

Asia-Pacific Journal of Cooperative Education *Correspondence*

Report of the New Zealand Association of Cooperative Education Annual Conference, Rotorua, New Zealand, 24 March 2000.

The New Zealand Association of Cooperative Education (NZACE) one-day annual conference was held in conjunction with the Association's AGM at the Lake Plaza Hotel in Rotorua, New Zealand's leading geothermal area and prime tourist attraction. The conference theme was Work-Integrated Learning in the 21st Century and some 50 delegates including overseas representatives attended paper presentations from a range of subject disciplines - science and technology, business studies, teacher education, and industry training organizations. Papers were presented on aspects of best practice, research approaches in cooperative education, access to external funding, migrants' communication difficulties and internationalization. Refereed papers are available as Conference Proceedings and will be available shortly (email: clauron@unitec.ac.nz). Given its success, NZACE intends expanding the conference to a two-day program for March-April 2001; the details of which will be available from the NZACE web site (<http://www.nzace.ac.nz>) later this year.

Contributors to the NZACE conference are invited to submit research reports to APJCE for publication (email: editor@apjce.org).

Dave Hodges

Chairperson, New Zealand Association of Cooperative Education.

A Comprehensive Database of New Zealand Cooperative Education Programs

Cooperative education in New Zealand covers an enormous variety of programs of study; nursing, teacher training, science and technology, engineering and so forth. In addition, there are a wide variety of educational providers including universities, institutes of technology, polytechnics industry training organizations and private education providers. In 1996 the New Zealand Association of Cooperative Education commissioned the production of a comprehensive database of New Zealand cooperative education providers entitled, *Cooperative Education Programs in New Zealand: A Database Handbook*. Recently updated, this database provides an excellent overview of university and polytechnic cooperative education programs in New Zealand and represents a valuable tool for educators and industry partners alike. A copy of the database in electronic or hardcopy form is available at modest charge from the author (email: c.eames@waikato.ac.nz).

Chris Eames

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Launch of Regional Journal

The idea of a regional journal is a good idea, particularly its electronic nature. I congratulate you on getting it off the ground. Your initial editorial board is both esteemed and appropriately international. I do note, however, that Canada, a leading Pacific country in cooperative education, is not represented. Lest you think the latter comment is a self-serving suggestion for inclusion on your editorial board, I should inform you that as of June 30, 2000 I have taken early retirement from the University of Victoria and will likely not be directly involved with cooperative education in the future. I applaud your decision to put the emphasis on the regions. I know that in my own discipline, psychology, there are just too few outlets for the good ideas of the workers in non English-as-a-first-language countries, although more efforts have been made in recent years to rectify this. My personal feeling is that cooperative education has been and is a practitioner-dominated field, with only a developing tradition of research and publication - relative to other disciplines. The advantage of your new journal will be its reach beyond traditional areas and its electronic nature. All the best, and good luck.

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