

NZISA  
**FUTURE FEMALE  
LEADERSHIP  
CONFERENCE  
2021**

FFLC • FFLC FFLC FFLC FFLC FFLC FFLC





# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

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● 9:00 am  
REGISTRATION  
& ZOOM LOGIN

● 9:15 am  
MC'S INTRODUCTION  
OF HON. MINISTER  
JAN TINETTI,  
MINISTER FOR WOMEN

● 9:20 am  
KEYNOTE SPEECH BY  
HON. MINISTER JAN  
TINETTI, MINISTER  
FOR WOMEN

● 9:35 am  
SPEECH BY AFIQAH  
RAMIZI, NZISA'S  
PRESIDENT

● 9:45 am  
SPONSORS'  
REVEAL

● 9:50 am  
BRIEFING ON  
WORKSHOP STRUCTURE

● 10:00 am  
WORKSHOP SESSION 1 (EMPLOYABILITY  
AND CAREER STRENGTHENING)

1 Standing out in the New  
Zealand Context, by Andrew Tui

2 CV and Cover Letter 101, by  
Divya Kataria

3 Be More Confident in Public  
Speaking and Presenting  
Yourself, by Joyce Wong

● 10:45 am  
HAUORA BREAK



# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

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- **11:00 am**  
**WORKSHOP SESSION 2 (MENTAL HEALTH AND IDENTITY)**
  - 1** Identities, Cultures and Us, by Birgit Grafarend-Watungwa
  - 2** Importance of Mental Health in Fostering Learning, Achievement and Leadership, by Patrick Au
- **11:45 am**  
**HAUORA BREAK**
- **12:00 pm**  
**WORKSHOP SESSION 3 (GENDER, SEXUALITY AND SAFETY)**
  - 1** Allyship for the Rainbow Community, by Grace Abbott
  - 2** NZ Police's Hate Crime Journey, by Constable Telisha Kumar and Mariam Arif
- **12:45 pm**  
**LUNCH**
- **1:30 pm**  
**KEYNOTE BY DR MAHSA MOHAGHEH**
- **1:45 pm**  
**STUDENT LEADERS' PANEL SESSION**
- **2:45 pm**  
**EXPERTS' PANEL SESSION**
- **3:45 pm**  
**Spot prizes and Conclusion of Conference**

**“For tech support on the conference day, we have dedicated IT champions to help you.**

**Please either use the Zoom chat feature or the Facebook comment section when we stream the conference live on our Facebook event page”**

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**\*Please click/tap on the links below to access sessions\***

**Main Conference Zoom (for registered users)**

<https://auckland.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUoc-itqzMpGtNYcVWRg6M9cIPYsLTTpPjS>

**FFLC Facebook Event Page**

<https://fb.me/e/2oAmV6nFi>

**NZISA’s Facebook Page (For Livestream)**

<https://www.facebook.com/NZISA2018>

**NZISA’s website for FFLC**

<https://nzisa.co.nz/>

## **Links for workshop sessions - participants are to choose one workshop per session**

### **10.00am - Workshop session 1 (Employability and Career Strengthening)**

Standing out in the New Zealand  
Context, by Andrew Tui

<https://auckland.zoom.us/j/93300326448>

CV and Cover Letter 101, by Divya  
Kataria

<https://auckland.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUoc-itqzMpGtNYcVWRg6M9cIPYsLTTpPjS>

Be More Confident in Public Speaking  
and Presenting Yourself, by Joyce Wong

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82076374513>

### **11.00am - Workshop session 2 (Mental Health and Identity)**

Identities, Cultures and Us, by Birgit  
Grafarend-Watungwa

<https://auckland.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUoc-itqzMpGtNYcVWRg6M9cIPYsLTTpPjS>

Importance of Mental Health in  
Fostering Learning, Achievement and  
Leadership, by Patrick Au

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82506280005>

### **12.00pm - Workshop session 3 (Gender, Sexuality and Safety)**

Allyship for the Rainbow Community, by  
Grace Abbott

<https://auckland.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUoc-itqzMpGtNYcVWRg6M9cIPYsLTTpPjS>

NZ Police's Hate Crime Journey, by  
Constable Telisha Kumar and Mariam  
Arif

<https://auckland.zoom.us/j/96954509388>



# ABOUT FFLC

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**We are delighted** to have you at the NZISA's 2021 Future Female Leadership Conference. The conference aims to highlight the challenging experience of personal and cultural transitions for female international students and to celebrate the diversity of women from different countries, religious backgrounds and ethnicities.

