



Paper prepared for 2019 AGM- to be held 1 July, 2020

Title of Document: Proposed Joint Conference: CIES¹ Regional & OCIES Annual Conference

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Intention: To inform OCIES members of proposed joint conference and obtain agreement in principle for it proceeding when possible

Main points:

- The notion of a joint CIES/OCIES conference was introduced by Brent Edwards, who is a member of both societies, and discussed informally with some OCIES current and past executive committee members at the conference held at VUW in November 2018
- After further discussion by email it was agreed that Brent would proceed with developing an application to CIES for funding for a joint conference to be hosted by University of Hawaii, Manoa, November 12-14, 2020
- By mid 2019, an organizing/planning committee had been put together with A/Professor Edwards as co-ordinator and including OCIES members Dr McCormick and A/Prof Coxon along with a number of CIE academics from US and other universities, and a proposal/budget was developed and submitted to the CIES Board of Directors.
- OCIES Exec considered and approved the proposal (see theme/rationale below) subject to CIES support/funding, and OCIES membership approval which was to be an agenda item at the scheduled 2019 AGM to be held in Samoa, November 2019.
- Complications arising from the postponement of the NUS conference until mid-June 2020, and a delay in CIES formal approval of funding support (until January 2020), led to the decision to not proceed with the proposed timing of a joint conference in November 2020, but to explore possibilities for proceeding in 2021.
- The onset of the Covid19 crisis and the cancellation of the rescheduled Samoa conference, along with ongoing uncertainties about international travel into the future, means nothing much can be determined about the proposed joint conference or its timing at this stage.
- The CIES Board of Directors have now agreed to hold the funding over until such time as it would be possible, preferably November 2021. Given the extent to which such a conference aligns with the OCIES vision, we see it as timely to inform our membership of the proposal and to seek agreement in principle for it to proceed at a time deemed possible.

¹ CIES is United States-based and the largest CIE society in the world. In addition to the society's annual conferences that attract between 3000 and 4000 participants, CIES supports regular 'regional' conferences convened by their members in various locations. Hawaii (location of the proposed joint conference with OCIES) is part of CIES' western region.

Further Information: an abbreviated version of the theme/rationale submitted to CIES BOD and OCIES EC

'Colonial Legacies, Decolonial Futures: The Way Ahead for CIE'.

This theme is strategic because it will bring together the two societies around a common theme—that is, a theme that has been present in both societies in recent years, albeit to differing degrees. While OCIES has regularly focused on the colonial heritage of education systems and the CIE field, these conversations are only beginning to be raised in a high-profile manner in the US-based CIES. As such, we see this theme as an area around which both societies could engage in fruitful discussion and exchange. Although we see this conference as providing an opportunity for the north to learn from the south, we would also like for this conference to be an opportunity for members of both CIE communities to move from reflection on their shared colonial heritage toward a discussion of possibilities for redirecting this heritage—asking, for example, what it would mean for the respective societies and their members to move beyond the frameworks, practices, and policies that are rooted in the colonial entanglements of the history of CIE.

Action required at AGM: Brief discussion/Affirmation