



UNIVERSITY OF
AUCKLAND
Waipapa Taumata Rau
NEW ZEALAND

BUSINESS SCHOOL

The New Zealand Economics Competition

2024 Awards Presentation Ceremony

Friday, 11 October 2024
The University of Auckland
Business School
Department of Economics



New Zealand Economics Competition 2024

Welcome to the New Zealand Economics Competition 2024 Awards presentation ceremony.

The New Zealand Economics Competition has grown in size and reputation since its inception in 1997 and has been administered by the Department of Economics at The University of Auckland Business School since 2008.

The Competition is the largest and most prestigious one of its kind for secondary school students. The fifty-minute examination paper contains fifty multiple-choice questions that test both classroom theory and general knowledge of current economic issues.

This year more than 2000 students from 57 schools throughout New Zealand entered the Competition. Tonight is an opportunity to recognise some of the students who have achieved outstanding performances.

We also wish to express our gratitude to the teachers and principals, without whose contribution the Competition would not be possible.

The 2024 New Zealand Economics Competition is sponsored by The University of Auckland Business School and is aimed not only at providing motivation to secondary school students to study economics, but also encouraging the pursuit of tertiary studies in economics.

For more information about the New Zealand Economics Competition, visit our webpage at <https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/business/about-business-school/economics/nz-economics-competition.html> or email us at econcomp@auckland.ac.nz

Programme outline

7pm	Ceremony begins Asha Sundaram Deputy Head of Department of Economics
7.05pm	Welcome Prasanna Gai Head of Department of Economics
7.10pm	Deputy Dean's Credits Andrew Patterson Deputy Dean of Business & Economics
7.15pm	Te Ūnga Kairuruku - Greetings Jeanette Donnelly Schools & Community Recruitment Adviser
7.20pm	Awards announced High Distinction Awards for Top 10% and Notable Students
7.40pm	Guest speaker Daniel Trinder Executive Director – Strategy and Design, Financial Markets Authority (FMA)
8pm	Awards with cash prize announced High Distinction Awards for Meritorious Students
8.10pm	Guest speaker Mary Jo Vergara Senior Economist, Kiwibank
8:30pm	Awards with trophy announced High Distinction Awards for National Winners Students
8:35pm	Joint Presentation by MADE & Economics Society
8:45pm	Closing of ceremony Prasanna Gai

New Zealand Economics Competition Award Presentation Ceremony

Guest speakers



DANIEL TRINDER

Executive Director – Strategy and Design, Financial Markets Authority (FMA)

Daniel is an Executive at the Financial Markets Authority and holds an Honorary Professor in Economics at Queen Mary University of London. Prior to moving to New Zealand, Daniel worked at Binance and was an Advisor to the International Monetary Fund. Daniel was Managing Director at Deutsche Bank, Standard Chartered and Barclays after working at Goldman Sachs where he helped establish the International Finance Facility for Immunisation (IFFIm) with the Gates Foundation. After University Daniel became an economist in the Treasury working on supply-side reforms and the economic assessment of the UK’s decision not to join the Euro. Daniel headed European and International Financial Services during the UK’s Presidency of the EU & G7/8 in 2005. Daniel studied Economics a BA(Hons) from Newcastle, an MA from York University, Toronto and was a Teaching Fellow at Queen Mary University of London whilst studying for his PhD in Economics.



MARY JO VERGARA

Senior Economist, Kiwibank

Mary Jo Vergara joined the Kiwibank economics team in 2019, and is responsible for producing economic forecasts and regular economic commentary. Mary Jo has a keen interest in how the Kiwi economy fits within the global landscape. Her areas of interest include most things macroeconomics and financial markets. Prior to joining Kiwibank, Mary Jo worked in economic consulting as a research analyst following five years of university study. Mary Jo holds a Master’s in Economics from the University of Auckland

Delegates



ANDREW PATTERSON

Deputy Dean, University of Auckland – Faculty of Business & Economics | Professional Teaching Fellow

Andrew is joint Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Business & Economics, and a Professional Teaching Fellow in the Department of Management and International Business. Andrew joined the Faculty in 2014. His specialist areas are conflict resolution, negotiation, employment relations, general management, and teaching & learning. He has 18 years of experience in tertiary teaching across several disciplines. Andrew sits on numerous university and faculty committees. He is the recipient of a QS-Wharton Reimagine Education Award, three UABS teaching excellence awards, and has been invited to share his work and participate in forums at universities, including Renmin University of China, Beijing, Harvard Law School, MA, USA, and Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia. Outside of his responsibilities at the university Andrew has contributed to the education portfolio of the Arbitrators' and Mediators' Institute of New Zealand (AMINZ), where he is an affiliate member. He also engages in external negotiation consulting and employment advocacy for employers and employees.