This conference also aims to bring together people of all genders to promote inclusion and to collectively engage in discussions on empowering females in New Zealand.

This conference is proudly supported by the Ministry of Education through the International Students' Wellbeing Strategy funding, Education New Zealand and the Southern Cross Travel Insurance Ltd.

A huge thank you too, to Ghost Agency who has been the champion for the conference marketing, and Media Design School Auckland for the conference designing.



# ABOUT NZISA

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**The New Zealand International Students' Association (NZISA)** is the peak body for international students studying in the secondary and tertiary levels in New Zealand. We are an umbrella body that brings together international student leaders nationwide.

This year, our association is led by a team of 3 Board of Directors (including the National President), National Secretary, and Public Relations Officer.

We also have a team of National Representative Council consisting of the elected International Students' Representative/Officer from our member associations.

NZISA works closely with the Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry for Ethnic Communities (MEC), Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE), Auckland Agency Group (AAG), New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA), Education New Zealand (ENZ), Universities New Zealand (UNZ), ISANA NZ, Te Pukenga, Immigration New Zealand (INZ), tertiary education providers and student associations.





**THINK  
NEW<sup>™</sup>**



Education New Zealand Manapouki te Ao (ENZ) is pleased to be a sponsor of the New Zealand International Students' Association (NZISA) Future Female Leadership Conference. ENZ is mandated, through the International Education Strategy, He Rautaki Mātauranga A Ao 2018-2030, to support international students to have an excellent overall student experience. This conference supports that work.

We know that NZISA have invited a diverse line up of experts and speakers to the conference and we hope you find the day engaging and enlightening. We look forward to seeing you there.

**He rau ringa e oti ai**

**Many hands make light work.**

**MEET THE  
SPONSORS**

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**The Ministry of Education** is the Government's lead advisor on the New Zealand education system, shaping direction for sector agencies and providers.

The Ministry delivers policies, programmes and services focused on improving the community's knowledge of and participation in the education system. We also ensure that education providers have the resources and support they need to deliver services to students.

The Ministry monitors three Crown entities on behalf of the Minister of Education:

**Education New Zealand**

**New Zealand  
Qualifications Authority**

**Tertiary Education Commission**

The International Student Wellbeing Strategy, otherwise known as ISWS, is designed to protect and enhance New Zealand's reputation as a safe and welcoming study destination.

The strategy's vision is for all international students to feel welcome, safe and well, enjoy a high quality education and are valued for their contribution to New Zealand.

The International Student Wellbeing Strategy funding comes from the Export Education Levy to support projects aligning with the outcomes of the International Student Wellbeing Strategy, one of them being the NZISA Future Female Leadership Conference.

# MEET THE SPONSORS

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### **Southern Cross Travel**

**Insurance** is part of the Southern Cross group; one of New Zealand's most enduring and trusted brands. We're 100% New Zealand owned, and have worked hard to forge a reputation as our country's leading travel insurer.

Established in 1982, we at Southern Cross Travel Insurance (SCTI) have nearly 40 years' experience looking after Kiwi travellers. During that time, we've won several competitive industry awards, earned thousands of great customer reviews, and helped countless people travel with confidence.

For us, giving back isn't a nice-to-have; it's a must. That's why any net proceeds from sales of our travel insurance policies go towards advancing the health and wellbeing of Kiwis in their communities.

Just as our agent network is always there for their students, we are dedicated to providing the highest level of service to hundreds of education providers up and down the country.

Southern Cross Travel Insurance is pleased to have been able to support the international education sector now for many years, sponsoring conferences such as the New Zealand International Education Conference, and engaging with industry leaders such as SIEBA, NZQA and Education New Zealand.

This year, we are extremely proud to be able to partner with ENZ in sponsoring the New Zealand International Student Association Future Female Leadership conference.

# **MEET THE SPONSORS**

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# MEET OUR SPEAKERS

## ANDREW TUI

Marketing Manager -  
Maori & Pasifika



Andrew is a careers practitioner with over 11 years of experience supporting students and clients in the higher education and community sectors in Auckland. He is of Samoan-Chinese heritage and was born and raised in Auckland.

Andrew led career services teams at Unitec, The University of Auckland Law School and Otago Polytechnic, supporting both domestic and international students.

He completed a BCom/BA at The University of Auckland, currently the Auckland Branch Leader for the Career Development Association of New Zealand. Andrew has a passion for digital media and is the host and producer of the Career Coffee Chats podcast.

