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Maori Association of Social Science 2013 Seminar Series

Title: A Te Arawa e! An iwi perspective of Maori student success

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Abstract:

The Ka Awatea project has aimed to define and explain success from a Te Arawa worldview, referencing the ancestor Ihenga as a model. Whilst various Ministry of Education policies, including Ka Hikitia, have stipulated that Māori students should experience success 'as Māori', none have explained what 'success' might look like for Māori students, whanau and communities. This project put Te Arawatanga - by way of the qualities of Ihenga - at the centre of a conceptualisation of 'Maori student success'. The project has addressed the need for a measure, model and definition of student 'success' that is iwi specific. It has identified the individual, family, school and community conditions that enable Te Arawa students and students being educated in Te Arawa schools, to thrive at school and unleash their potential like the ancestor Ihenga did.