



ΑΓΟΝ ΖΗΣ ΕΝΕΧΟΝΤΕΣ  
SINCE 1922

LAIDLAW  
COLLEGE

TE WANANGA AMORANGI



2018

ANNUAL REPORT



## 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

“

...those who follow Christ are called to cultivate a distinctive life of the mind...

Tēnā koutou

At our all-staff meeting at the start of 2018, we spoke about the things that Laidlaw College has stood for since 1922. Looking back through the founding deed that established the Bible Training Institute, or reading College prospectuses from the 1960s, or talks given at churches in the 1990s, four clear commitments hold true across the decades. We have begun informally calling them our “four affirmations”:

## The Bible is our Story

Foundational to all our work is the conviction that those who follow Christ are called to cultivate a distinctive life of the mind that begins in Scripture and leads to creative participation in God’s work of renewing the world. During 2018 we offered seventeen accredited courses directly on the Bible, from level four *Encountering the Bible*, to Masters courses in *Hebrew Wisdom* and *The Gospel and its Proclamation*. Beyond these papers however, all our programmes, and the practices of our wider College community life, seek to ground the learning of students in the Bible – forming graduates who can move intelligently from Scripture to life.

## Jesus is our Lord

Study at Laidlaw is not only a path to a qualification, but an invitation to formation and transformation. Jesus gives us a model of what it means to learn and be human that goes beyond the reductively economic, socially determined or narrowly autonomous to a fuller picture of personal and communal flourishing. It is because Christ is Lord that we seek social justice, wise policy, educational pathways, cultural flourishing, relational wholeness, economic wellbeing, and the renewal of every sphere of life. We hope that an outsider walking into Laidlaw this year or any year will see the implications of this vision in how we gather to pray, worship, study or love our neighbours.

## The Church is our Community

During 2018 more than 100 students studied towards Laidlaw programmes through our partnerships that span New Zealand’s denominations. We are now teaching evening classes via video-conference into churches, and continue to run workshops around the country on topics such as preaching and counselling

communities through trauma. We are blessed to be served by our Runanga, Pasifika Council, Christchurch Advisory Council, Disability Reference Group, and other groups who guide Laidlaw as we seek to serve an increasingly diverse Church. Highlights from our wider service of the Church included the launch of a Central Auckland chapter of our *Engage* pastors’ network, supporting dozens of leaders’ gatherings around New Zealand, and a well-attended conference on what mission looks like in an intercultural church.

## Renewal is our Vocation

The work of our graduates in their communities is the clearest expression of our mission. It is a joy every year to meet those who are preaching, developing social enterprises, leading organisational change, speaking through art, forming young lives, or working for justice in broken communities, because they have studied at Laidlaw. One example of the many ways that our commitment to working out the Gospel mission in our world was shown in 2018 through *Whakawhiti kōrero*, a conference that gathered practitioners and academics across many disciplines to discuss how theology can better inform social practice and vice versa.

Looking forward into 2019, the College finds itself well-positioned in the midst of a changing environment. Government reviews are likely to result in significant change for the tertiary sector. We are encouraged by enrolments, but mindful of the need to continue to grow pathways to form leaders for the future of the Church – especially for Māori and Pasifika, and for theologically-grounded leaders in the wider marketplace.

Thank you for continuing to walk with us in support and prayer, as we continue to affirm that *The Bible is our Story; Jesus is our Lord; The Church is our Community; and Renewal is our Vocation*.

Ngā mihi nui



Dr Roshan Allpress  
National Principal/CEO





## From the Chair

*Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed - that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: cross, shame, whatever. And now he's there, in the place of honour, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he plowed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your souls! Hebrews 12:1-3 (The Message)*

Laidlaw College has had a spectacular year, and we humbly offer our thanks to God. I want to offer the Board's heartfelt thanks to Roshan, the entire staff and student cohort for making Laidlaw the wonderful community that it is.

The Board is putting a strong focus on what lies ahead. Along with all communities of the Christian faith, we find ourselves in interesting times. Those who follow the God of the Bible, and his Son, Jesus Christ, are in a minority in New Zealand. National and international power structures are increasingly paying less attention to their Christian heritage. Social media is 'alive' with strident voices decrying anyone who adopts a hard and fast position, singling out Christians in particular. Christians are often baffled on how to respond, and at times respond clumsily.

When the global political climate is rife with those who 'spin' the truth, or even delight in falsehood, how do we as Christians find our voice and introduce others to a Saviour who says, "I am the way, the truth and the life"?

At Laidlaw College we view these challenges with open eyes, ears and hearts. We are proud to uphold a legacy of good scholarship, grounded in the Word of God. We are passionate about equipping our students to transform their communities with a faith as intelligent as it is courageous.

