurch public lecture series for semester one was *God's Story*, *Our Place*, introducing attendees to an overview of the Biblical narrative and the central themes of Scripture.

MAY - Henderson

We gathered on our Henderson campus for an evening celebrating twenty-five years of *Te Runanga o Te Wanaga Amorangi* (Laidlaw's Maori Council) – grateful for the bicultural journey that the College is on, and for all that God has done to raise up Maori leaders and scholars.

JUNE - Henderson

In June we launched *Stories of Therapy*, *Stories of Faith*, a collection of essays edited by our Counselling team that explore integration between Christian theology and Counselling practice. The warm reception that the book has received has sparked a follow-up conference on theology and counselling in October 2018.

JULY - Mount Albert

We enrolled a cohort of students studying together at Mt Albert Baptist Church, as part of a new way of partnering with churches to help them grow theological capacity within congregations.

AUGUST - Waikanae

Laidlaw staff ran training sessions for youth pastors from around the country at *The Abbey* conference in Waikanae (as we had done at *PYM Connect* a few weeks earlier).

SEPTEMBER – Papakura

Students from across our Theology, Counselling, Teaching and Ministry programmes studying *Bicultural Relations* immersed themselves in Te Ao Māori for a two-day intensive noho marae in Papakura.

OCTOBER - Manukau/Otahuhu

Faith in Action students, studying towards the Certificate in Study and Career Preparation, visited missions and community organisations around South Auckland, getting practical exposure to the different ways that the Gospel gets worked out at the coalface.

NOVEMBER - Tauranga/Hamilton

In October and November, *Building the Church for Today and Tomorrow* workshops were held in six cities around the country, in partnership with Christian Savings and Carey Baptist College – resourcing church leaders to face the challenges of how ministry, community and mission are changing.

DECEMBER – Wellington

We celebrated the success of Laidlaw students graduating in Wellington at Arise Church and Booth College of Mission (Salvation Army).

Profile of a new graduate: Alana Leaupepe, Bachelor of Teaching (2017)

The recent graduations of Laidlaw's 2017 cohort of students were a time to celebrate the successful completion of programmes of study. Behind the appearance on stage to collect their award are countless stories of hard work, sacrifices made by both students and their families, and barriers overcome.

Alana Leaupepe is one such graduate. Of Samoan-European heritage, school was not a positive experience. As she puts it, "I was one of the naughty kids" and she dropped out in Form Four. Yet, despite those experiences, her dream since she was a child was to become a teacher. She took a job as a teacher aide at a local school and was in that role for five years – thinking that was the closest she would ever get to her dream. It was the staff of that school who encouraged Alana to train as a teacher. She doubted that she could do it, but went ahead and enrolled at Laidlaw. Married, with two school-age children, she had both study and family life to juggle.

She surpassed her expectations by becoming an A student! In her second year of study she was a recipient of the Arnold Turner Prize, a recognition by her lecturers of her academic performance and overall contribution to the Laidlaw community. Her potential to become an excellent teacher was recognised by the New Horizons for Women Trust who granted her a scholarship that same year.

A teaching job was offered to her on her way home from the interview. Her dream to become a teacher became a reality this year when she commenced teaching a year 7/8 composite class at a local West Auckland intermediate school.

LAIDLAW



Reflection from an alumnus: Matt Chapman, Bachelor of Ministries (2006)

