



AGM 2021

New and Emerging Researchers Report

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Intention:

The purpose of this paper is to report on NERF's activities from 2020 - 2021.

Since the formalisation of NERF within OCIES (see 2020 AGM), two coordinator positions were created. Both positions to become part of the OCIES General Committee. Sonia M Fonua and David Taufui Mikato Fa'avae occupied the roles from 2020 to 2021. Tepora Afamasaga Wright and Ben Levy also joined the wider NERF leadership team.

As approved in the 2020 AGM, an annual budget was to be allocated to NERF, as negotiated by the Executive Committee. This year because of the COVID-19 lockdown and the cancellation of the University of Waikato-based NERF session as part of the conference, no funds from the budget were used.

Main Points

1. Online activities were conducted in 2021 for the NERF members.
2. Membership has increased from 2020 - 2021.
3. Participation in the online activities was great.
4. Succession and mentoring plan in place to widen the inclusion of NERF leadership.
5. Ongoing strengthening of connections to the RPEIPP/REAP initiative.
6. Change NERF name to NERO (see below for more information).

Activities

- **16 February 2021, 12pm NZT (Zoom):** "Talanoa: What is the Oceania Comparative and International Education Society (OCIES)", *This Talanoa explored the history of OCIES (Oceanic Comparative and International Education Society) from its early years to the present, as well as situated it within the global*

field of Comparative and International Education (CIE). The speakers provided some insights and guidance to new and emerging researchers on how to position themselves and their research interests into the larger context of CIE.

Discussants included: Eve Coxon, Kabini Sanga, Juliana McLaughlin and Robin Burns

- **12 April 2021, 3pm NZT (Zoom):** “Writing for Publications”, presented by Dr. Carol Mutch (University of Auckland)
- **18 May 2021, 1pm NZT (Zoom):** “Research Bites”, *an informal seminar session where early career and emerging researchers presented their research and engage the audience in a discussion of their presentation.* Presenters:
 - Felila Amituanai-Semel, *“Multiple case study research into teachers’ pedagogical enactment of the 2010 Samoa primary school outcome-based curriculum”*
 - Dr. Miriam Ham, *“Seeking Intercultural Perspectives on Appropriate Contextualisation of a Global Competence Survey Question for an Intercultural Audience”*

Future Focus

- Invite early career researcher representatives from the Fiji National University (FNU) and Australia, to intentionally secure a diverse and representative community of members
- Build networks with Indigenous researchers in Aotearoa
- Strengthen hubs across the region, beginning with Aotearoa, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Australia.
- Strengthen connection to RPEIPP/REAP
- Connect with other regional new and emerging (or early career) spaces
- Survey the needs of the NERF membership
- Consider a Special Edition of NERF authors for IEJ - particularly emphasising the diversity of publication medium (documentary, art, etc.)
- Determine the next co-leadership teina (younger siblings) in this space as part of capacity building and sustainability (and succession planning)

Action required at AGM:

- The current NERF leadership proposes to revise the name of this Special Interest Group to ‘New and Emerging Researchers of Oceania Comparative & International Education Society’ (NERO).