In his spare time he enjoys spending time with his Godchildren, and also plays in a ukulele band called The Unicorns.



## DIVYA KATARIA

Employability Coach

Divya attended Auckland University of Technology as an international student from India, and graduated with a first-class honours in construction engineering. She was elected as the AUTSA's International Affairs Officer and later took on the role of a President.

She landed a role as a graduate engineer with one of the biggest construction companies in Australasia six months before her graduation. In 2019, serving as a United Nations Peace Ambassador to help raise awareness about people affected by Tuberculosis in North Korea.

Divya started blogging about resume and cover letter writing, interview preparation and how to maintain mental health during job search through her Instagram(kataria\_divya) channel. Currently, she is working as a structural engineer with TD Structures while she continues to raise awareness through her social media channels.

She conducts frequent cv & cover letter masterclass with multiple organisations and independently.



## **JOYCE WONG**

**Public Speaking & Social Media Mentor**

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Joyce has been an avid player in the entrepreneurial start up space and has been part of the founding team of two startups including Niesh and Skillsme. From a small startup, she helped grow Niesh into a platform with over 60K users and has successfully raised seed funding for both companies.

An expert at engaging with the Gen Z market, she has hosted and MC'd over 50 events with sponsors including Red Bull, Amazon Web Services, ASB Bank and even Burger King.

Taking a break from start ups, she's now leaping into the world of filmmaking. Excited to share her knowledge about public speaking, she wants to show YOU how to nail your next attempt at public speaking with hacks and tricks.



## **BIRGIT GRAFAREND-WATUNGWA**

**Strategy & Operations Advisor at Community Research**

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Birgit Grafarend-Watungwa has worked in multicultural environments for the past 25 years in Germany, Zimbabwe, and New Zealand. She holds a master's degree in Cultural Anthropology and Sociology with a passion for life-long learning, diversity, and inclusion.

Birgit is an experienced senior manager with over 20 years' experience in the not-for-profit sector (community development; education; resettlement sector). In her recent work at English Language Partners New Zealand, she worked with people and communities from over 50 different ethnic backgrounds, supporting long-term positive settlement outcomes for former refugees and migrants.

Birgit was the recipient of a Sector Award for dedication and contribution towards positive resettlement for communities, presented by the Auckland Resettlement Sector Steering Group (ARSSG) at the Tūmanako Summit in June this year.



## **PATRICK AU**

**Nurse Specialist, Asian  
Mental Health Services,  
ADHB**

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Patrick Au is from Hong Kong. Patrick is currently the Team Leader (Nurse Specialist) of the Asian Mental Health Service of Auckland District Health Board. Patrick holds a Master's Degree with First Class Honours in Counselling.

He is also a Counsellor and Family Therapist in private practice. Patrick has been working with the Asian Migrants and International students in primary and tertiary health settings for over 20 years.



## **GRACE ABBOTT (SHE/HER/IA)**

**Tāmaki Makaurau/Auckland  
Schools  
Coordinator at InsideOUT**

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He uri tēnei nō Tūhoe, nō Ngāti Awa hoki. Grace was born and raised in Tāmaki Makaurau. She studied Law and went on to work with rangatahi Māori. She is passionate about upholding mana motuhake and supporting rainbow communities.

Grace is the Tāmaki Makaurau/Auckland Schools Coordinator at InsideOUT Kōaro. InsideOUT works to give rainbow young people in Aotearoa New Zealand a sense of safety and belonging in their schools and communities. They are a national charity providing resources, information, workshops, consulting and support for anything concerning rainbow or LGBTQIA+ issues and education for schools, workplaces and community organisations.



## CONSTABLE TELISHA KUMAR

Field Intelligence Officer  
NZ Police

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Constable Telisha Kumar is a Field Intelligence Officer based in Auckland City District.

This means she uses her skills and experience gained as a frontline responder to be out in the community collecting 'Intelligence'. This involves building partnerships and identifying intelligence opportunities to better enhance police capability in Auckland City District.

She joined the NZ Police in February 2013 when she was 19 years old.

When Women in Blue was filmed in 2015, she was the first responder on the public safety team in Avondale, Auckland City District. Part of that role means she went to the kinds of emergency incidents where people needed help - jobs like family violence, burglaries, car crashes, deaths, and mental health incidents.