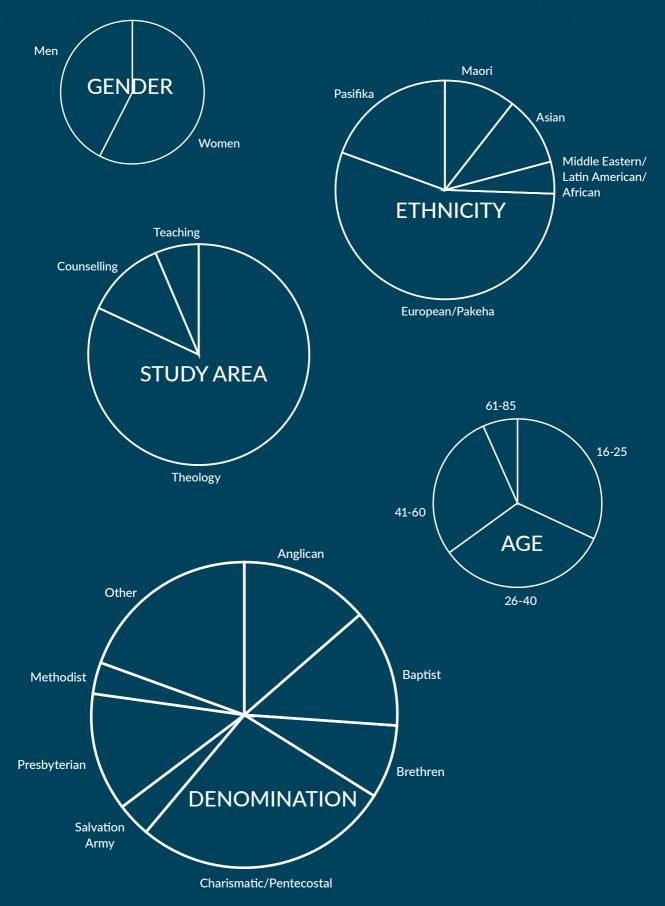
At a reunion dinner in March for students and faculty from the 2000-2005 era, we reflected with gratitude on how God has taken the seeds sown in hope and grown fruit of the Gospel. Excerpts from a speech by Rev Matthew Chapman, currently Assistant Minister at St Columba Presbyterian, follow:

^{**e**} I loved Bible College. I loved community life, even with its unique challenges and quirks. The friends I made, the diverse range of people I learned to sit and listen with. This place was the coming together of different people, ideas, theology, sharing the best of our humanity, and our most vulnerable and weakest parts too. This place felt like Holy ground. Not because God was more present here than anywhere else in creation, but because we were a body of people united in a common purpose to know God more, and make him known in the world through word and action.

I loved the study, and I also struggled greatly with it, and the effect it was having on my faith. The study was both constructive and deconstructive. I was warned that everything I believed would be challenged. And I needed that. I had an incredibly narrow, one-eyed view of God, shaped by a worldview that was more informed by 21st century pop culture than it was by the expanse of God's engagement with humanity throughout the ages. If I was to be a servant of the church, I knew I needed to be willing to give some things up and learn. What the study did, is throw me time and again into the arms of God, confessing, "I don't have you all worked out as well as I thought I did, but I need you now more than I ever have. I may not fully understand the depth of the cross, but I cling to it more than ever." And from all this, I did come out stronger. And whilst it was uncomfortable, I loved the experience, and I loved the community that nurtured me through it. I am so thankful for the way this place formed and nurtured me so that I could live out my calling to follow Jesus. *****



Our 2017 students at a glance





Our 2017 graduation cohort

Programme	BCM	BTC	CHC	DL	EC	AC	HNS	MNK	Total
Certificate in Christian Studies					20	11	2	5	38
NZ Certificate in Study and Career Preparation							6	5	11
Diploma in Christian Education							3	3	6
Diploma in Christian Studies	6	7	31	17	26	20	36	17	160
Bachelor of Counselling			4				7		11
Bachelor of Teaching (Primary)							13		13
Bachelor of Ministries			3				5		8
Bachelor of Theology		1	5	7			7	1	21
Graduate Certificate in Theology			1	4			7		12
Graduate Diploma in Theology		1	8	21			8		38
Postgraduate Diploma in Theology							6		6
Master of Theology							8		8
	6	9	52	49	46	31	108	31	332

KEY:

BCM: Booth College of Mission BTC: Bishopdale Theological College CHC: Christchurch DL: Distance Learning EC: Equippers College AC: Arise Church HNS: Henderson MNK: Manukau







