



NZACE

NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION
FOR CO-OPERATIVE
EDUCATION INC.

Promoting Work-Integrated Learning

ACETALK

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CHAIR'S REPORT

Dear all,

Last year brought with it a new council, and as chairperson I am extremely grateful for everyone's contribution during the year. I would like to acknowledge Nick Wempe for his efficient production of the minutes from council meetings, and Katharine Hoskyn for managing our finances. There has been a very positive input from council and this led to several new initiatives and activities, which are discussed below. Council for 2009 consisted of: Richard K. Coll (Chairperson), Jenny Fleming (Deputy Chairperson), Nick Wempe (Secretary), Katharine Hoskyn (Treasurer), Karsten Zegwaard (Editor, ACETalk), Mark Lay, Matthew Campbell, Sally Rae, Sharleen Howison, Andy Martin, Shelly Wilson, Shiu Ram and David Skelton.

Membership

Membership has remained steady, and a reminder that we now have an institutional membership option in addition to corporate membership (which allows four nominated members). Inquiries should be made to the treasurer, Katharine Hoskyn.

Member Awards

In last year's report I reminded members about the NZACE Best Paper Award, to be awarded annually to the individual author or authors who in the judgment of a review panel appointed by council has contributed significantly to the advancement of cooperative education in New Zealand. You may recall Council named the best paper award the *Allister McLay Best Paper Award*. The Award is open to any academic, student or employer involved in a work-based learning program who has published a paper in the proceedings of the annual conference. All papers published in the proceedings of the 2010 conference will automatically be eligible for the Award.

Finances

Mostly as a result of a surplus for the WACE Asia-Pacific 2005 conference, finances remain healthy with resources of ca. 30K. Council chose to use some of the surplus for several initiatives, one being the financing of the keynote speaker for the annual conference. More details of NZACE finances are presented in the Treasurer's Report.

Annual Conferences

The annual conference continues to be a key activity of the NZACE. As noted in my report last year, it was decided at council that such conference locations should be flagged well in advance, and the details published in ACETalk. Last year's conference at Waiheke Island was very enjoyable for all, and this year it was decided to go 'sporty' and use the Massey University Sport and Rugby Institute. No venue has been decided for the 2011 conference.

Website

I am pleased to advise that the web site has been kept up-to-date thanks to Mark Lay. The proceedings from the 2010 conference will be published soon after the conference. All past conference proceedings are now available in pdf form on the web site.

ACETalk

Karsten Zegwaard again was the editor of ACETalk. Support for soliciting and presenting material for publication was rotated regionally. This again worked well, and we had a good spread of articles and reports of activities around the country. ACETalk was published on 3 occasions during the 12 month period. The next issue of ACETalk will be soon after the conference.

Ako Aotearoa

Attendees of the 2008 conference will recall the keynote speaker was Peter Coolbear from Ako Aotearoa. At that time we considered how NZACE might usefully interact with Ako Aotearoa. This happened in a number of ways. Andy Martin and Helen Hughes received funding to investigate how to help students, employers and academics make the most of WIL (a subject of a paper at the 2009 conference). The second project involved the development of a co-op/WIL learning community on the Ako Aotearoa web site (<http://ako.aotearoa.ac.nz/communities/cooperative-education-work-integrated-learning>). All NZACE members were encouraged to check out the web site and to contribute in whatever way they wish. However, response has been muted to say the least. There is a handout in your conference pack that details how you can contribute. My thanks to David Whyte who provided considerable support for the development of the co-op community web site.

Council

I wish to report that I will be standing down from the role of chairperson from this year, and will not stand for re-election for 2011, since I have reached the point where they can no longer commit to being on council. I wish to thank council all for their contributions. NZACE is a small voluntary organization that relies heavily on the goodwill of its members. These people all have generously contributed their time to NZACE when they have many other commitments.

Asia-Pacific Journal

The APJCE had a bumper year in 2009, mostly as a result of the special issue arising from the WACE Manly Conference. In late 2009 we applied for registration and ranking on the Australian Research Council ARC list of accredited journals. The ARC administers the Excellence in Research (ERA) for Australia Initiative which among other things produces ERA rankings of periodicals. The APJCE achieved a B ranking, whilst the Journal of Cooperative Education & Internships achieved a C rank. If you are unaware of the system, there are 4 tiers; A* (top 5%), A (next top 10%), B (next top 20%), C (the rest). It is good that both of these journals are now ranked, and even better that APJCE achieved the rank it did. My special thanks to Matthew Campbell who alerted us to the advantages of going for this ranking, and for working with me to complete the application process. This should result in more papers from our Australian co-op colleagues - so please spread the word!

