



NZACE

NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION
FOR CO-OPERATIVE
EDUCATION INC.

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ACETALK

Chairperson's Report

Welcome to the second edition of Acetalk for 2004. The overwhelming focus for NZACE at present is the organization of the 5th Asia Pacific Cooperative Education Conference to be held in Auckland from 1-3 December. The National Council has been working hard and doing a terrific job to ensure this event is a great success. As I write we are in the midst of the paper refereeing process, and having personally read every abstract submitted, I can honestly say that there are some great presentations to be delivered at the conference. Topics range from learning and assessment, to building successful partnerships with workplaces, to innovative strategies for the future. Topics also cover a range of disciplines from science and engineering, business, arts, information technology, teaching, nursing, sports studies and more.

We are looking at a total of over 80 presentations from the cooperative education community, with delegates from throughout the Asia Pacific region, Europe and South Africa. We have three great guest speakers lined up, namely Professor David Boud from the University of Technology, Sydney, Professor Patricia Linn from Antioch College in the USA, and Kevin Wheeler, an educational consultant from the USA. On top of all that, Friday 3 December is a dedicated Industry Day where we are currently arranging prominent New Zealand

employers to speak, and advertising to the employment sector for their attendance. We hope to have the Prime Minister, Helen Clark, open this day but this is yet to be confirmed.

So what more reason do you need to register for this landmark event? As an NZACE member you qualify for a significant discount on registration, and an even greater discount if you registered before 1 September. If you missed that deadline be sure to get in before 31 October to get the next best deal!

I look forward to meeting many of you at the Conference, and for those of you who can't make it, look out for our next NZACE conference in April next year.

Chris Fames

Chairperson

NZACE is a valuable resource for professionals involved in Work Integrated Learning programmes. We welcome new members; if you would like further information please be sure to have a look at our web site:

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

News from the WACE

The June meeting of the Council of the World Association for Co-operative Education (WACE) was held in Tröllhatten, Sweden. This was the final Council meeting under the old structure. The last AGM voted in a change to the WACE constitution affecting its governance and the Council now becomes the Board of Governors.

Key items of note from the two days of meetings, included:

The Symposium held at Pensacola Beach, Florida in 2003

The CEO (Peter Franks) believed the venue and timing worked well to produce a successful symposium.

New Board election process

Peter outlined where we were up to regarding the new structure and constitutional by-laws. This generated quite a bit of discussion, with Joe Rowley (Ireland) indicating that the process for electing and appointing the new Board of Governors had now taken place. The final process will be completed by end of June. All nominations have been elected. The new Board of Governors will appoint the new Board of Directors. There will be 37 members on the Board of Governors and 6 members on the Board of Directors.

IAESTE relationship

A possible partnership between WACE and IAESTE (International Association for Exchange of Students for Technical Experience) is under discussion.

WACE Learning Systems

A number of workshops were run by Rich Reeve on behalf of WACE during the year. Topics included developing a work-integrated learning programme as well as developing international programmes.

Internet Job Placement

A business plan was discussed for offering a service to corporations by providing an internet job placement service – enabling co-op students and graduates to put up CVs and employees to promote job opportunities. Legal issues are still being worked through - effectively to determine WACE's legal risks and obligations. The other key issue is that of quality assurance of the students and employers using the service. This may need to involve universities in vetting and managing this process (for both students and employers).

The pilot programmes have been completed and the technical side is working fine. Board members questioned whether this was a core activity in which WACE should be involved. In addition, some re-evaluation is needed on who is the key beneficiary of this service. Is this the best way for achieving placements? Is it too big for WACE to handle? Who will drive their project to ensure successful implementation? The matter has been left for the Board of Directors to resolve.

WACE Book Projects

Three publications were developed by and for WACE during the year. Our very own Dr. Richard Coll and Dr. Chris Eames were praised for their work in producing The International Co-op Handbook. This book is an essential resource for all those involved with or interested in co-op education. The book can now be purchased on-line through the WACE website (www.waceinc.org).

Other publications include 'On staffing: advice and perspectives from HR leaders' (Nick Burkholder), and 'On work-integrated learning: the ultimate human capital solution' (Franks, Freeland & Furman).

Forthcoming co-op conferences

The following WACE-partnered conferences are planned for the near future:

- ❖ *World Conference, Boston, June 2005*
Received 55 abstracts so far and hopeful of achieving 150 by September 15 (**Hot news - please note this abstract closing date has been extended till the 30th Sep**). Break even is 350 delegates. North Eastern has offered all their facilities at no charge.
- ❖ *Asia-Pacific Regional Conference, Shanghai, China – June 25-28 2006*
Concern was expressed at two co-op conferences being planned in the Asia-Pacific region in 2006 (Melbourne and Shanghai). Fortunately this has since been resolved and only the Shanghai conference will be proceeding (and renamed the 'Asia-Pacific Co-operative Education conference'). The WACE Board of Directors will discuss the wider framework of regional conferences, particularly in relation to protocols and communication processes.
- ❖ *World Conference, Singapore, 2007*
Conference organisers have indicated that preparations are on track.
- ❖ *World Conference, 2009*
Likely site for 2009 world conference is Canada

While not a WACE-partnered conference (i.e., financially), I gave an update on preparations for the 2004 Asia-Pacific conference in Auckland and invited (and encouraged) all Board members to attend.

Finance and Development

- ❖ Peter Franks (CEO) has now moved to a 0.5 position, reflecting the reduced income of WACE and the reduction in the Northeastern University subsidy.
- ❖ Discussions were held about individual country support under the 'Country Pledge' system. WACE still chasing up \$70,000 in outstanding pledges to meet this year's budget.
- ❖ Future strategy for growing the membership base will have an increased focus on institutional memberships and institutional partnerships. I am pleased to announce that my own institution (Unitec New Zealand) has recently agreed to provide financial support for WACE through a WACE-partnered institution agreement.
- ❖ The President (Olöf Blomqvist) reported an improved financial position, subject to overseas country pledges being received.
- ❖ He also reported on the development of the new on-line Journal of Co-operative Education and WACE's involvement/partnership with this. I had previously expressed my disappointment and concern with the recent appointment process for the Chief Editor role. In response to my question as to how this new journal will work with the existing on-line Asia-Pacific Journal, the President indicated that he would hope that the two Chief Editors would be able to work out a mutually acceptable arrangement.
- ❖ *New WACE President*
- ❖ Dr Richard Freeman, President, Northeastern University, Boston, was voted in as the new WACE President (three year term).

Dave Hodges

2004 Asia Pacific Cooperative Education Conference

It's not too late! *'Learning partnerships in the global classroom: Weaving the threads of knowledge'*, is being hosted by NZACE in **December 1-3, 2004**. The venue is the **Ellerslie Convention Centre**, situated at the Ellerslie Racecourse, Auckland. The Centre is well-appointed, there is plentiful accommodation on site and it is conveniently located close to but not in the busy centre of the city. We are hoping to attract 150-200 delegates from throughout New Zealand, Australia, the Pacific region and the wider co-op world. This will be an excellent opportunity to attend a high quality local conference and to learn more about cooperative education from some of the best practitioners in the world. It will also be a great chance to present a research paper based on your co-op programme, or discuss your practice and the issues that surround it. There is still time to register. All papers accepted at the conference could also be considered for publication in the leading Cooperative Education journal, *The Asia Pacific Journal of Cooperative education*. Further updates on the conference will appear regularly by email newsletter!

Chris Eames

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Conference Committee Chairperson