We take the lead from our Saviour Jesus and fix our eyes on him. We study how he did it. We go over the story again and again. We pray that all of us will have adrenaline shot into our souls!

Thank you for your support, your prayers, your input. It is of incalculable value. Let's not lose sight of where we are headed, and who we are heading towards.



**Graham Burt**  
Chair - National Governing Council

## Te Runanga Report

I te tuatahi, me hoki tatou ki nga mate huahua a ratou kua mene atu ki te po i tenei tau. Firstly we must acknowledge those amongst us who have passed on, including elder Wally Hayward, one of the founding members of the Runanga and a member of the former National Board (now NGC) who sadly passed away this year. Rest with the Father.

In honour of Wally and the other founding members of the Runanga, the following scripture pays homage to their strong stance to shape the hearts and minds of their people with the Gospel.

*Romana 10:10*

*Mā te ngākau hoki kia whakapono ka tika ai; mā te māngai kia whakaae ka ora ai.*

*Romans 10:10*

*For with the heart one believes unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

In 2018 the Runanga continued to play a pivotal role in the life of the College at ceremonial occasions for student orientation, graduation, and various conferences.

The Runanga supported the reo and bicultural components for Year 1 programmes, and hosted the marae noho once again. Runanga member Bradford Haami took over from Val Goold as coordinator of the course. It was the first time the Runanga had engaged directly with the Christchurch campus in many years.

The Graduate Diploma of Theology's Indigenous Theology track, initiated by the Runanga, completed its final year of the first round in 2018. The Theology Degree Monitor's report commended the programme as a positive step for Laidlaw College, and noted that the programme continues to meet a need within the community. Seth Barratt, Bradford Haami, and Denise Tims are the first to complete the full programme and graduated in April 2019.

The Runanga also entered into a joint venture with the Baptist Union Māori Strategic team to publish a tikanga Māori manual for churches. This is an ongoing project.

Many thanks to all Runanga members for their service to the college and the community.

Naku noa na



**Bradford Haami**  
Interim Chair - Runanga

## 2018 in Numbers

889

Students

256

Graduates

15

Pastors'  
Breakfasts

42

Teaching practicum  
schools

15

Research theses  
deposited into library

9

Teaching sites  
around NZ

937

Attendees at public  
lectures

41,583

Searches made on the  
Library Catalogue

34

Articles, chapters & books  
published by faculty

5,300

Advent Readings  
distributed nationally

9

Alumni  
Gatherings





72

Events and  
Public Lectures

44

Counselling  
placement sites





# Snapshots of Laidlaw around Aotearoa in 2018

Each year Laidlaw College hosts a variety of events on our campuses, in churches and with partner organisations in our communities. We've featured one event from each month for you to catch a glimpse of some of what went on in 2018.



## January

### PRACTICUMS IN SCHOOLS

---

Year Two Education students headed into primary and intermediate schools for a practicum focussed on learning how to start a school year.



## February

### LECTURE SERIES IN CHRISTCHURCH

---

Laidlaw Christchurch hosted the first of our *Laidlaw Lecture Series* on Tuesday evenings. Five sessions on *God's Story, Our Place* was followed by another five-week block on *Christ among the gods: Thinking Christianly about world religions*.



## March

### ALUMNI REUNION

---

Students and faculty from the 2000-2005 era gathered for a reunion dinner to reconnect, reminisce and reflect on God's faithfulness over the years.



## July

### TRAINING SESSIONS FOR YOUTH LEADERS

---

Laidlaw staff ran training sessions for youth leaders from around Aotearoa at *Connect*, the Presbyterian Youth Ministry conference at El Rancho.



## August

### ALUMNI GATHERINGS

---

National alumni gatherings were held over consecutive Saturdays in Auckland and Christchurch with two of our longest serving faculty (Tim Meadowcroft and David Crawley) speaking on the theme of *Sustaining a Life-Long Faith*.



## September

### BOOK LAUNCH

---

Senior Lecturer, Dr Mark Keown gave a public lecture to accompany the launch of his new two volume series - *Jesus in a World of Colliding Empires*.





### April

#### PASIFIKA GRADUANDS' CELEBRATION

We celebrated Pasifika student success at a pre-graduation dinner which included a creative presentation of the Biblical narrative. A week later we celebrated the successful completion of programmes of 114 Laidlaw students at our Auckland Graduation ceremony.



### May

#### INTERCULTURAL CHURCH CONFERENCE

Laidlaw Henderson hosted *Intercultural Church: Becoming One People*, a conference over 11-12 May to help pastors and leaders consider the question of how New Zealand churches move from diversity to inclusion in an increasingly multi-ethnic society.



