



MANU AO
Academy

Seminar Series

6 April 2011



Prof. Wally Penetito

An education that looks, sounds and feels Māori

This was the message that resounded loudly and clearly across the country in the early 1980s. If we as Māori don't set out to shape the education system in our own image we will continue to lose some of the distinctive elements of our culture and perhaps, just as seriously become by default this society's second-class citizens.

This session is the first of four to be delivered over the next four weeks. My task is to lay the foundations for the following three seminars. I will highlight what I think are the major initiatives that have emerged in education over the last 30 years and place them within a contextual framework that is conducive to both Māori development and systemic transformation. As an example, one of the principles of Māori development could be the idea that at the iwi/hapū levels ancestral knowledge must become more available to everybody.

Professor Penetito (Ngāti Haua, Ngāti Tamatera and Ngāti Raukawa) is Professor of Māori Education and Co-Director of He Pārekereke: Institute for Research and Development in Te Kura Māori, Faculty of Education, Victoria University of Wellington. He has a long and varied career in education as a teacher, an adviser to schools, a senior Government public servant, a researcher, and a college of education and university lecturer.