A community enriched by diversity

The Student Co-Presidents at the Henderson Campus reflect the diversity of stories among our student body. Raharuhi (Ra) Koia was born in Gisborne, of Ngāti Porou and Ngāti Kahungunu descent. Leandrie (Dee) Duvenhage is a "new New Zealander", immigrating from South Africa as a young teenager. Ra is completing the final year of his Bachelor of Counselling; Dee is in the first year of a Bachelor of Theology. They do share one experience in common – both have served with the New Zealand Defence Force; Dee in the Navy and Ra in the Army. That experience explains the presence of a Defence Force instructor at the student leadership retreat in February as leaders were set various team building tasks!

Dee joined the Navy straight out of school and trained as a Hydrographic Systems operator, ensuring the accuracy of seabed and coastline charts. Her four years in the Navy included deployments on fisheries patrol in the southern ocean, with the sight of icebergs commonplace. She left the Navy to take up a year's internship with her home church in Hamilton, the Afrikaans Christian Church. That internship stretched to three years as she worked among children and youth, and did a diploma in Biblical ministries through Veritas. During that period she initiated an evening service in English for the youth. A desire to dig more deeply into the Bible led Dee to Laidlaw College in July 2017. She is loving her Biblical papers and has discovered a particular joy in learning Hebrew!

Tertiary-level study was far from Ra's mind during his high school years. A comment made by a teacher to his mother at a parent-teacher interview has taken vears to heal: "Your son will never amount to anything". Sport took priority over study, and it was sporting success that eventually took him out of Gisborne to North America as a professional softball player. Moving to Auckland to play softball, he was spotted by an American talent scout and contracted to play for Seattle and then Canada in the off-season. The sight of people begging in downtown Seattle sparked a desire to become more involved in his own community. After finishing his contract, Ra moved back to Gisborne to volunteer alongside his parents who were both Presbyterian ministers. That led to an interest in fulltime ministry and acceptance into Knox Theological

College. He failed his first year and that teacher's voice came back. But his lecturers recognised his potential and arranged for additional help around study planning. He blossomed and graduated four years later with a Bachelor of Theology and Diploma in Ministry.

After four years ministering in a Maori parish in Whakatane, Ra was offered a position in the Defence Force as a Chaplain. That led to a 22 year career as an Army Chaplain. He was the first chaplain on the ground with NZ soldiers in Afghanistan, volunteering to join them on their patrols as driver. He also served as chaplain to the SAS in Auckland and was involved in providing pastoral support to the unit, and family members, when two of their number were killed overseas.

It was a desire to get more depth to his pastoral care role that led Ra to commence a Diploma in Counselling through Laidlaw's Palmerston North branch in 2008. In 2016 he completed a bridging programme, driving up to Auckland from Palmerston North for three days a week. He moved to Auckland to study fulltime in 2017. He enjoys the wealth of knowledge his lecturers bring, and is gaining valuable experience at a placement with Man Alive, working with males with anger issues and addictions. Ra hopes to take back the skills he is learning into a role with the Army.

Dee and Ra's stories reflect the reality that students do not come to Laidlaw as empty vessels, but bring a diversity of experiences and gifts which enrich our community life. For that, we are blessed!



Rev Dr Hyeeun Kim: Reflections on joining Laidlaw College



Rev Dr Hyeeun Kim is the newest member of our Counselling team, joining Laidlaw College in March 2018. She brings with her a wealth of experience and knowledge. Hyeeun has worked as a counsellor and clinical supervisor in the areas of mental health, addiction, palliative care and trauma for many years. She is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian church, and has three Masters degrees in theology and counselling and a Doctor of Philosophy. Her doctoral research was a study of 1.5 generation "Kowis" (Korean-Kiwis) and their experiences as parents and the influences on their parenting.