### June

#### STAFF TRIBUTE EVENINGS

We acknowledged the significant contributions made to the College by faculty members at farewell tribute evenings in Christchurch (Dr Bob Robinson, Alistair Donaldson and Alistair Mackenzie) and Henderson (Dr Dianne Scouller). An evening for Dr Tim Meadowcroft was held in November.



### October

#### INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE

A conference organised by the Schools of Theology and Social Practice was held over two days. *Whakawhiti Kōrero: Conversations between theology and social vocation* invited dialogue between the disciplines in order to better shape and inform the other.



### November

#### PARTNER GRADUATIONS

We celebrated the success of Laidlaw students graduating from our partner colleges Arise Church and Equippers College. The following month graduation celebrations were held at Booth College of Mission and our Christchurch campus.



### December

#### COMMUNITY LEADERS GATHERING IN MANUKAU

South Auckland pastors and leaders gathered for *Coffee & Community* at our Laidlaw Manukau Campus - a follow-up requested by attendees in response to a successful networking breakfast in October.



# Pasifika Report

The Pasifika student cohort continues to flourish with ongoing customised academic and pastoral support and participation in college life. The 2018 Pasifika Student Committee worked hard to serve their peers and to build a tight-knit supportive community under the leadership of education student Annie Tuai-Vailea (Semester 1, 2018) and counselling student Tillie Lima (Semester 2, 2018).

Some Pasifika initiatives have been adopted into mainstream college support and events. A Tokouso-buddy support (student buddy system) is now offered to all new students, and a Family Luau Nite has joined the College calendar. Families are invited to come and see where their students study, enjoy good food and entertainment, and hear how their students can best be supported. 'Pasifika Inspire', an event featuring personal testimonies of Pasifika professionals and prayer ministry, was incorporated into the 2019 Orientation Week and renamed 'Student Inspire'. There has also been a marked increase of Pasifika representation on the Henderson Student Leadership Team which serves the entire student body. Elections in 2018 resulted in half of the team for 2019 being of Pasifika descent.

Student achievement was celebrated with a Pasifika Graduands' dinner in April 2018, preceded by a creative interpretative performance of the Biblical narrative. Helping with the performance was Loma Uhila, a third year Counselling student. With a passion for performing arts, over the past three years Loma and her team have trained children during the school holidays. In October 2018, Loma's group 'Kingdom Challenges' performed in front of a packed theatre presenting the story of the Bible through drama and music. It was a colourful show, artfully stringing together familiar Sunday School stories into the panoramic story of Scripture.

At this year's Pasifika Graduands' Dinner, special mention was made of Taniela Moala, a theology student who began studies in a Level 4 Certificate of Preparatory Studies course, and completed his MTh in 2018. We also announced with excitement the work of faculty member Dr Terry Pouono, who will be developing a suite of Pacific papers over the next few years. The first course will offer a survey of major developments in the history of Christianity in the Pacific.

Towards the end of 2018, networking breakfast meetings were held at our Manukau Campus to engage further with community leaders in South Auckland. Some important connections with key church leaders were made, and insights gained on how Laidlaw could best meet the needs of Pasifika people.



