

Report to NZARE Council: 19th February 2007

Dr Airini

The University of Auckland, Faculty of Education

Talofa, taloha ni, fakaalofa lahi atu, nisa bula vinaka, kia orana, malo e lelei, mauri, talofa, ia orana. Warm Pasifika greetings.

The following activities been undertaken since the last report to the NZARE Council (December 2006).

2006 NZARE Group Award: Pasifika Group Award

In 2006 the decision was made by the NZARE Council that the award should go to the research group nominated by Dr Carol Mutch (Christchurch College of Education), namely: Amosa Fa'afoi, Faye Parkhill, Jo Fletcher (Christchurch College of Education).

The award ceremony was warm and inspiring. The inclusion of the presentation of a fine mat and ula was well received. Feedback has signalled an increase in awareness about and interest in this Pasifika Education Research award.

The award recipients have shared the news of the award and promoted Pasifika education research regionally and nationally through Pasifika networks. This has included national Pasifika community radio.

The Council is thanked for its continued support for this award, and its decision to postpone the award from 2005 to 2006 in order to allow increased support and quality.

Recommendations:

- That a Pasifika Education Research Group Award be included in the NZARE Award Calendar at the first possible opportunity.
- That confirmation of the awardees be provided at least one month in advance of the presentation, to facilitate adequate community participation and support.

NZARE Conference Pasifika Caucus

11 Pasifika education researchers attending the conference participated in the 2006 Pasifika caucus meeting (including University of Auckland, AUT, ASDAH, CCE, NZCER). This is the highest level of turnout in 4 years.

Airini provided the caucus with a written report on activities over 2006, and recommendations, which had been previously signalled to the NZARE Council. She indicated that she had served two years on the NZARE Council and her preference is to step down, in line with established succession protocols for the Council.

Agreed:

- The NZARE Council Pasifika caucus representative for 2007 (Jan-July) is Dr Airini.
- Pasifika Caucus, through Dr Airini, is to explore ways to increase interest in membership to the caucus including:

- (a) mid-year symposium on Pasifika education research. At this symposium elections will be held for a new NZARE Council Pasifika representative;
- (b) mid-winter Pasifika party for Pasifika researchers in education (to coincide with the above symposium);
- (c) enhanced Pasifika education research web page (NZARE); and
- (d) NZARE Pasifika caucus leading the writing of an edited book on Pasifika education research – issues, innovations, and initiatives.

The organising committee for the forthcoming conference Inaugural Conference Critiquing Pasifika Education in the University 2007 has participated in discussions with Dr Airini on possible ways to combine the NZARE Pasifika caucus meeting with the conference. Advice has been sought and received with thanks on possibilities and risks, from Colin and Richard.

NZARE Website (Anne Elliot)

Pasifika webpage update completed February, 2007. Sincere thanks to Anne.

Further actions during 2007:

1. That the following buttons be added to the Pasifika webpage:
 - NZARE 2006 conference papers on Pasifika education research (about the education of Pasifika peoples, and research by Pasifika peoples);
 - Pasifika research events
 - Pasifika education research references and papers
 - Become part of the Pasifika Caucus
 - Suggestions box
2. that the Pasifika Caucus (through its representative on the NZARE Council) is responsible for ensuring the Pasifika webpage is kept current.

NZARE NRP (Richard Smith)

Actions for 2007: Increase the number of Pasifika researchers on the NRP.

INPUT

Actions for 2007: Pasifika-relevant input to be included in INPUT 2007.

Membership of Pasifika caucus

Thanks you to the NZARE Council members who have forwarded (with permission) names of Pasifika education researchers to the Pasifika Caucus NZARE Council representative. Further names and contact details would be most welcome.

Membership targets: 2007: 15; 2008: 25

Prepared by: Dr Airini, The University of Auckland, Faculty of Education.

Tel: 09 623 8826. E-Mail: airini@auckland.ac.nz