

Tihei Mauri Ora!

A Little Human Understanding

*Takahia te ao, ka kitea te iwi, e tū tangata mai tātou.
Ngā uri o rātou, kua mene ki te pō
Walk the universe, and you will find our people,
Let us stand proudly, descendents of those who have gone to Te Pō*



On 16 January 2010, Emeritus Professor Patu Hohepa provided the MANU AO keynote address at the 7th Annual National Doctoral Writing Retreat organised by Ngā Pae o te Maramatanga at the Tainui Endowment College, Hopuhopu. In his lecture entitled, *Karanga Hokianga (Hokianga Calls)*, he encouraged the students ***not to lose human understanding in the search for academic knowledge and footholds***. You can be clear, explicit

and intelligible without losing humanity and understanding. Emphasizing the point, he reminded the young scholars that, “a quarter teaspoon of understanding is worth more than a truckload of knowledge”.

Knowledge and wisdom is not the same thing. Wisdom implies understanding i.e., understanding of the consequences of our actions. We live at a time where there is an abundance of knowledge but understanding seems in short supply. While we know a person's wisdom develops with experience and time, we should focus less on isolated bits of knowledge and more on attaching wisdom to it as well...learning from practice, and the past mistakes of others. Pursuing knowledge and understanding and being able to apply both appropriately is the key to a meaningful future. *Kia pai tō wiki!*



A Monday Motivational email by MANU AO Academy – A National Inter-University Māori Academy for Academic and Professional Advancement.

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Rāhina, 8 o Poutu-te-rangi 2009