**Gina Siaoosi**  
Pasifika Ambassador







# olive shoots

early childhood centre

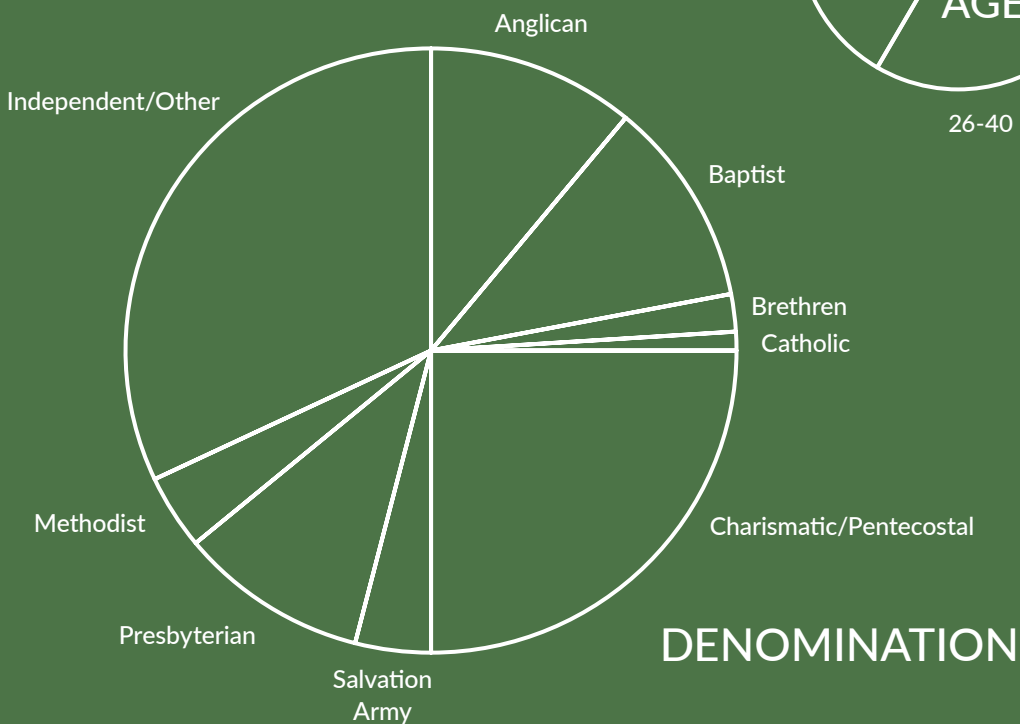
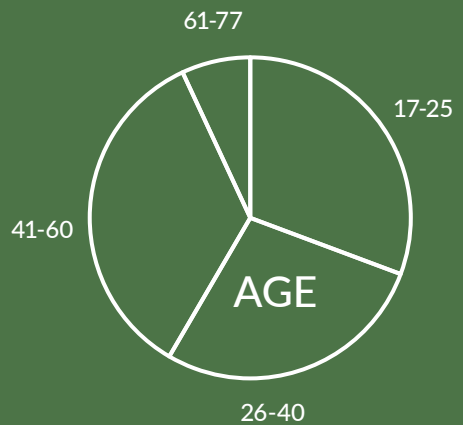
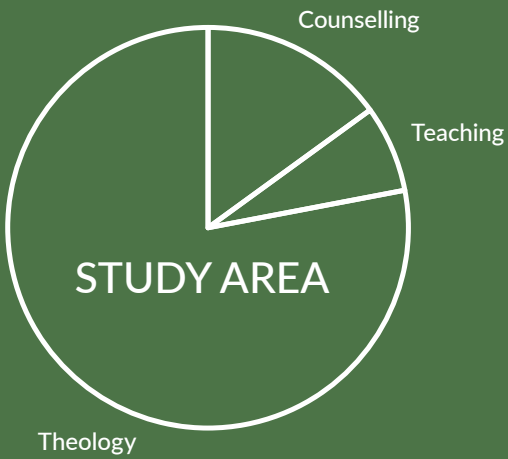
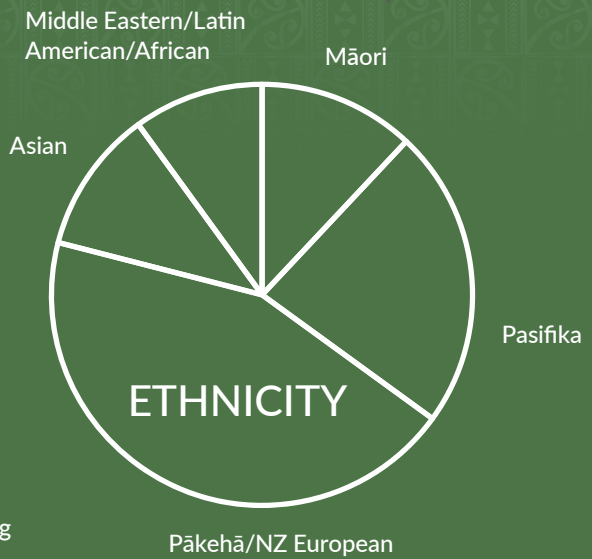


A dawn service conducted by the College's Runanga on 28 September 2018 to bless the new Olive Shoots buildings, staff and children, marked the start of a new chapter for Laidlaw's Early Childhood Centre. The discovery of leaky building issues in the purpose-built Olive Shoots building 14 months before led to the decision to relocate to buildings vacated by Jireh School at the entry to the College's Henderson campus. It took a huge amount of work to make these buildings compliant to early childhood standards. Grateful thanks go to Lottie Allpress, Project Manager, John Ferguson, Property Manager, and the Co-Managers of the Centre, Pearl Thorp and Naomi Teta, for their management of this project. While it was an emotional farewell to their 'home' of 18 years, the staff and children are loving the new Centre's roomier spaces and larger play areas.

As well as providing quality early childhood education to 50 children at any one time, the Centre has continued its support of the Christian Leaders' Training College kindergarten in Papua New Guinea. A new early childhood certificate was introduced in 2018, developed in conjunction with Bethlehem Training Institute, and Pearl Thorp is teaching one course a year in that programme. She also travelled to PNG to further her Masters in Professional Practice, researching learning styles within that country.

