

Lauren Hemara

POSTGRADUATE STUDENT · BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
Tāmaki Makaurau - Auckland, New Zealand

Education

The University of Auckland

Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland

PROVISIONAL PHD CANDIDATE

2021 - Present

- Using the kiwifruit bacterial canker pathogen *Psa* to understand how plant pathogens evolve during host infection.
- Awarded a University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship.

The University of Auckland

Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland

MSc WITH FIRST CLASS HONOURS IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

2019 - 2020

- Identification of candidate *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* effectors that trigger resistance in *Actinidia arguta*.
- Awarded a Zespri Innovation Scholarship for research in the kiwifruit industry.

The University of Auckland

Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland

PGDIPSci WITH DISTINCTION, MAJORING IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

2018 - 2019

- Awarded Senior Frances Briggs Memorial Prize in Plant Sciences (2017).
- Awarded Janet Bain Mackay Memorial Prize (2017).

The University of Auckland

Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland

BSc, MAJORING IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

2015 - 2018

- First in Course for BIOSCI 321 - Plant Pathology (2017).
- Awarded Tuākana Certificate of Merit for excellent scholastic achievement in STATS 201.
- Class representative for BIOSCI 208 (Semester 1, 2016), BIOSCI 320 (Semester 1, 2017), and BIOSCI 340 (Semester 2, 2017).

Work Experience

The University of Auckland

Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland

TEACHING ASSISTANT - QUANTITATIVE BIOLOGY (BIOSCI 220)

Semester 2, 2021

- Taught students the ropes of data exploration, data visualisation, and R troubleshooting in weekly computer laboratory sessions.

Waikato Regional Council

Kirikiroa, Hamilton

SUMMER STUDENT - ONLINE CONTENT SUPPORT

2020-2021

- Content management for Waikato Regional Council's internal and external websites.

Plant and Food Research

Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland

SUMMER STUDENT - HOST-MICROBE INTERACTIONS

2018-2019

- Continuation of *Psa* surveillance project in orchards across the North Island for a second season.

Plant and Food Research

Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland

SUMMER STUDENT - HOST-MICROBE INTERACTIONS

2017-2018

- Awarded Ngā Toa Ngaki Kai Scholarship to carry out a summer studentship project focused on the kiwifruit pathogen *Psa*.
- Practical skills included sampling symptomatic tissue in the field, isolating *Psa* bacterium in a PC2 lab, purifying DNA for Illumina HiSeq genome sequencing, and testing *Psa* isolates for copper resistance.
- Geneious bioinformatics project manually annotating effector genes in the newly described *Psa* biovar 5 and biovar 6 genomes.

Waikato Regional Council

Kirikiroa, Hamilton

SUMMER STUDENT - COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

2016 - 2017

- CMS migration and redesign of the Waikato Regional Council website and the Envirolink website.
- Digital asset and metadata management for the Waikato Story project.
- Science communication and content updates for clients within the Science and Strategy directorate, with areas including environmental indicators, real-time monitoring information, native biodiversity and natural resources.

Waikato Regional Council

Kirikiroa, Hamilton

SUMMER STUDENT - COMMUNICATIONS

2015 - 2016

- Developed a new publications system for Waikato Regional Council's extensive report database.
- Produced a research report on voter turnout in the local authority elections.
- Designed and implemented a targeted social media strategy to increase youth engagement.

Extracurricular

Maanaki Whenua - Landcare Research

Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland

VOLUNTEER - NEW ZEALAND ARTHROPOD COLLECTION

2017

- Sorting and identifying field samples.