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Scope: (Health & Wellbeing) 8, 'Connection'

Submissions for *Scope (Health & Wellbeing) 2023* will provide the opportunity for authors to consider, discuss and debate how connection is understood in relation to health and wellbeing. Connection is about a relationship between two or more things, or groups, or people. We make a connection when we catch our second bus for the journey, pick up the dog lead and see the hound leap excitedly at us, access the internet, or have an ah-ha moment when something we read or hear about connects with something we know. Connection between self and concepts, ideas, and theory is fundamental to learning. Connection underpins collaboration, and it is through collaborative work that boundaries expand, and new understandings emerge. Connection is defined by Brene Brown as “the energy that exists between people when they feel seen, heard, and valued” (<http://brenebrown.com/art/tgoi-connection>).

Connection between people and within communities is fundamental to collective and individual wellbeing. The concept of whakapapa encapsulates the ultimate in connection. Being ‘the process of layering one thing upon another’ whakapapa helps us understand that there is connection between now and the past, between all people, and between people and the rest of the natural world. Connection is all powerful and all important

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All submissions will be peer reviewed. Peer review comments will be sent to all submitters in due course, with details concerning the possible reworking of documents where relevant. All final decisions concerning publication of submissions will reside with the Editors. Opinions published are those of the authors and not necessarily subscribed to by the Editors or Otago Polytechnic.

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