

# RESEARCH WORKSHOP

## 2019 CONFERENCE



# ANZAM

AUSTRALIAN & NEW ZEALAND  
ACADEMY OF MANAGEMENT

## Developing Indigenous Quantitative Research: Voices from Australia and New Zealand

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Quantitative research, by, with and for Indigenous peoples is a contested domain (Chillisa, 2011; Smith, 1999). Walter and Anderson provide the definitive discussion on Indigenous quantitative research. They state that, “For Indigenous peoples, especially in first world countries where population statistics powerfully influence government and social services, these numbers have become a foundational lens through which we, as Indigenous peoples, become known to our respective nation states and how we engage in many of our relationships with government actors” (2013, p. 7).

As stated by Coburn, in her review of their text on Indigenous statistics, “from an outsider, non-Indigenous perspective, Walter and Andersen “awaken” both Indigenous and non-Indigenous scholars and policy makers. They raise critical concerns around quantitative methodologies, arguing for new approaches to producing statistical data “by and for” diverse Indigenous peoples” (2015, 123). This view is mirrored by Māori scholar Linda Smith, whose work on decolonizing methodologies, is “concerned not so much with the actual technique of selecting a method but much more with the context in which research problems are conceptualized and designed” (2013, i). More recent research highlights the importance of collecting aspirational rather than disparity data from Indigenous peoples (Henry and Crothers, 2019). Other issues of concern relate to data sovereignty, which informs the work of Te Mana Raraunga, the Māori Data Sovereignty Network in New Zealand. This is the milieu into which this Research Symposium/Workshop will provide a pathway for Indigenous and other scholars, with an interest in, and commitment to, these views, may share their thinking and explore opportunities for collaboration, co-creation and a potential opportunity for further theorizing and publication.