JEANETTE DONNELLY

Te Ūnga Kairuruku | Schools & Community Recruitment Adviser, University of Auckland

Jeanette is a School and Community Advisor for the Business and Law School at the University of Auckland, where she has been working since 2016. She specializes in fostering strong relationships between schools and the community, and she plays a key role in organizing events and outreach initiatives. Jeanette is dedicated to enhancing student and community engagement and brings a wealth of experience in educational planning and support.

Department of Economics Staff



PRASANNA GAI MPhil, DPhil
Professor | Head

Prasanna is Head of the Department and Professor of Macroeconomics at the University of Auckland. His work, which applies ideas from network and game theory to understand the causes and consequences of financial crises, has been published in leading journals, including *The Review of Financial Studies*, *Economic Journal*, *Journal of Monetary Economics*, *Journal of International Economics*, and the *Proceedings of the Royal Society (A)*. Professor Gai is also the author of two books on financial crises and systemic risk, both published by the Oxford University Press. He holds a Doctorate and a Master of Philosophy (Economics) from Christ Church, Oxford, and a Bachelor of Economics (Hons) from the Australian National University. He serves on the Board of the New Zealand Financial Markets Authority, is a Senior Research Fellow at the Deutsche Bundesbank, Frankfurt, an Academic Adviser to the Bank of Canada, Ottawa, and a Fellow of the National Institute of Social and Economic Research (NIESR), London, Britain's oldest independent economics thinktank. In 2019, he delivered the A.W.H. Phillips Lecture to the New Zealand Economics Association. Professor Gai was formerly at the Bank of England (1994-2007) and was a Professor of Economics at the Australian National University (2008-10).



ASHA SUNDARAM MPhil, MA, PhD
Senior Lecturer | Deputy Head

Asha Sundaram is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Economics, Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Auckland. She has an MPhil in Economics from the University of Oxford, United Kingdom and a PhD in Economics from Syracuse University, United States. Her research interests are in the fields of International Trade and Development Economics. Topics she works on include the role of networks in international trade and the impact of globalisation on labour markets and firms. She has consulted for international organizations like the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank and research institutions like the Peterson Institute of International Economics and the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA).



DIEGO CARRASCO NOVOA PhD
Lecturer | Competition Coordinator

Diego is an applied theorist with work on financial economics, market design and political economy. His overarching goal is to produce models and frameworks that are both theoretically rigorous and useful for explaining observed behavior and data. I have presented at high-stake conferences such as the Australasian Economic Theory Workshop, the Australasia Meetings of the Econometric Society, the Society for the Advancement of Economic Theory; the Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association, the Australian Ph.D. Conference in Economics and Business, and the Australasian Search and Matching Workshop. In addition, I have been invited to present in seminars at the University of Queensland (Business and Economics), University of Exeter and the Queensland University of Technology.



SAM STEMPER PhD
Lecturer | Competition Coordinator

Samuel is a Lecturer in the Department of Economics at the University of Auckland. Before moving to New Zealand, he completed his undergraduate studies in Economics at Brandeis University. Samuel completed his PhD in Public Policy (Economics Track) from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 2023. His research focuses on labour economics and the economics of education.



SANKET SEN BA (H), MSc
Doctoral Candidate | Competition Administrator

Sanket Sen is a PhD candidate in the University of Auckland Business School, where he conducts research on the social implications of economic inequality. Using methods from behavioural and experimental economics, he investigates how different dimensions of inequality influence people's behaviour and attitudes in areas such as cooperation, trust and punitiveness. He has a strong academic background in economics, with a B.A.(H) degree from the University of Delhi, India and a fully funded M.Sc. degree from the University of Nottingham, U.K. He is also passionate about teaching and has gained valuable experience as a graduate teaching assistant as well as a lecturer for several economics and management courses. Besides his academic and professional pursuits, he is a passionate photographer who loves to capture the beauty of nature and culture.