## DR MAHSA MOHAGEGH

Founder She Sharp Director  
Women in Tech-AUT

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Dr Mahsa Mohaghegh is the Director of Women in Technology and a Senior Lecturer at AUT's School of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences. With a PhD in Artificial Intelligence, she is heavily involved in developing high-level AI strategy in the future of work and digital disruption. Mahsa is also the founder and director of charitable trust She Sharp, to encourage more girls to study STEM fields.

Her passion for promoting careers in technology to young women has been widely recognised. She has received a number of nominations and awards including the Emerging Leader Award at the NZ Women of Influence Awards in 2013. She was one of ten finalists for the 2018 Kiwibank New Zealander of the Year. In 2019, she was the Champion Award winner of the YWCA Equal Pay awards, and in 2020, presented with the Massey University Distinguished Alumni Award for community.

She is on the Executive Council for AI Forum, and is a board member of NZ Tech representing government and education, and on their sub-board for diversity and inclusion. She is also a board member of Variety - the Children's Charity, an organisation dedicated to supporting children and young people in need across New Zealand.



## **XAVIER BREED**

**Pacific Policy Advisory & Tertiary Dance Educator**

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Xavier is a Sāmoan born in Tāmaki Makaurau (Auckland), and hails from the villages of Lotofaga (Aleipata), Matatufu, Falelatai and Falefā in Sāmoa.

He's a recent Master of Dance Studies graduate from the University of Auckland with a focus on dance in the context of international diplomacy. Half of Xavier's week is being the Pacific Policy Advisor for Universities NZ Te Pōkai Tara, the other half involves being a contemporary dance tutor & culture and education advisor for the New Zealand School of Dance in Wellington. Xavier is also a member of the Asia NZ Foundation leadership network advisory board.

He's been selected for the prestigious Yenching Global Symposium in Beijing China; awarded the 'Asia NZ Foundation 25 to watch - for Media, arts, culture and sports'; and invited by the Egyptian government to take his Pacific-Contemporary choreography 'Pou' and a group of 11 Pacific and Māori dancers to represent Oceania at the World Youth Theatre in Egypt in December 2019.



## **JO MCCAULEY**

**CEO, Southern Cross Travel Insurance**

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Jo has over 20 years of experience in financial services in New Zealand and the UK. Prior to joining SCTI in 2017, Jo was Head of Sales and Marketing at The Warehouse Group Financial Services. In earlier roles Jo led acquisition marketing with GE Capital (NZ), and managed direct to consumer insurance portfolios with Tesco Bank (UK).

Born and raised in the UK, Jo holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Art History from the University of Nottingham, a Post Graduate Diploma in Enterprise Management from Durham University Business School and a Diploma in Marketing from the Chartered Institute of Marketing (UK).

Jo is on the board of the Greyhounds Adoptions Programme Trust (Greyhounds as Pets), a charitable trust working to find homes for retired racing greyhounds and support new owners.

Outside of work, Jo is a mum to four school-aged boys who share their family home in Auckland with four cats and a career changed guide dog.



## DI SOLOMON

Director, Government Relations  
Education New Zealand  
Manapou ki te Ao (ENZ)



Di leads the team responsible for governance, accountability and performance, and connecting ENZ to its other government agencies partners. Her aim is to ensure New Zealand's international education sector is resilient, sustainable, globally connected and provides an excellent education experience.

Having grown up in Mumbai, Di attended Lincoln University's Environmental Policy Master's programme as an international student herself. Having experienced what it's like to study abroad, Di has an 'insider's perspective' on the work she does and its impact.

She has over 15 years' experience working across a number of central and local government agencies including – the Treasury, the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment, and Ministry of Social Development. She has also worked at the Office of Ethnic Communities as the Manager Policy and Research, ensuring migrant and refugee communities' diverse perspectives are reflected in government decision and policy making.



## FATUMATA BAH

Diversity & Engagement Advisor  
Ministry for Ethnic Communities

Fatumata is a Diversity and Engagement Advisor within the Community Engagement, Northern team at the Ministry for Ethnic Communities. She is an advocate for women's rights and Cultural Intelligence (CQ). Fatumata has completed CQ trainings in Glasgow, Auckland, and London.

In 2019, Fatumata also completed an internship at the Executive Office of the Secretary General at the United Nations in New York, where she was reporting to the Senior Gender Advisor and working on the UN System-Wide Gender Parity Strategy; and the Spotlight Initiative which aims to end violence against women and girls by 2030.

Prior to joining the Ministry, Fatumata was a consulting analyst within the Strategy and Business Design team at Deloitte. Fatumata has a conjoint degree from the Auckland University of Technology. She has a Bachelor of Health Science (Psychology major) and a Bachelor of Business (Management major).