2018 marked the end of a significant partnership with Naomi Teta announcing her departure after 17 years, the last 12 years co-managing Olive Shoots with Pearl. After completing postgraduate studies in early intervention, Naomi is now furthering those skills in a role with the Ministry of Education. Naomi made an outstanding contribution to the wonderful culture and quality of education provided by Olive Shoots. It is a standard picked up by the whole Olive Shoots team, with Pearl affirming that "Olive Shoots is a lovely place to work, with a set of fantastic teachers who are totally dedicated and passionate." The truth of that statement was confirmed in a recent Education Review Office report which noted that Olive Shoots was "very well placed to provide positive learning outcomes for children" and concluded with no recommendations to change any of their practices. Well done team!

# Our 2018 Students at a Glance







# Our 2018 Graduating Cohort

Programme	Arise Church	Booth College of Mission	Bishopdale Theological College	Christchurch	Distance Learning	Equippers College	Henderson	Manukau	Total
Certificate in Christian Studies	6					22			28
NZ Certificate in Study and Career Preparation							12	11	23
Diploma in Christian Education							8	3	11
Diploma in Christian Studies	13	4	2	11	23	16	17	4	90
Bachelor of Counselling				6			13		19
Bachelor of Ministries				3	1		3		7
Bachelor of Teaching (Primary)							12		12
Bachelor of Theology				7	9		7		23
Graduate Certificate in Theology					4		1		5
Graduate Diploma in Theology			1	3	11		14		29
Postgraduate Diploma in Theology							5		5
Master of Theology							4		4
	19	4	3	30	48	38	96	18	256









# A Journey into Indigenous Theology Studies

Denise Tims, GradDipTh

In 2018 the Indigenous Theology track of the *Graduate Diploma of Theology* finished its first four-year cycle of eight courses. Denise Tims, one of the first to complete the full programme, reflects on her indigenous theology journey:

I am of Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Raukawa, Ngapuhi, English and Scottish descent. I am a wife, mother and member of Urban Neighbours of Hope, an apostolic order of the Baptist Churches of NZ.

From a western perspective, I have discovered many wonderful truths of God over the past 30 years of being a Jesus disciple. However, I have also lived in a tension, where many questions regarding spirituality, Māoritanga and God have been difficult to answer. Most theology that permeates our churches, institutions and literature is dominated by a Pākehā and western lens. I have wanted to challenge both sides of my cultural heritage and spirituality, and be able to place an indigenous and western lens upon Scripture and life to seek a deeper truth.

In 2014, Laidlaw College introduced a Māori theological track for undergraduates and it was here that my formal indigenous theological study began. I have thoroughly enjoyed being in a positive, predominantly Māori, environment where the sharing of cultural issues is generally understood and where learning from Scripture and each other is respected. Approaching theology from an indigenous perspective has been refreshing and has allowed me to grapple with where culture and God both align and clash. I have been strengthened, encouraged and empowered in my faith, and enriched by a deeper understanding of God. I feel better equipped with tools to discern truth. This course has provided an environment to foster a stronger informed indigenous voice that I hope I can offer to our land and our people.





# Around the World with our Graduates

A snapshot of some Laidlaw graduates who are renewing their communities with a faith as intelligent as it is courageous.



## 01. Norway



Bill and Jeanne Gray  
Pastors at Large

## 02. England



Jo Kelly-Moore  
Archdeacon of  
Canterbury

## 03. Germany



Hannah Stewart  
PhD Study in Systematic  
Theology at Leuphana  
University

## 08. Singapore



Kheng Hai and  
Gek Lang  
Pastors at Large,  
East Asia

## 04. Italy



Andrew Diprose  
Evangelism of migrants  
& refugees, discipleship  
training

## 09. Taiwan



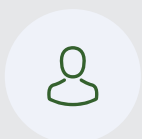
Simon and Helen  
Johnson  
Church Planting

## 13. Australia (Melbourne)



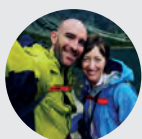
Dave Wells  
General Manager,  
Innovation, Impact and  
Government Affairs

## 05. Middle East



GradDipTh Graduate  
Refugee Work

## 10. Japan



Rob & Haidee Thomson  
Assistant Professors  
at Hokusei Gakuen  
University

## 14. New Zealand (Invercargill)



Aaron Douglas  
Case Manager,  
Dept of Corrections

## 06. Kenya



Stuart & Maree  
Houghton  
Team Leaders/  
Discipleship

## 11. Papua New Guinea



Phil Tait  
Vice Principal Education,  
CLTC  
Jill Tait  
Health Promotions Officer

## 15. New Zealand (Christchurch)



Leah Menage  
Counsellor

## 07. Thailand



Joy  
Counsellor, working with  
the vulnerable, sexually  
exploited, & human  
trafficking victims

