

# Introduction

#### Nau mai, haere mai

The Department of Creative Industries and Digital Technologies warmly welcomes you to Emerge. This is a celebration event for learners in the BICT and Grad Dip in ICT programmes. We celebrate the remarkable work of our learners; the excellent input, guidance and mentorship of the supervisors from our teaching teams and industry partners; and we celebrate the support learners receive from whānau and friends.

Emerge represents a great deal of hard work by learners in the final stages of their study here, in preparation for their future careers in the IT industry. It's a chance for them to fully apply all the learning that's taken place throughout their study to real-world IT problems in a work setting. To succeed, they need to use their skills, knowledge and experiences. They also need to be able to work with others and to continue learning new skills. This experience culminates in learners presenting their work to a panel of industry and academic supervisors, and in the posters that you'll see here tonight.

Emerge is also the starting point for the next phase of life for our learners and their IT careers.

IT is a dynamic and ever-changing industry. Our work-integrated learning (WIL) Capstone Project learners have proven their capability, professionalism and work readiness through the successful completion of their capstone projects.

We're proud of the people they've become during their time with us. Please join us in wishing them all the best for the future. Speak with them and learn not just about what they've done, but what they can do in the future.

Ko te pae tawhiti whāia kia tata, ko te pae tata whakamaua kia tīna Seek out distant horizons, and cherish those you attain

Dr David Weir

PASM & WIL Capstone Course Convenor Te Hoe Toi me Te Hoe Hōkai Pakihi Creative Industries and Digital Technologies

# **WIL Capstone Project Students**

#### Software Development pathway

Laura Buist, Raihana Ehsani, William Fuller, Jordan Hutton-Marshall, Juhno Kim, Ilya Kriel, Dawid Potocki, Hayden Roche, Adam Taylor, Hushdon Tohovaka

#### Networking & Infrastructure pathway

Chris Buckley, Josh Vickery

#### Information Systems pathway

Jacob Klemick



#### L to R

Front row: Ilya Kriel, Laura Buist, Raihana Ehsani

Second row: William Fuller, Hayden Roche, Jordan Hutton-Marshall, Hushdon Tohovaka,

Dawid Potoski

Back row: Junho Kim, Josh Vickery, Chris Buckley, Adam Taylor, Jacob Klemick

# ICT Capstone Project Students



# Chris Buckley

Bachelor of Information and Communication Technologies (Networking & Infrastructure)

I'm a hard-working individual who is eager to learn new skills that will challenge me.

I've worked with the Christchurch Casino's IT team for the last 18 months as a Service Desk Analyst. I have lots of experience now ranging from basic service desk up to system administration and project work – particularly with Microsoft 365 to more obscure specialist software.

For my project I've been modifying the Casino's Active Directory and migrating their File Shares to the Casino's SharePoint to improve internal efficiency.

For my future career, I'm looking at either networking roles or cloud engineering positions.

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#### Laura Buist

Bachelor of Information and Communication Technologies (Software Development)

I'm an ambitious and hardworking individual who always wants to learn more and develop new skills. Over the past three years of study, and six years of hospitality experience, I've gained valuable experience in various aspects of IT and developed a diverse range of skills including soft skills such as communication and teamwork.

One key achievement which sets me apart was my role at Elixir implementing the UI redesign of their admin page. I successfully followed UI and UX design principles, while further developing my software development technical skills, teamwork, and communication within an IT industry environment.

In the future, I want to further expand my knowledge of IT in all areas and become more competent and comfortable with both back-end and front-end programming. My goal is to find a position where I never stop learning new skills and knowledge and applying these within a team environment.

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## Raihana Ehsani

Bachelor of Information and Communication Technologies (Software Development)

Three years ago, while working as a pharmacy technician, I discovered my true passion belonged elsewhere. This realisation emerged while giving ideas to enhance processes within my family's small business using IT tools. This stimulated my desire to study the Bachelor of ICT at Ara, specialising in software development.

At Ara, I've gained more than just programming skills. It's given me the capability to identify inefficiencies and come up with solutions that benefit real people. I'm always on the lookout for better ways of doing things to ensure my work truly makes a difference.

I'm seeking roles where I can use my problem-solving skills and creativity to make technology more user-friendly and efficient

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## William Fuller

Bachelor of Information and Communication Technologies (Software Development)

As a dedicated and aspiring software developer, I thrive on challenges, problem solving and continuously learning new things. I have a passion for designing and creating solutions that can help or enhance people's day to day lives.

I'm currently working at Jade Software, undertaking my capstone project which involves creating an AI chatbot to help staff navigate regulatory requirements for AI in projects. This work has introduced me to various technologies and frameworks which have helped build my knowledge and skills.

Going forward, I'm excited to find opportunities that allow me to continue to expand my knowledge and skills. I aim to contribute meaningfully as a team member and to make a positive impact with people and businesses.

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#### Jordan Hutton-Marshall

Bachelor of Information and Communication Technologies (Software Development)

As a recent graduate who's focused on software development and cloud technologies over the past three years, I enjoy the complexities of technology and aspire to be the best version of myself.

In the summer of 2023, I started work at Trade Me as an intern Cloud Engineer/Site Reliability engineer. Since then, I've applied skills learnt at Ara and have worked across technologies such as Terraform, Python, Git and Google Cloud Platform (GCP). Recently I've been working on a project for Trade Me which focuses on identity and access management across several systems, as well as being able to complete my AWS Cloud Architect – Associate certificate and my Google Cloud Platform Digital Leader certificate.

