

Global Health Elective Profile: Dr. Callan Fockele; New Zealand



Dr. Callan Fockele is a fourth-year resident on the UW EM Population Health Pathway with interest in public health; specifically addiction medicine and social determinants of health. She recently traveled to New Zealand for her Global Health Elective to work alongside the Māori. The Ngāruahine Iwi (or tribe) wanted to conduct a health audit of their kaumātua (or elderly) homes in order to address inequity and identify strategies to improve the health of their housing. Dr. Fockele received the UW GO Scholarship to support this elective experience.

In an effort to dismantle the historic issues around trust and data ownership, the tribal members emphasized the use of a Kaupapa Māori research methodology—which focuses on Māori participation and analysis—in order to produce Māori knowledge.

In her capacity as a Pākeha (or someone of European descent), Dr. Fockele assisted the iwi members in creating an interview guide. Additionally, Dr. Fockele accompanied a Ngāruahine health aide who was conducting the interviews so that she could participate in the process while still remaining culturally humble and bearing koha (or gifts of reciprocity).

Dr. Fockele performed the preliminary thematic analysis of the data using the Māori framework of Te Whare Tapa Whā (or the four sides of health), she presented the results to the iwi for reinterpretation and clarification prior to submitting a final report for use by Ngāruahine in future housing advocacy efforts. Dr. Fockele recalls her unique and transformative experience in detail: “I discussed generational trauma with kaumātua over biscuits and tea, walked battlegrounds decorated with monuments celebrating Pākeha who fought the Māori “rebels,” and memorialized the pāhua (or ransack) of Parihaka after its nonviolent resistance.”

As an emergency medicine physician with a kaupapa (or a calling) in public health, choosing this elective opportunity as part of the Population Health Pathway (Global Health Track) provided Dr. Fockele the opportunity to realize her dream of engaging in community-based participatory research with the assistance of her adopted iwi whanau (or tribal family).

Dr. Fockele encapsulates her experience in the Abroad Elective with this resolute testimony: “With its focus on Māori-driven history, knowledge, and action, this experience will forever shape my clinical and research career.” **(Photos on next page)**





Memorializing the nonviolent resistance and strength of the Taranaki Māori at Parihaka on this day of invasion by colonists through weaving, hāngi, and song.



Colonists and mercenaries attacked the Māori community of Te Ngutu o te Manu in 1868. The villagers eventually fought off the invaders, but what remains on the battlefield now is a large cross that memorializes the European men, who “fell or died from wounds received near this spot in engagements with the Māori tribes.”



The Ngāruahine Iwi Research Team poses for a photo after we presented the results to the kaumātua at the Tawhitinui Marae.

