

*He ritenga pai, he mātauranga pai
Good systems enable good education*

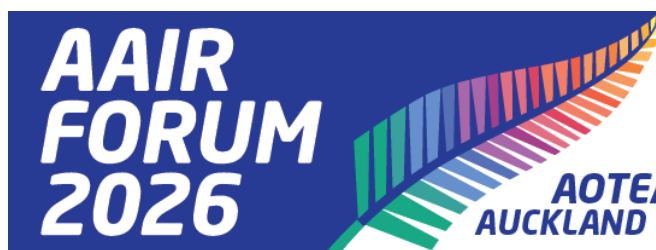
AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND
AUCKLAND | 25-27 NOVEMBER 2026



2026 AAIR Forum Preliminary Program

Please note this is a preliminary program and is subject to change

Wednesday 25 th November Pre-Forum Special Interest Groups		
Time	Sir Neil Waters Building, Massey University Albany Campus	
10:00am – 4:00pm	Registration	Main Foyer
	SW200	SNW2.35
11:00am – 12:30pm	Institutional Reporting David Cawthorne and Don Johnston, SIG Co-Chairs	Business Intelligence & Analytics Robert Wood, SIG Chair
12:30pm – 1:15pm	Lunch	
	SW200	SNW2.35
1:15pm – 2:45pm	Load Management and Planning Gabrielle Harrison, SIG Chair	Surveys & Evaluation Cassandra Saunders, SIG Chair, AAIR Executive
2.45pm – 3.45pm	Global University Rankings TBC Discussion opportunity	Data Governance Tanya Parker and Louise Branch-Smith, SIG Co-Chairs
3:45pm – 4:00pm	Afternoon Tea	
4:00pm – 5:00pm	Explorance Interactive Session	
5.30pm – 7:00pm	Welcome Drinks, Massey University Albany Campus	



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Day 2 | Thursday 26th November

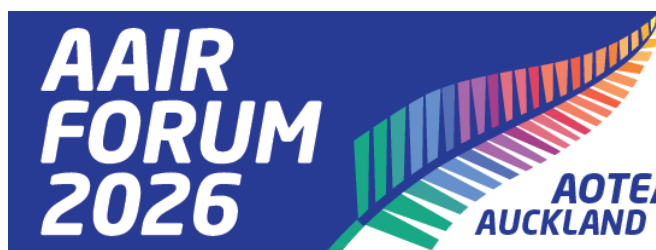
Sir Neil Waters Building, Massey University, Albany Campus

Thursday 26th November

8:15am	Registration and Arrival Tea and Coffee	
	Plenary Sessions	SNW200
8:45am – 9:00am	Welcome Address and mihi whakatau Ewa Seidel, AAIR President Rossana D’Couto, Massey University and Forum Chair Mr Paora Ammunson, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Maori	
9:00am – 10:00am	Keynote Speaker: Driving high level strategic goals through tertiary education systems – some reflections for practitioners Mr Paora Ammunson, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Māori Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa Massey University	
10:00am – 10:30am	Morning Tea and Trade Exhibition	Main Foyer
10:30am – 11:15am	Platinum Sponsor Presentation, Explorance	
11:15am – 11:40am	AAIR AGM	
	Concurrent Sessions	Concurrent Sessions
11:45am – 12:25pm	AI in the middle, humans at the gates: Building and tracking learning outcomes at scale in Canvas and Power BI Ken Nelson Loma Linda University	Counting disability differently: How institutional practices shape disability data across Australian universities Dr Bret Stephenson Curtin University
12:30pm – 1:20pm	Lunch	
	Concurrent Sessions	Concurrent Sessions
1:20pm – 2:00pm	Quick wins for busy staff: Data needs to be useful Dr Vicent Botella Soler & Ms Elyse Thompson University of Canterbury	Explore earlier, validate deliberately: What synthetic audiences add to institutional research Miss Kate Bramich & Mr Salem Lassoued University of Tasmania, Muja
2:05pm – 2:45pm	From data to planning insight: A unified approach to quota management and evidence-based decision-making Dr Hong H & Dr Le Hoa Phan University of Southern Queensland	Beyond the hype: Building responsible AI for real university impact Mr Craig Napier University of Technology Sydney

