

19th Polar Law Symposium: 9-11 November 2026

Organizing Committee / Special Guest Editors led by Professor Trevor Daya-Winterbottom

Dates and venue: The 19th Polar Law Symposium will be held 9-11 November 2026. The venue for the Symposium will be The Pa at the University of Waikato, Hamilton campus.

Themes of the Symposium: The two themes for the Symposium are “Regime Interaction: Climate Change and Protecting the Polar Environment” and “Biculturalism and Polar Governance”.

Dates to remember: Call for abstracts opens early March and ends on 30 April, and paper acceptance will be notified by the end of May 2026. Registration will open early June and ends for presenters in September 2026.

Logistical information

The University of Waikato is located in Hamilton on the North Island of New Zealand, 109 km south from Auckland International Airport. The following transportation arrangement and accommodation options will be available:

Transportation arrangements

International flights to Auckland are available via Air Canada, Air China, Air New Zealand, China Southern Airlines, Delta, Emirates, Hainan Airlines, Hawaiian Airlines, KLM, LATAM Airlines Group, Qantas, Qatar Airways, and United Airlines.

Domestic flights and connections between Auckland Domestic Airport and Hamilton are available via Air New Zealand. Bus services from Auckland International Airport to Hamilton are available via the 380 Airporter bus operated by Intercity NZ (\$20 NZD single). Direct shuttles and taxis from Auckland International Airport to Hamilton are also available from a variety of operators. Car rental services are also available from Auckland International Airport including Alamo, Avis, Budget, Enterprise, Europcar, Ezi, National, and Thrifty. Buses, taxis, and uber services are also readily available between the Hamilton CBD hotels (listed below) and the University campus.

Accommodation options

Accommodation options for the Symposium will include – Novotel Hamilton Tainui, Ibis Hamilton Tainui, University Halls of Residence (Bryant Hall and College Hall on campus from \$260 per week), and University Apartments (Silverdale Road from \$320 NZD per week). Both hotels are located in the heart of the Hamilton CBD and restaurant and bar precinct.

Visa requirements for international visitors

Overseas conference participants will normally need a visitor visa which can be granted on entry into New Zealand for visa waiver countries – for the current list of 60 visa waiver countries see <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/preparing-a-visa-application/your-journey-to-new-zealand/before-you-travel-to-new-zealand/visa-waiver-countries> . Participants from other countries will need to apply to New Zealand Immigration before they travel to New Zealand.

Information as of 26 October 2025