Originally Hyeeun came to New Zealand as a free-spirited international student from Korea. She did some preparatory course studies at BCNZ (now Laidlaw) where she met her now husband Carl, and together they have two children. As well as her counselling work, Hyeeun has also lectured at various tertiary providers, including the University of Auckland and Manukau Institute of Technology. She continues to teach pastoral care and Christian formation to internship students at the Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership.

As she joins the team at Laidlaw College, Hyeeun reflects, "I feel privileged to be part of Laidlaw where I can bring all of my experiences to the class – as a woman, wife, parent, migrant, youth worker, ordained minister, trauma counsellor, group facilitator, clinical supervisor and scholar. For the first time in my professional life, I don't have to leave part of me at the door."

Hyeeun loves teaching and being a part of students' "ah-ha" moments when they grasp the skills and concepts of counselling, understanding counselling to be sacred work: "as counsellor-client relationships are one of the most meaningful and profound relationships one can ever experience". As someone who has walked the academic path herself, she hopes to encourage students to firmly believe in their vision, and to thrive while riding the highs and lows of their academic journey.



Rev Dr Tim Meadowcroft: Reflections on 25 years in theological education

Tim retires from Faculty at the end of 2018. We asked for his reflections on what he's learned from a quarter of a century teaching theology and working in a changing College.

What do you know about teaching theology that you didn't know 25 years ago?

I know more than I used to how absolutely crucial it is to the health of the Church to have leaders who understand theology – who can keep alive the disciplines of reading Scripture and thinking theologically – and can locate themselves within the traditions of those who have served Christ faithfully throughout history, so that we can hand on what has been passed to us.

I've come to understand more deeply the nature of the classroom as a community, and am now more intentional about helping students to see their study within a wider framework of worship and the life of the Church. After 25 years, I feel like I'm standing on a growth edge, and am only now maturing as a scholar.

What changes and continuities have you seen that strike you most?

When I first started teaching, the struggle was to help students step beyond their bubble – to look beyond grades and the somewhat monastic culture of Bible College halls of residence to the wider calling of the Gospel. Now we have the opposite problem – students are leading busier and more complex lives, and are under greater pressure than ever before. So helping them carve out time to focus on study is harder than ever.

I continue to struggle with the pragmatism and pervasive antiintellectualism of New Zealand Christian culture, and encouraging people to see the need to balance the freedom we have in the Gospel with the need to cultivate discipline.

How would you describe your sense of calling, and what comes next?

I love reading the Bible, and learning from it continually, and it is an astonishing privilege to be paid to do so. My working life is not just that I do Biblical Studies, it's that I'm able to be part of a community where that is valued. I liken myself to an army quartermaster supplying the front lines of the church – the greater honour belongs to those who are doing extraordinary things in hard places, and I am called to equip them for their work.

The next step is to explore new opportunities to serve more widely, including focusing for a few years on developing and mentoring scholars in Melanesia. I intend to keep writing and editing (a couple of commentary writing opportunities are presenting themselves), and serving in the Anglican church. There is real work to be done, and it does make a difference.



2017 graduates reflect on their Laidlaw journey...



"Laidlaw College was a great way to deepen my head and heart understanding of God and the Bible."

"I am better prepared as a leader and a teacher. My theology now informs my day-today interactions with children."





"Distance learning was awesome, with great content and helpful advice from lecturers who wanted us to grow and learn and not just get through the material."

"



"After years pastoring, my preaching has been renewed by further study... I have a renewed love of theology and Biblical exegesis."



"I found study at Laidlaw stimulating and deeply helpful for my work. I loved the bicultural and multicultural learning environment."





"Training at Laidlaw provided me with the academic and practical equipping to embody the Gospel to every person I meet in my counselling practice."



"I loved my time at Laidlaw. I was surrounded by fantastic lecturers in a great community. The studies were amazing and I had a lot of God moments. I'm going to have to come back for more."

"



New Pasifika initiatives

New initiatives took place over the last year to increase the support given to our expanding body of Pasifika students. A Pasifika Council was launched, consisting of Pasifika leaders in church and community, together with experts in the areas of theology, education and counselling.

