

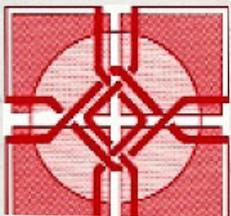
Modelling Christ's Love & Hope within Professional Practice

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS

Hosted by: BTI

At: ASB Arena, Mount Maunganui, New Zealand

11th - 13th April, 2018



In Association with IAPCHE



2018

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS

"Pursue a righteous life — a life of wonder, faith, love, steadiness, courtesy. Run hard and fast in the faith. Seize the eternal life, the life you were called to..."

Excerpt from: 1 Timothy 6: 11-12.

The theme of this conference is 'Modelling Christ's Love and Hope in Professional Practice'.

It is our hope that this conference, set in the wonderful Bay of Plenty region of New Zealand, will encourage and grow inter-institutional research, scholarship, networking, collaboration and fellowship, as well as publish a proceedings book that captures the papers presented over the three days.

This conference is for Christian higher education institutes, Christian schools, Christians working in the tertiary environment, schooling and other professional settings, Christian students who are undertaking Master or Doctoral study, and Christian leaders and/or researchers.

Programme Overview:

The conference starts with a Pōwhiri (welcome ceremony) and then weaves together over the course of three days: 5 keynote addresses, a keynote panel discussion, critical thinking time, and a total of 32 paper and 12 poster presentations from Christian educators, practitioners and community leaders from all over the world.

The conference will provide many opportunities for networking, professional reflection and development within the three strands of:

- Innovations in Christian pedagogy and/or Christian Higher Education
- Strengthening discipleship and/or leadership within communities of practice
- Engaging Christianly with social, cultural and spiritual issues of our day

The conference dinner will be a special event celebrating both the conference and BTI's 25 years anniversary. The story of life, hope and justice will resonate as we hear dinner speakers and are entertained by Bethlehem College's choir and kapa haka group (see overleaf for more details).

Conference Fees:

Pacific Islands:	Registration Fee \$249	Conference Dinner: \$110
India:	Registration Fee \$249	Conference Dinner: \$110
Rest of the World:	Registration Fee \$399	Conference Dinner: \$110

Please note: Day rates are not available.

More information about submitting abstracts can be found on our website www.btiresearch.nz

Key Note Speakers include:



Nick Lantinga, Associate Professor International Studies, Handong Global University, Republic of South Korea

Understanding our Context within Christian Education

Associate Professor Nick Lantinga notes that within Christian education we often find ourselves caught between either following a Benedict option of retrenchment (from a pagan world) or seeking a Kuperian approach where Christian education is less about withdrawal from, than preparing students for, living in a pluralistic world. Drawing on the work of Eastern Orthodox theologian, David Hart, and his thesis that within post-Christian culture the option is not whom to serve (as in God or a pagan world) but to serve Him whom Christ has revealed or to serve nothing. Nick explores how Hart's 'God or nothing' theology provides an alternative point of view. In his keynotes he introduces and explores the implications of this perspective for Christian education in respect to a number of current issues faced by Christian education providers, including: cross-cultural education, conflict within Christian education, sex education, and various management dilemmas. Underlying these conversations will be Nick's concern about the reality and potential for 'the secularisation of Christian education'.



Connie Rasilim, Dean of Education - Teachers College and Psychology, Universitas Pelita Harapan, Lippo Village, Tangerang 15811, Indonesia

Transforming Communities through the Person and Work of Jesus Christ within Education

Connie Rasilim is deeply passionate about transformative education in a holistic and relational context, and thus wholeheartedly believes that the heart of true education is relationship – first with the triune God as initiated by His grace, then reflecting that vertical relationship in the horizontal context with self and others. She is convinced that education is not merely about acquiring excellent knowledge and developing competent skills, but essentially it is finding our true identity in the person and work of Jesus Christ. She believes that true education should point people back to their Creator so that they can freely respond, according to His calling, and eventually use their God-given gifts and talents to impact the wider community, both directly and indirectly, which ultimately will bring glory to Christ, the Risen Lord and Savior (Romans 11:36).