Journal of Cooperative Education & Internships

Phil Gardner and I have struggled with the CEIA board over the running and management of the Journal of Cooperative Education & Internships. Our view is that its days are numbered. They have lost any research focus, mostly because of shifts in the 'location' of co-op in the USA; it is now located in career services sections/divisions, that typically have no mandate to engage in, or publish research. Phil is keen to establish a research consortium for those actually engaged in co-op research. The idea would be to have people publish their work in specialty journals in their own area (e.g., sport, management, science education, etc.), and then to compile an annual monograph in which these articles are reprinted, together with a summary article.

Richard K. Coll

Chairperson, NZACE

2010 NZACE ANNUAL CONFERENCE!!

2010 NZACE Annual Conference

This year's NZACE conference is in Balmy Palmy at Massey University's Sport & Rugby Institute. The sporting tone is continued with the conference theme of:

"Providing a Competitive Advantage"

The conference dates are 14-16 April, and the Full Registration fee of \$300 includes including two night's accommodation and the conference dinner

Key note speakers include Calvin Smith of Griffiths University who will focus on "discovering, demonstrating and developing competitive advantages from WIL learning curricula".

Mike Chu from the New Zealand Rugby Union will present a lunch time talk on how WIL has been used in developing high performance rugby coaches

The conference provides a great opportunity to discuss best and innovative practice / research, and topical issues in cooperative education. We look forward to meeting you there



**Conference venue at the Massey University, Sport & Rugby Institute,
Palmerston North, 14 – 16 April, 2010**

Registrations close 14th of March

Registrar with Katharine Hoskyn (katharine.hoskyn@aut.ac.nz)

PUBLISHING BETTER RESEARCH FOR (PBRF) COOPERATIVE EDUCATION

Andrew J. Martin, Massey University, Palmerston North

Jenny Fleming, AUT University, Auckland

Once again tertiary educators in New Zealand will be under pressure to complete their PBRF (Performance Based Research Funding) portfolio at the end of the 2006-2011 period. For many involved in WIL having time to undertake research and publish, as well as fulfilling teaching and co-ordination demands may seem daunting. However, integrating applied evaluative research with teaching methods is an opportunity to link theory to practice. The nature of using a case study is particularly applicable to cooperative education research, as it seeks to form a unique interpretation of events rather than produce generalizations (Guba & Lincoln, 2005). It is expected that these interpretive findings can then be transferred to other contexts (Bassegy, 2003). This transferability is enhanced by the provision of a 'thick' description of the responses (Merriam, 1998; Patton, 2002).

Case studies also provide the opportunity for collaborative research and funding opportunities. The authors have worked collaboratively over the past five years resulting in research that supports PBRF outcomes:

- 'journal and conference publications' (research outcomes) related to cooperative programs at their respective universities; see Fleming & Martin (2007)
- 'consortia membership' through NZACE (contribution to the research environment)
- 'external research funding' through TLRI (contribution to the research environment); see Coll et al (2009)
- 'facilitating networks' (contribution to the research environment) through national collaboration with other tertiary education institutions (TEI), see Fleming, Martin, Hughes & Zinn (2009)

The case study research has been published in cooperative education journals as well as discipline specific ones, which provides the opportunity to disseminate the author's work to other contexts and readership.

In cooperative education credibility and dependability of the research (Denzin & Lincoln, 2008) can also be enhanced by triangulating the data (Stake, 2008; Yin, 2003) across different stakeholder groups or different student cohorts along with involving relevant documentation (e.g., course/paper outlines, graduate profiles, etc.) and literature. 'Within case analysis' builds a general explanation that fits each of the individual cases, even though the cases will vary in their details (Yin, 2003). 'Cross-case analysis' then reviews processes and outcomes across many cases developing more sophisticated descriptions and explanations (Miles & Huberman, 1994). 'Content analysis' attempts to 'quantify' qualitative data aiming for greater acceptability of the findings (Yin, 2003). The semi-structured interview, involving individuals or focus groups, is an appropriate method in cooperative education to understand respondent's opinions and beliefs (Easterby-Smith, Thorpe & Lowe, 1991). The responses from the focus group interviews can then be transcribed, coded and then combined into themes.

