

ANZEA 2026 Evaluation's Future Pathways

TIME	DAY 1 - MONDAY			
8:30	REGISTRATION	Special Interest Group Hui Hui Māori (Great Hall), Pasifika Fono (Camelot Room), Tauivi (Ballantyne Room), Emerging Evaluators (Tower Room)		
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10:45				
11	Mihi Whakatau			
11:15				
11:30	TEA BREAK			
11:45	Opening remarks			
12				
12:15	KEYNOTE JAMES GOH			
12:30				
12:45				
1				
1:15	LUNCH			
1:30				
1:45				
2	Malcolm Mersham - From Community Voice to Regional Intelligence: The Tairāwhiti Wellbeing Journey	Nikki Maw - Governing AI in Evaluation: What Do We Need in Place?	Amanda Hunter - Evaluation speed dating: find a mentor, find a friend, let's connect!	IGNITE SESSION Margaret Eastgate - Mana-enhancing MEL Upholding integrity through the Kakala Framework
2:15				Allan Mua Illingworth - Reclaiming evaluation: the Pacific Way
2:30				Seraseini Vulavou - Vanua-Centred Evaluation: Grounding Practice in identity, Relationships, and Place
2:45				Elle Archer - He Ara Kaunuku: Meeting What Actually Matters for Digital Equity
3	Afternoon tea			
3:15				
3:30	Brian Keogh - Vibe Termination Workshop. From Systems Vibe to Systems Rigour: Integrating Systems Theory Across the Full Evaluation Process	Dr Celestyna Galicki - Hidden gaps in the "community" - who do we leave out?	John Leonard - What happens when evaluation stays?	Paula White, Martina Donkers, Laurie Crawford, and Judy Oakden - Professional isolation in evaluation: ANZEA members' experiences, and ways to strengthen peer connection and community
3:45				
4		Maciu Silai - Treating a nation, measuring what matters: Evaluation craft behind Fiji's big shift scabies trial	Sam Fernando - Beyond Delivery: Designing Social Contracts for Learning, Evidence, Impact, and System Change. Interactive session	Dr Lauren Donnan - From Frontline Voices to System Shifts: Navigating Rigorous, Ethical Evaluation in Grassroots Services
4:15				
4:30				
4:45				
5:00				
5:15				
5:30	Welcome Drinks			
6				
6:30				