MARCUS JUDE SAN PEDRO MSc, MAE
Doctoral Candidate | Competition Administrator

Marcus is a PhD Candidate in Economics at the University of Auckland and a Research Assistant at the University of Auckland Business School's Energy Centre, where he contribute to energy-related research projects. His research interest is in computational economics, structural econometrics and energy economics. Previously, he served as a Senior Research Specialist at the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, specialising in economic and financial forecasting. Marcus holds a MSc in Statistics from the University of the Philippines Diliman and a Master in Applied Economics from De La Salle University. With additional experience as a Research Analyst/Consultant for the Asian Development Bank and as a Lecturer at the De La Salle University, Marcus brings a well-rounded expertise in economic research and data-driven policy approaches to his current work.

Special thanks



FARYAL AMIN MBA, PGDip
Group Service Coordinator

Faryal Amin is Kairuruku Ratonga ā-Rōpū or Group Services Coordinator in the Department. She provides executive administrative support, liaises with faculty, recruitment and HR and aligns financial policy. Prior to joining this role, she worked as an Academic Quality Administer at Unitec Institute of Technology. She holds degrees in Master of Business Administration, Master of Arts and a Postgraduate Diploma in Human Resource Management. She has several years of practical and progressive career experience and knowledge in the field of education and business management.

High Distinction Awards

Name	School	Year
Justin Gui	ACG Parnell College	13
Samuel Samuel	ACG Parnell College	13
Amanda Chen	ACG Parnell College	13
Allen Weng	ACG Parnell College	12
Aran Chen	ACG Parnell College	12
Chenghao Li	ACG Parnell College	12
Jia Guo	ACG Parnell College	12
Anne Huynh	ACG Parnell College	12
Bobby Ong	ACG Parnell College	12
Luke Wang	ACG Parnell College	12
Theo Tucker	ACG Parnell College	11
Matthew Xu	ACG Parnell College	11
Cecelia Guo	ACG Parnell College	11
Alex Yang	ACG Parnell College	11
Mark Liu	ACG Parnell College	11
Lucas Xia	ACG Parnell College	11
Alicia Yang	ACG Parnell College	11
Zoe Huang	ACG Parnell College	11
Leo Wicks	ACG Strathallan College	12
Benny Larsen	Auckland Grammar School	13
Troy Lee	Auckland Grammar School	13
Arsh Verma	Auckland Grammar School	13
Samuel Fisher	Auckland Grammar School	13
Xavier Melrose	Auckland Grammar School	13
Rex Hu	Auckland Grammar School	13
Bryun Lau	Auckland Grammar School	13
George Cullen-Hieatt	Auckland Grammar School	13
Josh Rowbotham	Auckland Grammar School	13
Kairav Haldar	Auckland Grammar School	13
Cody Carter	Auckland Grammar School	13
Marcus Chan	Auckland Grammar School	12
Tommy Nguyen	Avondale College	13
Yichen Wang	Botany Downs Secondary College	13

Shain Babu	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Aryan Patel	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Krish Patel	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Marcus Li	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Minh Do	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Ravirathanak Ky	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Jayden Correia	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Iman Iman	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Aaryan Kewalramani	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Rayyan Ali	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Treveika Thompson	Botany Downs Secondary College	12
Sophia Ahmadi	Botany Downs Secondary College	12
Edmond Nguy	Botany Downs Secondary College	12
Edison Li	Botany Downs Secondary College	12
Nina Chen	Botany Downs Secondary College	12
Alan Hao Feng Yang	Botany Downs Secondary College	12
Guanhong Wu	Botany Downs Secondary College	12
Adam Veacock	Botany Downs Secondary College	12
Daniel Lough	Burnside High School	13
Josh Rayner	Cashmere High School	13
Arabella Duncan	Diocesan School for Girls	13
Jane Li	Diocesan School for Girls	12
Evie Hope	Diocesan School for Girls	12
Leer Mao	Diocesan School for Girls	12
Aimee Li	Diocesan School for Girls	12
Mrinali Padiyar	Epsom Girls Grammar School	12
Ben Davies	Glendowie College	13
Mustafa Farhat	Glendowie College	13
Jamie Cartwright	Glendowie College	12
Daniel Loy	Hamilton Boys' High School	13
Zachary Brownlee	Hamilton Boys' High School	13
Harry O'Rourke	Hamilton Boys' High School	13
Nikash Lanka	Hamilton Boys' High School	12
Richard Norton	Kerikeri High School	12
Leo Zeng	King's College	13
Fiona He	King's College	13

