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Being a Diasporic Academic

Identities in Flux

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The Diasporic Academic
[@diasporacademic](#)

Diasporic Academics

Relocated from one country to another; based in host country engaged in academic/research work

Rooted in their own cultures and affected by national realities, but concurrently part of an international knowledge system
(Yang & Welch, 2010)

Knowledge brokers to bridge gaps in linguistic, cultural and national divides (Larner, 2015)



Overseas-born or foreign academics

Visiting scholars

The new global academic elite

WELCOME TO
NEW ZEALAND



Walk the Kepler Track,
Fiordland
By Fraser Clements

INTERNATIONAL PHD STUDENTS



Aspirations

Not just personal

Home/Global Careers

Capacity Development

Migration

★ Career

★ Family

★ Safety

○ Political

○ Environmental

○ Personal

Challenges

(Not enough) research says

**Professional identities
suspended or unrecognised
(Fotovatian & Miller, 2014)**

**Patronising attitudes
(Kidman et.al, 2017)**

**Family stress and
transformations (Loveridge
et al., 2018)**

**Making connections with
the NZ host community
(Lee, 2017, 2018)**

Outcomes

Anecdotal speaking

Return home

- ★ With (prized) qualification
- ★ With/out NZ networks
- ★ With/out NZ 'work' experience

Continue in NZ

- ★ With non/academic job
 - ★ Searching for work
 - ★ Leveraging on partner's work
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FAILURE



SUCCESS



BEING DIASPORIC





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[@diasporacademic](https://twitter.com/diasporacademic)

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