## 12. Australia (Cairns)



Bill Harding  
International Development  
Director (Mission Aviation  
Fellowship)

## 16. New Zealand (Auckland)



Jeremy Yoon  
International Student  
Ministries





*...go into  
all the world...*

Mark 16:15



### 17. Tonga



In-Kwon Kim and  
Jeong-Seok Nam

Disability Rehabilitation  
and Pastoral Care Work

### 18. Samoa



Faye Gates  
Counselling & Training  
Church Leaders

### 20. USA (Washington)



David Piper  
Youth Pastor

### 19. USA (California)



Elizabeth Seely  
Emergency Department  
Victim Advocate/  
Educator

### 21. Colombia



Nigel Webb  
Theological Educator  
Richelle Webb  
Leadership and Member Care



# Faculty Feature

Four of our team share what they enjoy about Laidlaw.



**Watiri Maina** Christchurch Campus  
BA, DipTheol, MA Counselling Psychology  
Adjunct Lecturer, School of Social Practice (Counselling)  
Courses taught: Foundations of Relational Practice A & B

## Of all the places you could work, what compels you to keep coming to Laidlaw?

I love the warm hospitable culture, all my colleagues in Christchurch and Auckland, our students, the intellectual stimulation and the clear sense that God is here in this place. Laidlaw has shaped me in so many wonderful ways. Through Laidlaw I have learnt the integration of theology and psychology in thoughtful ways, and I enjoy the critical thinking about all that I do and say. Something comes alive for me when I teach and often the only way I can describe it is this, "When I teach, I feel God's pleasure."

## What would you say to a friend who was thinking about studying at Laidlaw?

Laidlaw is an amazing place to study. The lecturers and courses are engaging, there is robust learning as well as a nurturing community undergirded by values that reflect God's hospitality and relationality.



**Immanuel Koks** Christchurch Campus  
BSc, GradDipSc, GradDipTh, MA Theological Studies  
Adjunct Lecturer, School of Social Practice (Counselling)  
Member of the Disability Reference Group  
Course taught: Theology of Suffering and Hope

## What inspires you to do what you do?

I'm a bridge builder and love to think systematically about what I believe, so being a Theologian in the School of Social Practice is a great fit for me. I want to do systematic theology based on the whole story of the Bible. The gospel is about transforming the way we live and interact with others, so it is important that Christians know their theology when they go into vocations where lives are being transformed.

## What would you say to someone who was thinking about studying at Laidlaw?

Laidlaw is a great place for growing your knowledge of God, his Word, his people, and yourself. It is thoroughly evangelical, while open to other voices within the broader church – so you will hear things which are different to what you have heard before. Laidlaw will challenge you and sometimes you will feel stretched beyond what you thought you could cope with. But it's a nurturing place, with staff who really want to stand beside you as you work through what you believe.





### What compels you to keep coming to Laidlaw?

Three main things inspire me to do what I do (which includes driving all the way to Henderson from Howick to do it). 1 - I know that I was directed by God to Laidlaw. Not only can I work from my passions, but I am also shaped and fed by being part of the college. 2 - the people. I love my colleagues. They are super encouraging, cheering me on in my own studies, and personal and professional growth. I had never worked in a team where the leader lives out the espoused beliefs of a shared leadership structure and commitment to social justice. There is true collaboration and commitment to the other. 3 - I simply love working with the students. To grow great teachers who will go out and impact the children of the future is a great responsibility and one that none of the team hold lightly. The students are why we are here and the interactions I get to have with them sustain me through some of the more mundane everyday tasks.

### What do you enjoy about your work?

Teaching theology is a wonderful learning experience. This learning comes through continuous meditation with the Word of God, lecture notes, dialogue with students and getting to put my learning into practice.

### What kinds of learning are you looking forward to in the coming years?

I am passionate about research connected with Pacific churches in Aotearoa, Pacific students studying theology, and providing a theological response to various social issues Pacific people are facing in contemporary NZ.

### What do you hope for your students?

My hope for our students is that they are inspired to live into Laidlaw's vision - a world shaped by love, compelled and informed by the Gospel, using their knowledge and gifts to serve their churches faithfully. Not only their churches, but also serving in various sectors of the wider society that require a prophetic voice undergirded by the gospel.



## Philippa Isom

Henderson Campus

BEd, Diploma of Primary Teaching

Lecturer, Bachelor of Teaching Programme Co-ordinator

Courses taught: Science and Technology, The Innovative Classroom, Developing Literacy, Teaching and Learning English



## Dr Terry Pouono

Manukau Campus

BA, BDiv, Masters in Ecumenical Studies, PhD

Lecturer, School of Theology

Courses taught: Beginning Theology, Biblical Theology, Church History, Gospel and Culture (Co-lecturer)



2018  
graduates  
reflect on  
their Laidlaw  
journey...