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TIME	DAY 2 - TUESDAY				
8:30	KEYNOTE Amy Gullickson				
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TEA BREAK					
11	Julian King, Adrian Field, Judy Oakden, Nan Wehipeihana, Kate McKegg - AI in evaluation: an anthology of practice, ethics, and policy			Virginia Thomas - Navigating AI in Research Impact Evaluation: Holding On, Letting Go. Interactive session.	
11:15				Demi Kirkpatrick - Knitting Fog: Making the Intangible Tangible When Explaining Our Value to Te Taiao	
11:30					
11:45					
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12:15					
12:30					
12:45					
1	LUNCH and Branch Meetings				
1:15					
1:30					
1:45					
2	Maud Mukova-Moses - What counts as 'locally led'? A rubric for human-centred evaluative judgement in MEL practice	Denise Bewsell - Shared lessons from the field	IGNITE SESSION Codey Bell - Niho Taniwha in practice Oriwa Tamahou - Values in Action: Evidencing Ngā Matatika within Monitoring and Evaluation in a Māori led Research Programme Dr Lovely Dizon - Grounding Outcomes in Whānau Voice: Developing and Outcomes Framework at Visionwest Q&A	Laurie Porima - Kaupapa Maori evaluation: Integrity, intelligence and culturally grounded practice and An indigenous approach to increasing immunisation	Olivia Gregg - Our experience as emerging evaluators: Sharing growth opportunities and the strengths we bring to evaluation practice
2:15					
2:30					
2:45	Catherine Leonard - The invisible machinery: what gets evaluated when we evaluate systems change		Ignite Session Dr Paul Eme - Evaluating Integrated Youth Services in New Zealand: from Design to Early Insights – Methodological Learning from the IYS Evaluation Amanda Hunter - Addressing barriers to education and employment for refugee youth: Blending insights and system design to deepen impact. Q&A	Seraseini Vulavou - “Embedding Learning in Systems: MEL to build Trust, Evidence, and Change”	Libby Gawith - Writing family history
3					
3:15					
3:30	AFTERNOON TEA				
3:45	Tauyavu Tuvanua, Samuela Pohiva, Frances Satini - From Systems to Relationships: Building Locally Led MEL Practice in Tonga	Juvena Jalal and Schyana Sivanantham - Innovation by design: Optimising opportunities to use new methods, tools and approaches	Allan Mua Illingworth - Noda Ilakolako (Our Journey): Realities of Localised MEL within a Fijian Institution	IGNITE SESSION Jeph Mathias - with vodka in your veins and AI in your arsenal craft perfect evaluation mixes Hana Mori-Robertson - Beyond the Touchpoint: Mapping Family Violence Service User Journeys Stewart Graham - Beyond Metrics: Intelligence, Integrity, and Learning when evaluating Mission-Oriented research Q&A	
4					
4:15					
4:30	Daniel Milosavljevic - What value? Whose value? Interactive session with Julian King, Jeph Mathias, and others	Marnie Carter - Seeing the system: Rethinking logic models through a systems lens	John Leonard- Establishing iwi-led evaluation	IGNITE SESSION Rebecca Thorby - Integrating Social Value into Decision-Making: Applying SROI within Complex Plublic and Community Systems Shreyas Rama - Co-designed, human-centric, AI software for evaluations Elaine More - Exploring an evaluation approach to place-based systems work aimed at reducing inequities in physical activity Q&A	
4:45					
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7	Pre-dinner Drinks				
7:30	Conference Dinner				

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TIME	DAY 3 - WEDNESDAY			
9	Georgia Richards - RĀNUI 135: The impacts of community centred, relationship based youth practice for urban taiohi (A Hands for Impact Social Return on Investment (SROI) Report)	Nikki Maw - When AI Meets Evaluation: What Do We Protect?	Anne Dowden - Hey AI I want to do evaluation with New Zealand rangitahi. In the year of the Horse I can be an expert in anything but maybe skilled at ... well, not much.	Louise Were - Tukua Te Ringa Aroha Reclaiming evaluation for all of us
9:15				
9:30				
9:45				
10	Adam Emirali - AI-assisted thematic analysis: rigorous method or confident guesswork?	Dr Sheri Zeng - What Counts as Credible Impact? Making Assumptions Visible in Evaluation Practice	Codey Bell - AI, Mana and Evaluation: Māori Health Pathways for Innovation, Integrity and Intelligence	Bev Tso Hong - Research decolonisation and plurality: A Chinese New Zealander's evaluation journey (so far)
10:15				
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11	TEA BREAK			
11:15				
11:30	IGNITE SESSION Celestyna Galicki - Qualitative hallucinations		Jeph Mathias - BRING AI INTO AN OUTCOME HARVESTING EVALUATION An Interactive DIY skill building session	
11:45	Fiona Scott-Melton - Using personae to identify outcomes for different groups and inform SROI calculations			
12	Kitty Dunkley and An Pham - From data to difference: Choosing the findings that matter most			
12:15	Adrian Field - Building integrity in organisational practice – accreditation beyond evaluation			
	Q&A			
12:30	IGNITE SESSION Daniel Milosavljevic - If Value Is Emergent, What Are We Evaluating?			
12:45	Libby J Gawith - Trusting the professionals and the unseen			
1	Jo MacDonald - Blurring the boundaries between research and evaluation: NZCER's longstanding national surveys of schools			
	Mel Atkinson - Beyond reporting: evidence for improvement			
1:15	Q&A			
1:30	LUNCH			
1:45				
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2:15	Plenary Panel Session. Reflections and provocations			
2:30				
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3:15	Final Reflections and closing			
3:30	Poroporoaki.			