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He kohinga kōrero ā ngā Kaiarataki me ngā Kaiako

Student supervision: Experiences and views of Kaiarataki and Kaiako at Te Wānanga O Aotearoa

A thesis presented in

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Abstract

This thesis explores Kaiarataki (placement coordinators) and Kaiako (social work educators) experiences and views about the construction of student supervision for tauira (students) at Te Wānanga o Aotearoa (TWOA). This research focused on the programme, Te Tohu Paetahi ngā Poutoko Whakarara Oranga, the Bachelor of Social Work (Biculturalism in Practice). The supervision of students during Te Mahi Whakatau (Practice Based Learning) is the focus of this thesis. Te Mahi Whakatau (PBL) is the practice/practicum component of the student's degree and is a central part of their learning. The goal of this thesis is to investigate the construction of placement at TWOA and strengthen the mauri ora or the wellbeing of the programme, TWOA, tauira and staff which will contribute positively to social work and its stakeholders.

A Kaupapa Māori approach and my own Mātauranga ā Whānau formed the methodology. Hui was used to gather data in line with the methodology and three key themes were identified from the findings: The insufficient preparation of tauira, biculturalism – perpetuating the status quo, and relationships.

The insufficient preparation of students for placement is highlighted in the findings and literature review for this thesis and this shows that there is a cycle of unpreparedness that affects the student supervisory context, from the teaching and assessment of supervision, to the supervisors and the field educators. The findings highlight the need to strengthen the teaching at TWOA in terms of student supervision, who delivers that teaching and when and what will be delivered. The incorporation of bicultural supervision for tauira whilst on Te Mahi Whakatau

(PBL) needs further developing also through the incorporation of training, support, curriculum and policy development. Further research recommendations include the need to investigate relationships between the kaiarataki and other stakeholders of Te Mahi Whakatau (PBL) and how takepū (applied principles) is experienced in relationships within Te Mahi Whakatau (PBL).

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