“  
“I loved my time  
studying at  
Laidlaw and learnt  
things that have  
really helped me  
in my life.”  
”

“  
“I was equipped well  
in a broad range of  
subjects that were  
both enjoyable and  
challenging.”  
”



“  
“I really enjoyed the  
content and format  
of the courses as well  
as the interaction  
with fellow students  
and tutors.”  
”







“  
Laidlaw Manukau was like a family to me. They always went the extra mile to help students to succeed in their studies.”



“  
I loved my experience as a student at Laidlaw. I would return and study again for deepening my knowledge of God and society.”



“  
My experience at Booth Theological College and with the Laidlaw material was excellent and more than just intellectual, because I really felt part of a family who walked alongside me”.



“  
There were many, many areas of growth for me that my study contributed to. I am so pleased to have done this work as an important part of my journey.”





# Celebrating Postgraduate Research

During 2018, 41 postgraduate students undertook research at Laidlaw. Here is a sample of six students who successfully completed a thesis in 2018.



**Taniela Moala**

**Thesis:** Missionaries, Chiefs and Gospel in Tongan Development – A study of the influence of John Thomas in Tonga, 1824-1859.



**Ross Millar**

**Thesis:** Signs of Understanding the Lord's Prayer: Comparing the written NT Greek text with that signed by deaf New Zealanders.



**Bryant Richards**

**Thesis:** A future shaped by holiness - Holiness as hermeneutic: towards a renewed missional imagination for The Salvation Army in Aotearoa New Zealand.



**Yukiko Wakui-Khaw**

**Thesis:** Participation in the Abundant Life of the Triune God as a Model for Communicating the Gospel to the Japanese.



**Tekweni Chataira**

**Thesis:** Motive and intent in the Book of Ruth: A narrative critical interrogation of Naomi.



**Tracey Hunt**

**Thesis:** The Turn to the Contemplative in Christian spirituality: Developing an Evangelical Response.





# Whakawhiti Kōrero

## Conversations between theology and social vocation



Lisa Spriggins, Tim Meadowcroft and Jeanette Cole convened an interdisciplinary conference on 1-2 October 2018. We caught up with Lisa (Head of Counselling) and Tim (Acting Head of Theology) to hear more about it.

### What inspired Whakawhiti Kōrero?

**Tim:** It started over 20 years ago when the College introduced counselling training. The immediate focus was “how do we integrate?” Since then, and through the growth of our programmes, the counselling faculty have worked on integrating theology and counselling.

**Lisa:** In 2017 we published *Stories of Therapy, Stories of Faith* which included contributions from faculty, students, practitioners and other academics. We invited Tim to speak at the book launch and engage with it from a theological perspective. He basically said: “It’s a good book. You need to talk to more theologians. The next step is a conference.”

**Tim:** My point was; “this is good work by trained counsellors who are trying to bring theology in.” The clear next step was to get theologians and counsellors talking with and learning from each other. Not just from the point of view that “counsellors aren’t doing their theology well enough, they need our help” but considering that theologians also need to engage with social practice to enhance their work.

**Lisa:** We’re both passionate about the reciprocity of ideas. There is gold in what each other brings and we wanted to make space for learning from each other in conversation.

### What happened over the two-day conference?

**Lisa:** We formatted the conference so the different practices, groups of ideas and disciplines could interact with each other. 63 participants joined us from across New Zealand, Australia and Canada.

**Tim:** Our keynote speakers were an Old Testament scholar and a Psychologist who both had experience related to the other discipline and were able to

speak from their strengths and engage with other perspectives.

**Lisa:** Tim and I started the conference by presenting our papers and interacting with each other’s work. We wanted to model the kind of conversation we might have – to offer and hear other perspectives. It was a fun thing to do!

### What is a highlight from the conference?

**Lisa:** I enjoyed hearing how participants were engaging with the presentations and thinking them back into their own contexts asking questions like “what does this mean for my life and work?”

**Tim:** People were happy with it but there’s more to do. I sensed a kind of holy discontent - we’ve tasted and seen that this is not yet good enough. It’s important that we met - that is an achievement - but there is appetite for more.