Choy Casper	King's College	12
Nicole Wong	Kristin School	13
Josh Barrett	Kristin School	13
Patrick Vezich	Kristin School	13
Fiona Rogan	Kristin School	13
Sabrina Liu	Kristin School	12
Ryan Gao	Kristin School	12
Kayden Liu	Kristin School	12
May Peng	Kristin School	12
Jacob Johnston	Kristin School	12
David Lou	Kristin School	12
Chenhao Hua	Kristin School	12
Noah Hemmingsen	Lindisfarne College	11
Coetzee Mia	Long Bay College	12
Patel Hemisha	Long Bay College	12
Neil Sarma	Lynfield College	12
Rocco Gough	Lynfield College	12
Takatoki Sakimoto	Macleans College	13
Anton Kannemeyer	Macleans College	13
Amber Ho	Macleans College	13
Jacob Miller	Mount Albert Grammar School	13
Jerry Wei	New Plymouth Boys' High School	12
Mike Sung	Palmerston North Boys' High School	13
Yacob Alemu	Palmerston North Boys' High School	13
Adi SinghHoms	Palmerston North Boys' High School	13
Stephen Rosendale	Palmerston North Boys' High School	13
Fletcher Lochhead	Palmerston North Boys' High School	13
Matthew Wongchoti	Palmerston North Boys' High School	13
Alex Christenson	Palmerston North Boys' High School	13
Amy(Yifan) Wang	Pinehurst School	13
Jack Potier	Pinehurst School	13
Gloria(Hyunseo) Kim	Pinehurst School	13
Jerry(Qifan) Li	Pinehurst School	12
Colen Yan	Pinehurst School	12
Kenneth Wang	Pinehurst School	12
James Feng	Rangitoto College	13

Eileena Bao	Rangitoto College	13
Rick Huang	Rangitoto College	13
Summer Bailey	Rangitoto College	13
Michael Ratliff	Rangitoto College	12
Leo Wang	Rangitoto College	12
Joshua Wang	Rangitoto College	11
Jayden Clark	Rosmini College	13
Bartosz Jackowski	Rosmini College	13
Daniel Martin	Rosmini College	12
Salvador Cronje	Rosmini College	12
Malachi Scharneck	Rosmini College	12
Rick Liu	Saint Kentigern College	13
Mia Li	Saint Kentigern College	13
Steven Li	Saint Kentigern College	12
KaiyueAlan Chen	Saint Kentigern College	12
Jaskiran Rahi	Scots College	13
Om(Veerapat) Wongsirojkul	Scots College	13
Luke Cillekens	Southland Boys High School	12
Joshua Reynolds	Southland Boys High School	12
William Paris	Southland Boys High School	12
Vicky Zhou	St Cuthbert's College	13
Ena Yin	St Cuthbert's College	13
Belle Yin	St Cuthbert's College	13
Dawn Chen	St Cuthbert's College	13
Angela Fu	St Cuthbert's College	13
Vanessa Bu	St Cuthbert's College	13
Wilson Liam	St. Peter's College, Grafton	13
Godinet Joshua	St. Peter's College, Grafton	13
Mulholland George	St. Peter's College, Grafton	13
Smith Bailey	St. Peter's College, Grafton	13
Aanya Vikram	Taupo-nui-a-Tia College	11
Meadow Peacocke	Taupo-nui-a-Tia College	11
Manea Pasilio	Te Kura	12
Nico Murphy	Wellington College	12
Isaac Chen	Wentworth Computer Science College	13
Tiancheng Cao	Wentworth Computer Science College	12

