

## Public Symposium



# Rivers to the Ocean: China's Emerging Roles in the South Pacific

Wednesday, 3 August, 0930-1330

Hunter Council Chamber,  
Victoria University of Wellington – All welcome!

### Speakers:

Dr Anne-Marie Brady, *Canterbury University* – ‘China, Taiwan, and the South Pacific from a New Zealand Perspective’

Dr Marc Lanteigne, *Victoria University of Wellington* – ‘China’s Regional Commercial Diplomacy and the US Response’

Dr Steven Ratuva, *University of Auckland* – ‘Is the Pacific Becoming a Chinese Lake?’

Dr Jian Yang, *University of Auckland* – ‘Myths about China’s Growing Involvement in the South Pacific’

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During the past decade, China has embarked on a series of cross-regional diplomatic initiatives designed to enhance its strategic presence further afield of Asia. One region which has not received as much scrutiny as others is the South Pacific, especially Polynesia and Melanesia, where Beijing has embarked on a series of initiatives, including economic assistance, infrastructure projects, and diplomatic cooperation.

This symposium will examine questions regarding China’s evolving regional strategies as well as the possible responses from the South Pacific and traditional powers in the region, namely the United States, Australia and New Zealand.

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