## **LIAM DAVIES**

**National Vice President  
of the New Zealand Union  
of Students' Associations  
(NZUSA)**

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Liam Davies is the National Vice President of the New Zealand Union of Students' Associations (NZUSA). Liam has worked in student advocacy and representation for over four years at tertiary level, but also at secondary school and within the community – serving as a Hasting District Youth Councillor and Wellington City Youth Councillor.

He is currently a representative on the Universities New Zealand Committee on University Student Pastoral Care (CUSPaC) and is a student allowance panel advisor for the Ministry of Social Development.

Liam is a recent graduate of Massey University where he completed a Bachelor's Degree in Communication, with a major in Communication Management.

He was the 2021 Valedictorian of Massey University in Wellington and holds a Diploma in Professional Speaking, and an Associate Diploma in Public Speaking and Communication Performance.

Liam is driven to represent students for one reason – equitable education for all.



## **NKHAYA PAULSEN-MORE**

**Tumuaki Takirua (Co-  
President) of Te Mana  
Ākonga, the National Māori  
Tertiary Students' Association**

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Nkhaya Paulsen-More (Ngāti Maru (Hauraki), Ngāruahine, Ngāti Pūkenga) is one of the 2021 Tumuaiki Takirua (Co-Presidents) of Te Mana Ākonga, the National Māori Tertiary Students' Association.

In the past, she also represented Te Waka o Ngā Ākonga Māori, the Māori Students' Association at Massey University Albany, as a Tumuaiki (President) and a Tumuaiki Tuarua (Vice-President).

She completed her Bachelor of Arts in English at Te Kunenga Ki Pūrehuroa—Massey University, and recently completed her Master of Arts in Creative Writing at Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington.



## **MINNIE KALO VOI**

**International Executive for Tairā Pasifika & Board Member of Pacific Peoples' Caucus, Ako Aotearoa 2021**

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From the country of Papua New Guinea, Minnie Kalo Voi is a second year student in Bachelor of Business Management and Economics at Massey University. She received the MFAT scholarship award in 2019 and is the elected International Executive for Tairā Pasifika.

Other ground-breaking leadership accomplishments are as follows:

- » **First Melanesian President of Massey University Pasifika Students Association (MUPSA) 2019**
- » **Recipient of Inaugural PCF Pacific Youth Leadership 2020**
- » **Board Member of Pacific Peoples' Caucus, Ako Aotearoa 2021**

Minnie adopted one of her younger sisters to give her an opportunity to receive a quality education abroad as she is a firm believer that it is critical that high priority is given to education for all citizens, and especially for girls.

Minnie aspires to be a women representative in Parliament one day and reiterates a quote by someone who once said "The beauty of any first time is that it leads to a thousand others".



## **SOPHIE DIXON**

**Sustainability Officer of the Victoria University of Wellington Students' Association**

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Sophie Dixon is entering her 4th year of law school. She has been the Sustainability Officer of the Victoria University of Wellington Students' Association for 2020 and 2021.

She has implemented community, university, student and representative group partnership on sustainability initiatives and policy.

She brought a feminist accessibility perspective to the Let's Get Wellington Moving infrastructure design work and is a proud member of the rainbow and disabled communities.



## **VARSHA RAVI**

**Auckland University Student  
Association's International  
Student Officer for 2022**

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Varsha Ravi is an international student from Botswana and India. She moved to Aotearoa New Zealand in 2018 and is pursuing a conjoint bachelors in global studies and law, majoring in Global Politics and Human Rights.

She is Auckland University Student Association's International Student Officer for 2022 as well as the President for UOA Student Justice for Palestine.

Varsha is extremely passionate about advocacy and strongly believes in the future of globalisation. Being the eldest daughter of immigrant parents, Varsha understands the importance in facilitating an international environment and the major contributions the international community makes.

Varsha is not just determined to infiltrate our systems for change, but believes in dismantling to rebuild a more inclusive one.



# THE BACKBONE OF FFLC

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## VOLUNTEERS



AI NEE LOOI



ATHIRA RAJEEVAN



CHLOE ZHANG



GERALDI RYAN



NEGIN NEMATOLLAHI



# THE BACKBONE OF FFLC

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## EXEC



ADIBAH IZZANI



AFIOAH RAMIZI



KEVIN GUO

## BoD



LUKAS KRISTEN



RYAN WEI