Charlie Russell	Wentworth Computer Science College	12
Devin Shen	Westlake Boys High School	13
Millen Cleaver	Westlake Boys High School	13
Adam Grapengiesser	Westlake Boys High School	13
Ray Ishihara	Westlake Boys High School	13
Alex Ivanov	Westlake Boys High School	13
Thomas Raybould	Westlake Boys High School	13
Peter Lee	Westlake Boys High School	12
Léon Dromer	Westlake Boys High School	12
Alex Zhao	Westlake Boys High School	12
Udochukwu Unamadu	Westlake Boys High School	12
Reilly Bosch	Westlake Boys High School	12
Ethan Chong	Westlake Boys High School	12
Eddie Kim	Westlake Boys High School	12
Aaron Shi	Westlake Boys High School	12
Dev Shah	Westlake Boys High School	12
Jason Tao	Westlake Boys High School	12
Anshul Ranjeev	Westlake Boys High School	12
Alaiz Kassibawi	Westlake Boys High School	12

Merit list

National winners: \$300 prize and trophy

Name	School	Year
Daniel Lough	Burnside High School	13
Peter Lee	Westlake Boys High School	12

High Distinction: \$200 prize

Name	School	Year
Rick Liu	Saint Kentigern College	13
Devin Shen	Westlake Boys High School	13
Isaac Chen	Wentworth Computer Science College	13
Sabrina Liu	Kristin School	12
Ryan Gao	Kristin School	12

High Distinction: \$100 prize

Name	School	Year
Yichen Wang	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Jayden Clark	Rosmini College	13
Millen Cleaver	Westlake Boys High School	13
Benny Larsen	Auckland Grammar School	13
Nicole Wong	Kristin School	13
Amy(Yifan) Wang	Pinehurst School	13
James Feng	Rangitoto College	13
Wilson Liam	St. Peter's College, Grafton	13
Shain Babu	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Aryan Patel	Botany Downs Secondary College	13
Adam Grapengiesser	Westlake Boys High School	13
Luke Cillekens	Southland Boys High School	12
Léon Dromer	Westlake Boys High School	12
Theo Tucker	ACG Parnell College	11
Kayden Liu	Kristin School	12
Treveika Thompson	Botany Downs Secondary College	12
Jane Li	Diocesan School for Girls	12
Neil Sarma	Lynfield College	12
Allen Weng	ACG Parnell College	12
Sophia Ahmadi	Botany Downs Secondary College	12
Mrinali Padiyar	Epsom Girls Grammar School	12
Alex Zhao	Westlake Boys High School	12

Congratulations on your excellent performance

It has been our pleasure to acknowledge the students' outstanding performance in this national competition. We look forward to meeting and talking with you after the presentations.

This year's Competition is
powered by:



We thank the Inspera team, the university-authorised exam facilitators, for delivering a secured online test for this year's Competition. Inspera is a best-in-breed and cloud-based specialist examinations platform that provides a consistent, user-friendly examination experience for both onshore and offshore students.

Web: remotelarning.auckland.ac.nz/assessments/inspera/

Email: inspera@auckland.ac.nz

Schools and Community Engagement

Please take the opportunity to talk with affiliates of the Schools and Community Engagement team. The team aims to liaise with secondary school students, parents, guardians, school careers advisers and the community. They provide key information about university study options and entry requirements, engage with the wider community both digitally and in person through whanau information evenings and school careers events throughout New Zealand, and offer on-campus or digital appointments for parents and students, including tours of the campus and halls of residence.

Web: auckland.ac.nz/en/study/study-options/undergraduate-study-options/information-for-parents/meet-our-team.html

Email: scet@auckland.ac.nz



Meet the students from MADE - Make A Difference with Economics. MADE is a network of senior students and recent graduates from the Department of Economics. They use economics to make positive changes in society and policy. Chat with them and learn how they apply their academic knowledge to real world issues.

Web: facebook.com/madeuoa/

Email: made.aucklanduni@gmail.com



The University of Auckland Economics Society is an independent university club that seeks to foster connections between students passionate about economics at the university, regardless of whether you study it. We facilitate a range of professional and social events, including: speaker series, competitions, career events on the professional side, and pub quizzes, social mixers and study rooms on the social side. If you have an interest in economics, sign up for the UoA Economics Society at the link on our Facebook page, and be sure to follow us to keep updated on all of the fantastic events we run!

Web: <https://www.facebook.com/uoeconomicsociety/>



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