Thursday 26th November

2:50pm – 3:30pm	When foundations shift...? Developing an alternate student load forecasting model using cohort flow curves Ms Renee Lu & Mr Kevin Hart <i>University of New South Wales</i>	From student voice to action: Transforming course feedback through standardisation and AI-supported analysis Chilwin Soh <i>RMIT University</i>
3:30pm – 4:00pm	Afternoon Tea and Trade Exhibition	
	Quick Round Presentations	
4:00pm – 4:15pm	From fragmented assurance to an informed institution: Building a qualification lifecycle process through evidence, insight and collaboration Mrs Jean Jacoby & Ms Fiona Coote <i>Massey University</i>	What are students really rating? Bringing evidence to survey interpretation at scale Mrs Maaike Bendall <i>Massey University</i>
4:20pm – 4:35pm	Back to the classroom: When students build a student load forecast Mr Kevin Hart <i>University of New South Wales</i>	From comments to insight: Using GenAI to analyse student voice at scale Ms Sian Wright <i>Monash University</i>
4:40pm – 4:55pm	It's not about ability: Exploring confidence to engage among first-in-family learners Dr Stuart Terry <i>Otago Polytechnic</i>	Simplifying surveys, strengthening student voice Ms Zaneta Park <i>Massey University</i>
5:00pm – 5:15pm	Rethinking institutional BI around the semantic model Miss Lillian Wen <i>University of Tasmania</i>	After reaching the top of the ivory tower: Academic socialization of first-generation college students in Chinese doctoral education Mr Xin Xie <i>Renmin University of China</i>
6.30pm – 9.30pm	Forum Dinner @ Officer's Mess <i>Return coach transfer Massey University / selected accommodation venues</i>	



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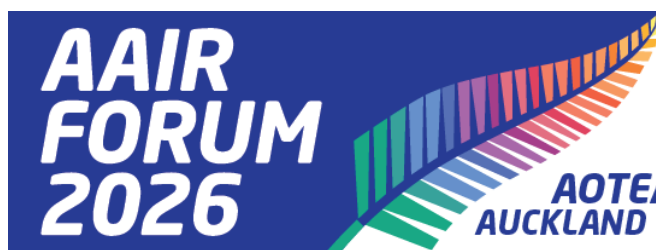


PROGRAM

Day 3 | Friday 27th November 2026

Friday 27th November

	Plenary Sessions			SNW200
8:30am – 8:45 am	Welcome to Day 3			
8:45am – 9:30am	Keynote Speaker Presentation			
	Emeritus Professor Tim Maloney, Auckland University of Technology			
9:30am – 10:15am	Panel Session Panellists to be announced			
10.15am – 10:45am	Morning Tea and Trade Exhibition			
	Concurrent Sessions	Concurrent Sessions	Concurrent Sessions	
10:45am – 11:25am	[Workshop] Taming the TCSI extract: Building curated data assets for institutional planning and analysis Ms Gabrielle Harrison University of Melbourne	Assuring learning in the age of AI: Making the ownership inference explicit in assessment Dr Anh Vu T. P. Hong Bang International University	From data to action: Using student experience survey insights to strengthen students’ experiences Dr Qian (Jessie) Jin & Ms Anaelle Medioni University of New South Wales	
11:30am – 12:10pm	Inside insights and simulations: Creating an internal UAC simulation tool for managing domestic Commonwealth-supported enrolments Ms Renee Lu University of New South Wales	The art of favours – Navigating university politics with the IR sledgehammer Mr Rintaro Ohno Tohoku University	Navigating eVALUate at Deakin: A journey to improving student feedback response rates Elizabeth Campbell Deakin University	
12:15pm – 12:55pm	Building the informed institution: Massey University’s data-enabled student support journey Dr Khalid Bakhshov & Mr Jamie Hooper Massey University	Beyond the league tables: Using rankings intelligence to inform strategic planning and decision-making Ms Lin Jiang University of Technology Sydney	Beyond the dashboard: Turning response rate data into coordinated action Ms Lifen Sudirjo RMIT University	
12:55pm – 1:40pm	Lunch			



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Friday 27th November

	<i>Concurrent Sessions</i>	<i>Concurrent Sessions</i>
1:40pm – 2:20pm	Early academic risk detection for student success Mr Colin Smithies & Dr Evelize Culpi Mann <i>Victoria University of Wellington</i>	Augmentation or substitution? How generative AI and supervisory guidance jointly shape doctoral students' research competence development Dr Fen Cai <i>University of Science and Technology Beijing</i>
2:25pm – 3:05pm	From lag indicators to early signals: Using student data to inform and validate institutional action Mr Majedul Huq <i>RMIT University</i>	From student voice to student success: Using SES and student services data to understand and reduce equity gaps Heidi Wilkinson & Lisa Bolton <i>University of the Sunshine Coast</i>
3:05pm – 3:30pm	Forum Wrap-Up and Presentation of Awards	
		SNW200