

Nau mai, haere mai ki Aotearoa!

(Welcome to New Zealand!)

At the 2019 AASA Conference, 'Decolonizing Animals', we will be trying to abide by some of the values, practices and forms of etiquette (tikanga) of Māori as the indigenous culture of this country. What follows are some tips for manuhiri (visitors) regarding how to make yourself at home during the conference while showing courtesy towards the tāngata whenua (people of the land or indigenous population). Please don't feel nervous about these: it's easy to forget when you're in a new place. But also, don't be surprised, if (for example) you sit on a desk, if someone asks you not to!

Tips on Tikanga Māori (Māori customary values and practices) as they apply to this conference:

It is customary for karakia to be recited before kai / food is consumed (including morning and afternoon tea). In this context, karakia will be non-religious incantations or chants. Please wait for this to occur before eating.

Knowledge is tapu or sacred in Māori culture; therefore a karakia is usually recited to open hui or gatherings where teaching and learning occur.

Food and drink (aside from water) are to be consumed outside spaces dedicated to teaching and learning (e.g. The Philip Carter Concert Hall).

It is not appropriate to sit on a table, bench or desk, particularly a surface associated with food preparation or eating. Also, please refrain from placing hats or sunglasses (i.e. anything that encounters one's head) on surfaces where food is prepared or served.

References:

- *Tikanga Māori: Living by Māori Values* by Hirini Moko Mead, Huia Publishers, 2003.
- *Ka Whawhai Tonu Matou: Struggle Without End* by Ranginui Walker (see chapter 4: 'Nga Tikanga Maori: Maori Customs'). Penguin Books, 2004.

Some Māori kupu / words relevant to this hui (gathering):

- Various equivalents for the English words 'vegan' and 'vegetarian' are available in te reo Māori (the Māori language): Kaimanga (literally 'consumer of green/leafy vegetables'), kaitipu or kapa kaiota (Team Herbivore)
- Kararehe: Animal (especially quadruped)
- Kaupapa: Theme or guiding principles
- Mihi Whakatau: An official greeting acknowledging those present at a hui (gathering).
- Pōwaiwai: A farewell speech
- Whakapapa: Genealogy, lineage or ancestry
- Kōrero: to speak, give a speech or tell a story
- Whakataukī: a significant saying or proverb
- Waiata: song, to sing
- Ōtautahi: Christchurch
- Aotearoa: New Zealand
- Iwi: Extended kinship group, tribe, nation

- Tangata whenua: Literally 'People of the land'. It can refer to a specific iwi or to Māori generally.
- Pākehā: A New Zealander of European descent
- Manuhiri: Visitor or guest
- Koha: A gift, present or offering
- Mahi: to work, do, perform, make, accomplish

Some useful phrases in te reo Māori:

- Kia ora: Literally meaning 'be well'. Used as an informal greeting and to convey thanks.
- Tēnā koe: A formal greeting to one person
- Kia ora koutou: An informal greeting to three or more people
- Tēnā koutou: A formal greeting to three or more people
- Mōrena or ata mārie: Good morning ('Ata mārie' literally means 'peaceful morning')
- Ahiahi mārie: Good afternoon (literally meaning 'peaceful afternoon')
- Pō mārie: Good evening (literally meaning 'peaceful evening')
- Āe: Yes
- Kāo: No
- Aua: I don't know
- Tika: That's correct.
- Kei te pēhea koe? How are you?
- He patai taku: I have a question
- Ka kite: See you soon
- Haere rā: Farewell (to those leaving)
- E noho rā: Farewell (to those staying)

*Note: A macron (line above a vowel) in te reo Māori indicates this letter should be spoken as a long vowel.*

*For more kupu (words) or to hear the pronunciation of words in te reo Māori (the Māori language), please refer to the Māori Dictionary: <https://maoridictionary.co.nz/>*