A lounge on our Henderson campus was renamed the Moana lounge and given a Pacific flavour. Open to all students, this is a place where students can be themselves, find academic and pastoral support, enjoy sharing food together, and attend customised workshops. One such workshop, "Beyond the Reef", helps students work on issues arising from their earlier schooling which have caused blockages in their tertiary study. The workshop is holistic, dealing with emotional, spiritual and academic issues, and includes personal praver for students. The Moana lounge was dedicated at a special ceremony in September, with the whole Laidlaw community treated to a Pacific feast and entertainment. Guest speaker was HRH Princess Mele Si'uilikutapu Kalaniuvalu, Princess of Tonga, one of the inaugural members of the Pasifika Council.

Student achievement was celebrated at a lunch provided for graduating students and their families at the end of 2017, and a pre-graduation dinner this year. The night included a creative interpretation of the Biblical narrative through drama, dance and speech performed by Laidlaw Pasifika students, Ranui PIC youth and YWAM Mangere. The 150 guests included those from national and local government, church leaders, family and friends. A week later there was much celebration and family pride as their family member crossed the stage to graduate at Auckland's Graduation ceremony.

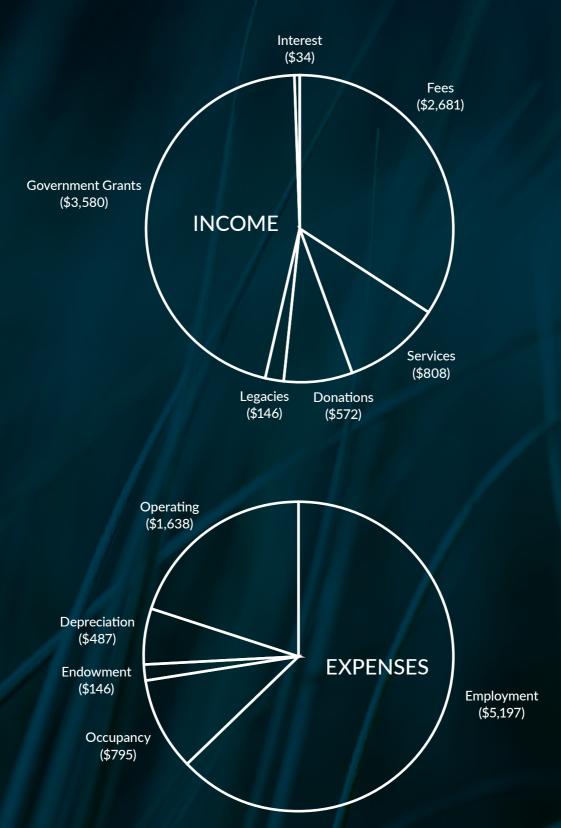
A Pasifika Committee, comprising of students from both Henderson and Manukau campuses, has been formed under the guidance of Gina Siaosi, a Samoan staff member with the dual role of Academic Support/ Pastoral Care and Pasifika Ambassador. The committee have been active in initiating a student buddy system, pairing new students with second and third year students, and planning worship nights and shared lunches. We trust that the fruits of these initiatives will be seen in an increased level of success and enjoyment of study of our Pasifika students.





Financial Snapshot

All in \$000s (NZD)





The BIBLE is our story

The CHURCH is our community

RENEWAL is our vocation

2017 Membership of NGC and Advisory Boards

NATIONAL GOVERNING

Graham Burt (Chair) Roshan Allpress (National Principal) Matt Hakiaha Christine Harding Stafford Houghton Jenny Mackie (Staff NGC member) Judith Malcolm Andrew Rush (Student NGC Member) Karen Spoelstra

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Karen Spoelstra (*Chai*r) Matt Hakiaha Tim Meadowcroft Dianne Scouller

REMUNERATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Graham Burt (Chair) Roshan Allpress (National Principal) Garth Morgan Allan Officer (CFO)

