# Report of the National Standing Committee on Bicultural Issues (NSCBI)

Tena ra koutou katoa. Tuatahi he mihi kau ana ki a koutou ko nga kaimahi o te roopu NSCBI me nga kaimahi a Te Roopu Matai Hinengaro. Tena ra koutou mo te awhina i a matou. Ki nga tini kua wheturangitia he mihi, he mihi, he mihi.

The National Standing Committee on Bicultural Issues (NSCBI) holds 4 meetings each year. Meetings have been held in Auckland and Hamilton. NSCBI continues to be a small committee with a core group of approximately ten members. Membership is primarily drawn from Auckland, Hamilton, Palmerston North and Wellington. There continues to be a strong link with the NZPsS Executive, with two members of NSCBI holding Executive positions as Bicultural Directors.

NSCBI Committee Members: Dr Waikaremoana Waitoki and Dr Erana Cooper (Bicultural Directors & Convenors); Bridgette Masters (Treasurer); Dr Ray Nairn, Dr Juile Whare-Mika, Denise Kingi, Jhanitra Gavala, Dr Bronwyn Campbell, Dr Pip Pehi, Dr Heather Hammerton, Dr Neville Robertson and Richard Sawery.

The work of NSCBI over the past year continues to reflect the strategic plan 2007-2012, and includes the following activities:

#### 1. Increase and support Māori participation and development in all areas of psychology

NSCBI continues to support the Executive in preparation for the annual conference by providing bicultural keynote speakers; advice on pōwhiri and poroporoaki processes; hosting speakers, organizing the bicultural symposium, reviewing papers, and seeking external funding to support students to attend the conference. NSCBI, along with the President, selects the recipient of the annual President's Scholarship and provides additional financial support to the recipient should the need arise.

# 2. To support the recognition and development of psychologies relevant and applicable to Aotearoa

#### Indigenous Māori, Pacific and Australian Conference 2012

NSCBI provided financial and administrative support to the Māori and Psychology Research Unit at the University of Waikato to host the National Māori and Pacific Indigenous Psychology Conference in November last year. The conference was well attended with key speakers Professor Angus Hikairo Macfarlane, Professor Tracey McIntosh, Dr Karlo Mila-Schaff and Vickie Horvane (Australia). There were over 50 papers in addition to a workshop by Lisa Cherrington. The proceedings will be completed this year.

#### Working congress in Sweden

In July, Waikaremoana Waitoki and Rose Black attended the 5th International Congress on Licensure, Certification and Credentialing of Psychologists in Stockholm Sweden. The Congress follows on from previous congresses held four yearly since 1995. The Congress theme "Competence as a Common Language for Professional Identity and International Recognition" is particularly relevant to the work of the NSCBI and it was felt that issues of cultural

diversity and indigenous worldviews should be represented at the Congress. The Congress organizers proposed to investigate the utility of identifying a globally common set of professional competencies that define the profession of psychology with the view to increasing professional cohesion, public promotion of the profession, international recognition (of psychologists qualification) and professional mobility. Representatives from the Psychologists Board included Jhan Gavala (also an NSCBI member and former Bicultural Director), Steve Osborne (CEO) and Anne Goodhead (Professional Advisor). For its size, New Zealand provided considerable input into the Congress and will continue to do so over the next few years. NSCBI would like to thank the Māori and Psychology Research Unit and the Executive for their support. More information can be found on this link: http://www.asppb.net/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=3602

#### Reconciliation Australia Plan

Dr Ray Nairn was appointed to the RAP (Reconciliation Australia Plan) working party with AIPA & APS (Australian Indigenous Psychological Association & Australian Psychological Association) in 2010. Waikaremoana was invited to join in May this year. In 2012 Ray, Associate Professor Linda Waimarie Nikora and members of the working party presented a workshop on the Reconciliation Plan at the Annual Conference. NSCBI invites members to consider how the plan could be used in their workplace and as part of their professional development profiles.

The plan can be viewed on the APS webpage. http://www.psychology.org.au/reconciliation/?utm source=Homepage&utm medium=Sidebar%2BTile&utm campaign=RAP

### 3. Promote bicultural accountability and responsibility within psychology

#### Launch of the translated Code of Ethics

The translated Code of Ethics was launched at the Indigenous Conference (previously mentioned) with the support of the Executive Peter Coleman, Dr Pamela Hyde, and Heike Albrecht. Also involved were Dr Monique Faleafa on behalf of the Board and Clive Banks and Kuini Brooks on behalf of the College of Clinical Psychologists. The launch took place at lunchtime in the wharekai at Waipapa Marae, at the University of Auckland. NSCBI would like to offer thanks to the membership for their ongoing support and encouragement.

## 4. Monitoring of collective responsibility

NSCBI provides input into a number of professional areas including: the NZPS Awards committee, editorial board of *Psychology Aotearoa*; the Professional Psychology Advisory Forum (PPAF) and more recently, the Reconciliation Australia APS working party. NSCBI has ongoing input into press releases from the Executive and submissions to various Ministries who influence the practice and training of psychologists.

Na reira, he mihi kau ana ki a koutou katoa.

Waikaremoana Waitoki and Erana Cooper Bicultural Directors.