Dr Mele'ana Puloka, President of Education within the Ministry of Education in the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga, Tonga

The Education Tonga, in the Pacific, needs

The Rev. Dr Mele'ana M. Puloka is currently serving as the President of Education of the Free Wesleyan Church Education system, and a member of the Executive Standing Committee of the Free Wesleyan Church Conference. Prior to the appointment for the position of the President of Education by the Free Wesleyan Church Conference in 2013, Mele'ana was the director of Tupou Tertiary Institute (2011-2013).

Before taking up further studies in 2003-2010, where Mele'ana gained a PhD, in Philosophy of Education (University of Wales 2010) and a Diploma in Biblical Studies and Theology (University of Oxford 2008), Mele'ana served as the Chief Education Officer at the Free Wesleyan Education Department (1996-2002), and the Principal of Queen Salote College of the Free Wesleyan Church for 8 years (1983-1990).

Since 2014, Mele'ana has held the position of President of the Pacific Region at the World Council of Churches, and is currently the Chair of the Council of Directors of Education Systems in Tonga.

Other noteworthy speakers include Dr Bev Norsworthy (BTI) and Dr J. Dinakarlal (IAPCHE).

Conference Dinner - Life, Hope & Justice:

Our conference dinner celebrates 25 years of BTI delivering Christian tertiary education, as well as offering a unique opportunity for guests to hear an inspirational story of life, hope and justice from Bob and Freda Narev; a story that will provoke, challenge and inspire you to ask the important questions as we seek to bring life, hope and justice through our participation in people-helping professions.

A Journey to the Promised Land

Bob and Freda Narev like to be considered as just ordinary New Zealanders; people like many others who put family first, work hard and contribute earnestly to bettering their community. However, both have lived a remarkable story; a story firstly of a loving life being stolen as childhood survivors of the Holocaust and secondly of a new different one being rebuilt in what would become their own 'Promised Land'; Aotearoa, New Zealand. Their is a story of two people whose choice to live life to its fullest still continues to inspire, a timeless lesson we all should embrace as we seek to live out, lead, and engage a legacy of hope across local, national and global contexts.

Entertainment for the evening will be provided by Bethlehem College's kapa haka group and Animoso choir.

For more information on the conference dinner, visit: <http://www.btiresearch.nz/the-dinner.html>

Conference Location - Mount Maunganui, Bay of Plenty, New Zealand

Mount Maunganui is a coastal resort town which enjoys great weather year round, and is a popular destination for those seeking sun, sand and relaxation. As New Zealand's 'Surf City', Mount Maunganui's beaches are great for surfing and diving, with large numbers of visitors wanting to experience the laid-back summery atmosphere. Mount Maunganui is a centre for summertime activities, hosting everything from surf lifesaving events to beach volleyball, national surf contests to sandcastle-building.

Mount Maunganui, or Mauao, is also the name of the extinct volcano which rises above the town. Shrouded in history and legend, the mountain is a dominant feature of the landscape, and a climb to the summit offers amazing views of the surrounding city and ocean. The majestic Mauao, with its walking tracks and popular Hot Salt water pools, is an easy stroll from the centre. On the opposite side of the peninsula lie the sands of Mount Maunganui's world recognised surf beach - a popular area for surfing, swimming, and all beach activities.



Mount Maunganui taken from the top of Mauao
Photo Credit: Wendy Pyne

The Mount Mainstreet Shopping Centre is the main shopping area of downtown Mount Maunganui, Bay of Plenty, New Zealand. It is situated at the foot of Mauao, on a narrow peninsula that separates the sheltered waters of Tauranga Harbour and the pristine white sands of the Pacific Ocean. The shopping centre is 300 metres walking distance from the Mall and calm waters of Pilot Bay, where the cruise ships berth. The relaxed atmosphere of Mount Maunganui has something for everyone, from its vibrant café and pub scene, to its coastal shopping and beach culture.

Information retrieved from www.mountmaunganui.co.nz

More information about the conference and the location can be found on our website www.btiresearch.nz