### What’s next?

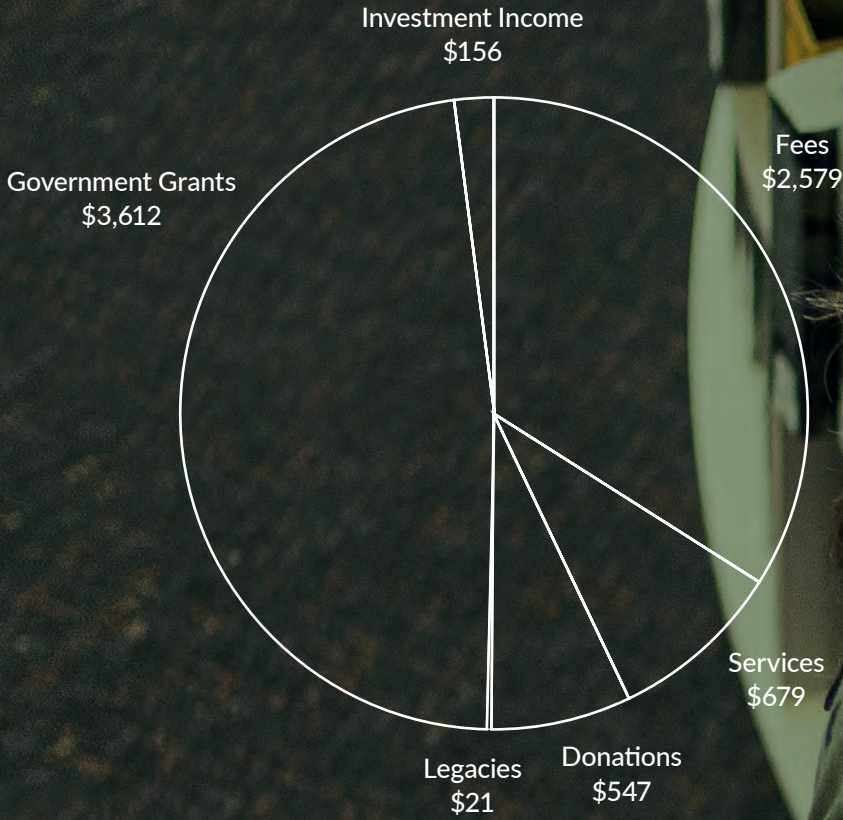
**Tim:** We need to have another conference and Lisa and I are editing a book. We’d like to publish a series of essays from these conversations. The other ‘what next’ is that we need to be much better internally at this integration. This conference was a good step and a public display of areas that we want to strengthen and develop as more of a conversation.

*“The incarnation suggests that God in Christ is committed to human flourishing. This compels us also to be devoted to the wellbeing of people.”*

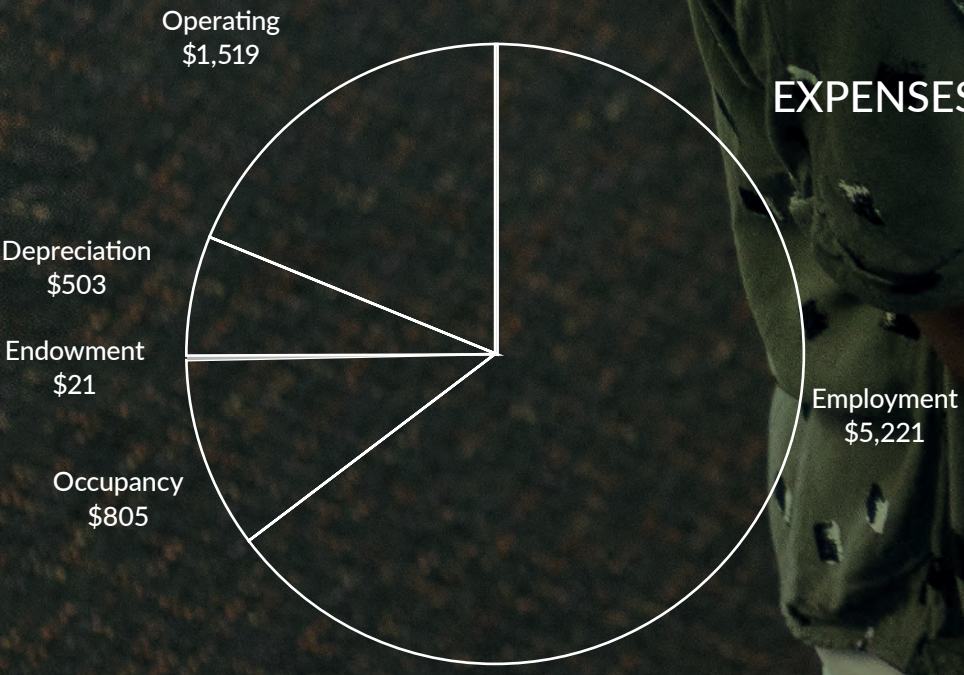


# Financial Snapshot

All in \$000s (NZD)



INCOME



EXPENSES





The  
**BIBLE**  
is our story

**JESUS**  
is our Lord

The  
**CHURCH**  
is our community

**RENEWAL**  
is our vocation





# 2018 Membership of NGC and Advisory Boards

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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

## LIDLAW 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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