ACADEMIC ADVISORY BOARD

Laurie Guy (*Chair*) Allan Bell Barbara Bulkeley Peter Carrell Murray Rae

TE RUNANGA

Matt Hakiaha (Chair) Seth Barratt Kathy Eruera (*Treasurer Co-opted member*) Darlene Evans Brad Haami Fred Holloway (*Kawerau a Maki rep*) Shona Pink-Martin Atareta Ngawaka Martha Ngawaka (*Assistant Treasurer*) Ruth Thompson

Moeawa Callaghan (Staff ex-officio) Valerie Goold (Staff ex-officio) Linda Paki (Staff ex-officio) Warahi Paki (Staff ex-officio)

PASIFIKA COUNCIL

HRH Princess Mele Siu'ilikutapu Gina Siaosi (*Chair*, *Pasifika Ambassador*) Emeline Afeaki-Mafile'o Siuatu Alefaio-Tugia Maasi Kalaniuvalu Frank Naea

Doreen Alefaio (Staff ex-officio) Naylor Owen (Staff ex-officio) Terry Pouono (Staff ex-officio) Esther Sila'ila'i (Staff ex-officio)

Annie Vailea (Pasifika Student committee rep)

CHRISTCHURCH ADVISORY COUNCIL

Michael Mayes (*Chair*) Hamish Galloway Chris Hannen (*Campus Director*) Alan Jamieson Alistair Mackenzie Joshua Moore Amy Page-Whiting

We give grateful thanks to all who so generously give their time and skills to serve on our National Governing Council and Committees.

In addition to those named above, the College also receives advice and support from members of the following reference and advisory groups:

- Alumni Advisory Committee
- Bachelor of Teaching Advisory Group
- Bachelor of Counselling Advisory Group
- Disability Reference Group
- Indigenous Theology
 Reference Group

Laidlaw College's Statement of Faith

LAIDLAW COLLEGE SHALL UPHOLD THE TRUTHS OF THE HISTORIC CHRISTIAN FAITH, INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF BELIEF:

- There is one true God, infinite and all powerful, eternally existing in three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- God is loving and merciful, holy and just and is the creator and sustainer of all things.
- God has revealed himself in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. All Scripture is uniquely inspired by God and is therefore wholly trustworthy and of supreme and final authority in faith and life.
- Jesus Christ is God's only Son and God incarnate. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary and lived a perfect and sinless human life. He was sent to reveal God, to proclaim the reign of God in the power of the Holy Spirit, and to accomplish God's saving purposes.
- Christ died on the cross for our sins as our representative and substitute. God raised him from the dead through the power of the Spirit and he is exalted at the right hand of the Father, having received all authority in heaven and on earth.
- Human beings are made in the image of God. They are created to love, worship and enjoy fellowship with God and have been entrusted with the stewardship of God's creation.

- Through human disobedience to God, sin and death entered the world. All have sinned and are therefore guilty before God and under God's judgement. Sin separates people from God; it also brings brokenness to human relationships, disrupts the created order and distorts humanity's relationship with creation.
- Salvation is the gift of God's grace through the death of Jesus Christ, and is available to all who repent of their sins and by faith receive him as Saviour and Lord. They are born again by the Holy Spirit, thereby becoming children of God.
- Through the Spirit's indwelling, God's people are enabled to live holy lives and are equipped, in the fellowship of the Church, to witness and work for Christ and to glorify God in the world.
- The Church is the community of all Christian believers, who have been formed by the Holy Spirit into one body of which the Lord Jesus Christ is the Head.
- The Church is commissioned by Christ to bear witness to the Gospel to all peoples through word, deed and sign.
- Christ will return in power and glory to consummate God's kingdom. He will gather his people, judge the world in righteousness, and renew creation. Those outside of Christ will be raised to eternal judgement; those who belong to Christ will be raised to enjoy eternal life in God's presence.

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