Questions and Answers: Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga CoRE Proposal 2016-2020

1. What is Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga (NPM)?

NPM is New Zealand's Māori Centre of Research Excellence (CoRE). It was founded in 2002. It is one of ten CoREs going forward to 2020.

2. What funding has NPM received?

On 7 May 2015 the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) announced that NPM were the successful applicants to receive Māori Centre of Research Excellence (CoRE) funding to continue and extend its successful Māori research programme 2016-2020.

3. When does the new funding start?

The new CoRE funding and contract starts on 1 January 2016 and continues until 31 December 2020.

4. How much is the new funding for NPM from 2016 – 2020?

NPM will be funded \$5 million per annum over the next five years - \$25 million.

5. Where is NPM located?

NPM has a comprehensive formal network across New Zealand with twenty tertiary education and research partners—including a whānau of over 120 Māori and Indigenous researchers and scholars. NPM's main administrative offices are located in the Waipapa Marae Complex at the University of Auckland. NPM will explore the development of new regional NPM hubs to showcase NPM research and to provide outreach bases for community partners.

6. What are the new governance arrangements?

At the heart of the NPM bid is a new distributive leadership model. One component of this will be a new autonomous Māori Tertiary Education and Research Electoral College, Te Tira Takimano, consisting of NPM's formal research partners, who will choose 6 of the 8 members of the NPM Board. The host institution, the University of Auckland, will make the other two appointments.

7. What are the new management arrangements?

Adding to the new distributive leadership model, NPM will be led by two Co-Directors—Associate Professor Tracey McIntosh (Auckland) and Associate Professor Jacinta Ruru (Otago). They will be supported by two Deputy Directors—Dr James Ātaria (Lincoln) and Dr Emma Wyeth (Otago).

8. What are the new priorities of NPM

The key priorities of NPM from 2016 will be to meet the specific goals and outcomes articulated in the full proposal. The priorities will be conducting cross-institutional research excellence for impact and uptake, delivering researched solutions by Māori for Māori, inspiring more Māori into post-graduate studies and research careers as well as operating as an engaged contributive collective. Seeking more leveraged local, national and international co-funded research opportunities is also a goal.

9. What do we mean by a contributive collective?

NPM has largely been seen in the past as a funder where individuals apply for academic and research funding and related activities aligning to our strategic and research plans. From 2016, we will move to a network approach, where the partners and our researchers all contribute to NPM as a collective to achieve significant goals together.

10. Who is on the International Research Advisory Board?

New members will be appointed to the International Research Advisory Board early in 2016. Professor Linda Smith will be the new Chair.

11. What are the new research themes and who are the new theme leaders?

From January 2016, NPMs new research platform will include a suite of integrated, complementary research projects spread within three thematic areas and threaded together with a vigorous programme, Te Reo me Ngā Tikanga Māori, led by our Tohunga Reo, Wharehuia Milroy and Tīmoti Kāretu.

The three thematic areas led by exceptional Māori scholars called theme leaders. They are—

- Whai Rawa Māori Economies, led by Associate Professor Mānuka Hēnare (Auckland) and Dr Shaun Awatere (Landcare Research);
- Te Tai Ao Natural Environment, led by Professors Helen Moewaka Barnes (Massey) and Michael Walker (Auckland);
- Mauri Ora Human Flourishing, led by Professor Linda Waimarie Nikora (Waikato) and Associate Professor Papaarangi Reid (Auckland).

12. Who will be the new NPM Research Leadership Team?

The Research Leadership Team will consist of the Co-Directors, Deputy Directors and Theme Leaders.

13. What happens to the current arrangements in place?

The current governance, management and research leadership arrangements remain in place until the existing CoRE contract ends on 31 December 2015.

14. What is happening to NPM up until 31 December 2015?

NPM's priority is to deliver on its current contract commitments and goals—making sure all the current research projects, milestones and reporting requirements are completed before 31 December 2015. In addition, with the CoRE funding announcement NPM has moved into a transition phase to meet the government's requirements and organise the new arrangements for the new contract and funding to commence on 1 January 2016.

15. What happens to the current funding scheme?

Existing commitments concerning research grants, awards, fellowships and scholarships remain in place until 31 December 2015. Importantly all current funding and deliverables must be used and goals met by 31 December 2015.

16. Will there be grants and awards funding for students and researchers in 2016-2020?

In 2016, a refreshed grants and awards funding scheme will be shared with our network and put on our website for students and researchers to note and apply.

17. Who are the NPM researchers?

At the heart of NPMs network are Māori researchers from our partner organisations who are committed to the research programme. Over 100 key researchers were named as either Principal Investigators (PIs) or Associate Investigators (AIs) in the proposal. New applications to be a PI or AI will be called for at a later time (see below).

18. If I am not a PI or AI how can I participate as a researcher in the next phase NPM?

In 2016, NPM and respective theme leaders will outline the process for researchers to become involved in the wider research platform and various themes and projects.

19. What will happen to the current academic infrastructure and directory?

The Alter*Native* Journal, MAI Journal, NPM Media Centre and Te Hononga Pūkenga will continue operating as normal and transfer across to the new bid starting on 1 January 2016.

20. Will the Biennial NPM International conference continue?

NPM proposed this conference continues and hopes to again hold it in 2016. The specifics and details will be announced later in 2015.

21. What is happening to the MAI Te Kupenga programme?

The MAI Te Kupenga network will continue to support Māori PhD students throughout the country as a contributive collective. New approaches are proposed, including greater support from Tertiary Education Institutions to invest in their own responsibilities and objectives around Māori tertiary education success and more broadly pastoral care. While NPM will continue and extend the numerous centralised opportunities for mentoring, conference participation, peer-review publication, seminars, workshops and support networks for Māori post-graduates, new research and career pathways for emerging researchers will be developed.

22. Where can I get more information on the proposal?

More information can be found in an abridged overview of the NPM successful proposal on our website; see www.maramatanga.ac.nz