Ôritetanga - a tertiary education system that works for everyone: A journey to a learner focused sector
Sara Williams, Tertiary Education Commission

The Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) has committed to a goal of achieving participation and completion patterns for Māori and Pacific learners that are the same as for other New Zealanders in the tertiary system within five years. We've seen examples of initiatives overseas that have successfully closed gaps in tertiary participation and achievement for minority populations, as well as home-grown initiatives onshore delivering promising results. This is encouraging, and a call to action. In response to this, the TEC has spent the last 18 months developing and testing the Learner Success Framework (built on what we have learnt from Georgia State University (GSU) and the Achieving the Dream network (ATD) institutions), through partnerships with TEOs across subsectors. This process aims to improve learner outcomes for all learners over time, through effecting wider system change in the medium term. Part of learner success approaches is using predictive analytic models. The TEC has commissioned research into a learner analytics algorithm model and an ethics framework to provide guidance to TEOs on the use of student data in predictive analytics models. We will present the strategic approach, models described above, and outcomes of pilots to date, alongside outlining how the TEC will be supporting and enabling the tertiary sector to adopt this learner focused approach.

Learning outcomes
- A strategic understanding of the learner success approach as it is being piloted in NZ tertiary organisations.
- A more detailed understanding of the learner analytics component of the approach, and the ethics framework that underlies this.
- A broad understanding of the benefits of this approach for improving learner outcomes in their own organisation.

Presenter
Sara Williams, Tertiary Education Commission

Sara has an extensive background in sector development across government and not-for-profits, working to improve outcomes for individuals and communities. Her current work at the Tertiary Education Commission focuses on improving educational outcomes for underserved learner groups, including Māori and Pasifica, Disabled Learners, Care experienced young people, refugee background learners and women re-entering education.