I'm passionate about learning and developing my skillset further and look forward to being a part of a continuously evolving industry.

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## Juhno Kim

Bachelor of Information and Communication Technologies (Software Development)

I've been interested in computers since my childhood, which led to me becoming a software developer.

With nearly two years' IT experience at Tait Communications, I've kept the drive to constantly learn and increase my knowledge. I'm most proud to have been working on a project to develop the OneTait Dealer Portal which has become an integral part of Tait's one-billion-dollar company plan. Working with different teams and people across the globe has helped me gain great people skills and to learn how to work and negotiate with a diverse group of people.

In the future, I want to continue working on web applications, whether that's in full stack or front-end as this is where my passion is at.

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## Jacob Klemick

Bachelor of Information and Communication Technologies (Information Systems)

I'm a junior software developer with experience in developing interactive media applications and providing geospatial analysis. I also have a background in computer aided design.

In 2023, I worked with Ara to create Ngā Taonga Māori o Ara - a cross-platform mobile app which takes users on a self-guided tour to learn about the various Māori artworks around the City campus.

For my capstone project, I had the opportunity to work with Trimble Inc to develop Global Navigation Satellite System features for a simulator called Virtual World which allows surveyors to connect field applications to a simulated worksite training environment. I worked on expanding the GNSS features to replicate signal degradation and provide a 1:1 of satellite constellations.

Moving forward, I'm eager to expand my skills into geospatial analysis and further use of Unity.

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# Ilva Kriel

Bachelor of Information and Communication Technologies (Software Development)

I'm known for determination, resilience and creative problem solving. Years ago, I decided to prove to myself that I can overcome difficult situations if struggling. The idea was to attempt something outside my comfort zone that I can point back to as an achievement. I chose bungee jumping. The result? Time unfroze, and I succeeded.

I received the highly commended award during my multimedia art and design degree and a top course award during my current degree. I've interned with Jade Software, and I worked with PGG Wrightson on a programming project.

Next, I want to build experience. My interests include web design animation, full stack and backend development. Please contact me if you are interested in working with me.

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## Dawid Potocki

Bachelor of Information and Communication Technologies (Software Development)

Ever since I can remember I've had a passion for technology. This led to me spending as much free time as possible tinkering with software and hardware. I'm dedicated to continuously improving my skills and making an impact in the industry.

As part of my degree, I had an opportunity to intern at Jade Software, where I developed a comprehensive full-stack web application. I designed and built a form builder tool which allowed users to create custom forms. The tool also incorporated an Al-powered functionality that assisted users by generating questions based on their prompt. The forms integrated with my user behaviour tracking system that sends the data to the server and then generates insights and displays them in the dashboard.

I'm looking towards continuing my journey in the IT industry as a software developer.

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# Hayden Roche

Bachelor of Information and Communication Technologies (Software Development)

I've always had a passion for technology and the Bachelor of ICT has challenged me to improve as a person and developer. I strive to do the best possible work I can and have a keen eye for detail.

For my capstone project I've been working at Seequent. As part of my project, I've been given the opportunity to create a reporting tool that enables the customer to be able to generate reports based on their project size. This has been an exciting challenge as it's allowed me to learn new things and meet new people.

In the future I want to increase my knowledge and help develop projects that can create a positive impact on the world.

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## **Adam Taylor**

Bachelor of Information and Communication Technologies (Software Development)

I began my journey as an aspiring software developer by experimenting with building websites. Seeking to pursue my love for software development and application design, I enrolled in Ara's BICT. At Ara, I've diligently tackled challenges and honed my skills, cherishing every bit of experience gained.

Currently I'm engaged in a project with Trimble Geospatial where I'm utilising a large language model AI to create a chat component within the Trimble Virtual World software in Unity. This marks my first significant experience collaborating with a development team, presenting an incredible learning opportunity. It's provided me with insights into the development lifecycle, best practices and team culture, and enriched my skills and experience.

I'm committed to continually learning and developing my skills as a software developer who eagerly embraces any challenges that come my way. With unwavering dedication, I'm confident in my ability to achieve my goals.

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#### **Hushdon Tohovaka**

Bachelor of Information and Communication Technologies (Software Development)

Not only am I determined to achieve my goals to a high standard, but I'm also a quick learner, hard worker and an IT enthusiast. For these reasons I've excelled at Ara while pursuing a Bachelor of IT and will continue to deliver great results within the industry.

I've adeptly applied the skills I've learnt to diverse projects, including my current internship at Allied Telesis.

I previously held the position of Team Lead at Verkerks, which equipped me with a diverse skill set including time management, communication and leadership. I've also been a personal trainer and athlete.

I'm poised to make significant contributions to any team that I'm privileged enough to work with.

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# Josh Vickery

Bachelor of Information and Communication Technologies (Networking & Infrastructure)

I've always had an interest in the technology space and have learned how IT works in the workplace environment. I've had my ups and downs during my years of study, but I've developed strategies that have enabled me to push through the challenges and become a competent network engineer.

As part of my degree, I completed a Secure Web Gateway Project with Fulton Hogan. The project involved implementing a new Secure Web Gateway for end users to access the internet securely. The project also involved writing up PowerShell scripts, testing enterprise applications and extracting Active Directory users and groups.

My ambition is to continue to grow and learn in the world of information technology.

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