

# NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH IN EDUCATION

## TE HUNGA RANGAHAU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

# Te Tohu Pae Tawhiti Award 2008

Dr Joanna Kidman is affiliated with Te Arawa and Te Aupouri. She is a Sociologist working in the field of Māori Education, with a particular interest in the area of Māori youth studies and indigenous place-based education. She has worked as a researcher with young people based in Māori communities and has developed innovative approaches to data collection involving visual methodologies.

Since 1995, Dr Kidman has been a member, the former Director and Co-Director of He Pārekereke: the Institute for Research and Development in Māori and Pacific Education at Victoria University of Wellington. Along with her colleagues in He Pārekereke, Joanna is deeply committed to building collaborative scholarly networks between Māori researchers and the indigenous peoples of the Pacific and, in this respect she has actively supported the establishment of cooperative ventures.

Dr Kidman has been awarded a Fulbright Senior scholarship to conduct research on Māori children's motivation in Science classrooms, in 2009. This project is part of an International Study of Indigenous Children's Scientific Literacy in Tribal Settings. She was an Inaugural Research Fellow of Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga/New Zealand's Māori Research Centre of Excellence, hosted by the University of Auckland. During the Fellowship, Dr Kidman investigated a range of approaches for Researchers in the Social Sciences working in collaboration with Māori communities and organisations. In addition, she has been successful in winning a considerable number of Research Grants for the benefit of Māori education and knowledge and she has organised and convened International conferences aimed at promoting a range of indigenous knowledges.

Central to Dr Kidman's work is the development of Māori research capacity. Since 2004, Joanna has been a Convenor of the Māori and Indigenous (MAI) ki Poneke network and she is engaged in developing capability amongst emerging Māori and indigenous scholars, Postdoctoral Fellows, Educators, and professional Researchers. The mentoring roles form the basis of her work in the broad field of Education.

Recently, Dr Kidman has been involved with the development of international research networks involving indigenous populations. She was invited to Taiwan to establish, along with a group of other academic researchers, a network for indigenous place-based education. The collaboration that emerged is concerned with scientific literacies in communities of place and spans Canada, the US, Hawaii, Belize, Taiwan, and the Altai republic. In addition, she has been involved with collaborative projects with universities in the United Kingdom, including the University of London, which included creating classroom resources with an indigenous perspective of development education. To this end she mentored a team of emerging Māori researchers who are now presenting their ideas internationally.

At the heart of Dr Kidman's outlook is her belief that tino rangatiratanga is achieved within the context of the collective and her work is driven by the desire to work as part of a group, rather than as an individual. She attributes her own achievements to Māori and indigenous colleagues, students, researchers and organisations, such as Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga, as well as her Whānau and Hapū who have supported her commitment to building world-wide networks for indigenous research scholarship.

