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ACETALK

Chair's Report

The year is drawing to a close and we can perhaps all draw a breath before the next one assails us. And what a year it will be, with the hosting of the 5th Asia Pacific Conference on Cooperative Education in Auckland! The organising committee is hard at work getting the structure in place for this great event. At this stage, we have some very interesting and topical guest speakers arranged; more will surely follow. You'll be receiving regular updates on the conference containing important details such as presentation deadlines, proposals and registration. You won't want to miss this event, as it will bring together leading educators, researchers and policy makers in work-integrated learning from throughout our region. I encourage you all to attend and participate. We have over 1500 people on our mailing database and over 100 potential delegates have already expressed definite interest in attending. You can hear about the most recent ideas on learning and assessment in work placements, practicums and internships. It provides a terrific opportunity to present your views, your research and your plans for scrutiny amongst national and international colleagues. So mark 1-3 December 2004 in your diary and plan to be there.

We are also offering you a great chance to warm up for our international conference at our annual national conference in Christchurch on 26 March 2004. As our focus is primarily on the end of the year, we will run a one-day national event in 2004 along with our AGM. We hope you will come to Christchurch and discuss your ideas for presentations at the Auckland conference. We will be holding discussions and advice sessions for inexperienced presenters who want to focus their presentation ideas for maximum impact in December. We will also be holding paper sessions for

those who want to present their research, ideas or practice.

In August of this year a number of New Zealand delegates attended the World Conference on Cooperative Education in Rotterdam, Holland. This event drew over 500 delegates, although most were from Europe and a disappointingly low number from the US. It seems that terrorism fears keep Americans from Europe these days. Promisingly, those fears were not expressed by American delegates about coming to New Zealand next year. There were many interesting papers and workshops delivered at the conference in Holland and the New Zealand delegates at least held their own in the quality of what they presented. New Zealand is currently seen as a dynamic practice and research base in cooperative education. A highlight was the presentation of the McLaren Award for Excellence in Cooperative Education to Richard Coll, an NZACE member. Richard has been involved in co-op with the University of Waikato for 8 years and has become a leading international researcher in cooperative education. He instigated and has been chief editor of the Asia Pacific Journal of Cooperative Education, and has provided much advice and assistance to beginning researchers in the field.

The New Zealand delegates also spent a lot of time networking and promoting our Asia Pacific Conference for 2004. Our attendance showed the value of being at conferences at this level in meeting practitioners of like minds to share ideas and learn. We are sure that next year's Asia Pacific will provide even better opportunities for you to share and learn! More details about how you can get involved in our conferences next year are elsewhere in this newsletter. I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events and wish you a relaxing and enjoyable summer.

Chris Eames
Chairperson

Conferences

2004

NZACE Annual Conference 2004

**Learning Partnerships in Global
Classrooms:
Setting the Scene for Global
Connections**

26 March 2004

at

Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of
Technology

NZACE is again holding its annual conference and AGM in Christchurch in March. With the major international Asia-Pacific Conference in December 2004 being in Auckland, we want to support our southern colleagues. As our focus for 2004 will be on the big event in December, we are only holding a one-day annual conference and AGM next year.

We are calling for paper and workshop proposals as normal and these will be refereed in the normal rigorous fashion. However, we would also encourage you to attend if you need advice and support for submitting a proposal for the Asia-Pacific Conference. We hope all members will take advantage of the great opportunity presented by the international conference in Auckland, and want to encourage you all to attend and make a presentation. At this Christchurch meeting, we will be holding a workshop about putting together a proposal and presentation for Auckland.

**Proposals are due by
13 February 2004.**

**Submit proposals and register
online at**

<http://www.nzace.ac.nz>

The 5th Asia Pacific Cooperative Education Conference

**Learning partnerships in the global
classroom:
Weaving the threads of knowledge**

1-3 December 2004

at

Ellerslie Convention Centre, Auckland

It's 10 years since Auckland hosted the first Asia-Pacific conference, and now we have another great opportunity to showcase our programmes to the world, and learn from other practitioners, researchers and policy-makers! As a member of NZACE you are on our email list and you will receive regular updates on planning for the conference.

Already confirmed as guest speakers are Professor Pat Linn of Antioch College in Ohio, USA, who has co-edited the recently published *Handbook for Research in Cooperative Education and Internships*, and Dr Andrew West, the Chairperson of the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC).

***If you only make it to one cooperative
education event in 2004, make it this
one!***

The Call for Papers will be sent to you soon and we are putting processes in place to encourage high quality presentations. More details can be found on the website at

<http://events.lincoln.ac.nz/ace/>

WACE Conference 2003

Seven NZACE members attended this year's WACE conference from 26-29 August. The venue was modern, suitably plush and well equipped for presentations, sited on the ground floor of the Rotterdam World Trade Centre, in the centre of Rotterdam. Formal addresses were given in the very large Rotterdam Hall, where keynote speakers brought a truly global perspective to the proceedings, understandably (given the location) dominated by European presentations. These ranged from "Strategic Issues for the Knowledge Society", through "Knowledge Circulation and the Regional Innovation Agenda" to an "International Perspective on the Development of the Knowledge Society."



Chris Eames holding forth (from the left!)

If the plenary speeches revolved around what we need, the mini symposia were largely focussed on "best-practice" matters and tended to supply more of the practical means of how we can achieve the ambitions we set ourselves. We heard from varied cultural perspectives and learned of the special challenges practitioners face in other parts of the world. In one sense, this confirmed the exceptionally diverse nature of cooperative education, as practiced by educators and employers throughout the globe. In another, there were striking similarities of methods of practice accepted as "best" from representatives of countries that included Lithuania, Saudi Arabia, The Netherlands and New Zealand, all in one memorable group of people, in a workshop organised by those fine representatives from Waikato University.

While there were a number of organisational glitches that can plague events organised on this scale, the overall impression was a warm, friendly atmosphere created and maintained by our Dutch

hosts that contributed to a good feeling about the state of global Cooperative Education, with room for a feeling of "could do better."



McLaren Award for Excellence in Cooperative Education to Richard Coll



Delegates take a well-earned break in the Shipping Hall

Further details, including the full 2.3Mb zip file of official photos of the conference (if you really have nothing better to do) can be found at: <http://www.wacerotterdam2003.nl/>

The final version of abstracts and papers can be downloaded from:

<http://www.wacerotterdam2003.nl/prelimprog/main01.html#final>

