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SCOPE (WORK-BASED LEARNING)

SPECIAL ISSUE ON TECHNOLOGY

Hymie Abd-Latif

and Syed Faisal Hasan

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Kia tau te rangimarie

With the growth of work-based learning and practitioner research, this *Scope (Work-based Learning)* special issue on *Technology* was initiated by whānau at Otago Polytechnic | Te Kura Matatini ki Otago who wanted a platform for technology research. This issue has been curated to feature a spectrum of work at the theory-practice nexus in areas ranging from material sciences in mechanics and building; to decision support systems, and to innovative tools for the workplace. In total, this special issue brings in research from six different disciplines, each presenting innovative research that deserves a wider audience. We are profoundly exhilarated to present the work of colleagues across the motu and world validating the strong and vigorous collaborations that exist. Authors and reviewers alike have responded with rich prose and reviews uplifting the quality of the articles you are about to read. He tino pai tō mahi.

In a time when the world is slowly recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic, with an unprecedented demand for technological innovation and a workforce with relevant technical skill sets, the research published in this journal is highly relevant. Rozado et al., whose article is a timely contribution, provide directions to employers, academic institutions, and learners towards developing skills which are most relevant to the job market right now. Masood et al. help educators and practitioners to understand different classes of prefabricated construction materials so that they can align their learning outcomes better. Gabriel et al. investigate smart traffic light control systems at an intersection in Invercargill. Their proposed improvements will avoid risks and reduce delays. Conducting experiments to acquire acoustic emission signals, May et al. then apply empirical mode decomposition method to eliminate noise. McKinlay presents a bespoke design of the compact upright weaving loom. Cherrington et al. look at data analytic techniques to help managers make short-term and long-term decisions into reducing campus carbon footprints.

In conclusion, we hope that through this special issue our kaimahi and their affiliations around the world will be able to engage in trans-disciplinary research where the role of technology is instrumental.

Nāku iti nei, nā

Hymie Abd-Latif has a PhD in Engineering from Massey University, New Zealand. He is currently a Principal Lecturer at the College of Work-based Learning at Otago Polytechnic, Aotearoa New Zealand. He is actively conducting research in Wireless Body Area Network, Assistive Technology and Engineering/TVET Education.

ⓘD https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0941-7721

Faisal Hasan has a PhD in Computer Science from the University of Otago, New Zealand. He has taught systems and security related courses at the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA and at the Otago Polytechnic, New Zealand. His research interest is in Software Defined Networking and Human Centric Security. He is currently working as a Security Analyst at PGG Wrightson, Aotearoa New Zealand.

ⓘD https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4820-3099