A case study design permits researchers in co-operative education to gain in depth understanding of the issues of interest and to explore meaning from a number of angles and across different educational contexts (Merriam, 1998). The use of qualitative data analysis in the case study then aims to communicate understanding from the different stakeholders involved (Stake, 2008). The reporting of the descriptive responses in the case study report attempts to convey the holistic understanding and meaning of the phenomena under study (Merriam, 1998). The use of case study provides an effective method to develop applied research that can inform WIL teaching and assist in Publishing Better Research For (PBRF) Cooperative Education.

Note: The authors will make a presentation related to case studies in cooperative education at the NZACE conference 14-16 April, Massey University Sport & Rugby Institute

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INTERESTING PUBLICATIONS

- Holland, C. (2010). *Workplace Mentoring: a literature review*. Wellington, New Zealand: Work and Education Research & Development Services
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<http://akoaooteaoroa.ac.nz/ako-aotearoa/ako-aotearoa/resources/pages/how-make-most-work-integrated-learning>
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LET'S GET BLOGGING! THE AKO CO-OP SITE

Ako Aotearoa (National Centre of Tertiary Excellence) hosts a webpage specially dedicated to Cooperative Education and Work Integrated Learning (<http://akoaooteaoroa.ac.nz/communities/cooperative-education-work-integrated-learning>). This site was set-up by NZACE as a way to further communicate cooperative education and allow topical discussions by way of blogging. NZACE members are encouraged to visit the site and join in on the discussions (<http://akoaooteaoroa.ac.nz/communities/cooperative-education-work-integrated-learning/blog>).

Getting started: The site can be visited without being a member, but to participate in blogging and contribute information you must register. To create an account, click on <http://akoaooteaoroa.ac.nz/user/register> and follow instructions. To join the Co-op site (after registering), click on <http://akoaooteaoroa.ac.nz/communities/cooperative-education-work-integrated-learning> and then click the 'Join' tab. If you have any questions or difficulties, first try the 'Help' function, otherwise contact David Whyte (david@zestos.co.nz).

What is a Blog? A blog is like an online diary or a personalised newspaper. Commonly, blogs are used to provide information with a personal slant on event that the writer, and hopefully reader, find interesting. The Ako Coop blog at this stage focuses on coop in the news. Hopefully you find this interesting. The Ako site is designed so that if you do not find it interesting you can add items/articles/writing that you and others would find interesting.

UPCOMING NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

2010 NZACE Annual Conference

Massey University, Sport and Rugby Institute, Palmerston North
 14th – 16th of April, 2010
 Abstracts due: 30th of Nov, 2009 to r.coll@waikato.ac.nz
 Proceedings due 28th of Feb, 2010.

WACE's Eight International Symposium on Best and Next Practice

Graz, Austria
 23rd – 25th of June, 2010
 Paper submission due date: 1st of May, 2010
 Registrations close: 1st of June, 2010
<http://www.waceinc.org/graz/index.html>

CAFCE 2010 Conference

Canadian Association for Co-operative Education Conference: Planting Seeds and Watching Them Grow!
 Charlottetown, Prince Edwards Island, Canada.
 June 20-23, 2010
 Paper submission due date: Closed
 All queries and submissions to Anne Marie Coolen (amc@dal.ca)

ACEN 2010 National Conference

Work Integrated Learning (WIL): Responding to Challenges
 Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Western Australia
 29 Sep – 1 Oct 2010
http://www.acen.edu.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=39&Itemid=63

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Individual membership: \$50 a person

Corporate membership: \$150 for four nominated persons from one institute, with \$30 for every additional person

Institutional membership: \$500 per institution, with an unlimited number of nominated persons from that institution

Contact Katharine Hoskyn, Auckland University of Technology 09 921 9999 ext 5349, for details about renewing membership or becoming a new member. Alternatively access the NZACE webpage for more details (www.nzace.ac.nz).

NZACE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Allister McLay Best Paper Award

2007 *Dave Hodges and Diana Ayling*
 2008 *Neil Haigh*
 2009 *Matthew Campbell*

Honorary Life Memberships

Chris Kirk (2007)
Chris Eames (2007)