

NZARE National Refereeing Panel: Background Paper

The NZARE National Council has a sub-committee which is the designated NRP. This includes an independent chair, Professor Clive McGee, the co-convenors – the immediate past president Dr Lynne Whitney and vice-president Dr Richard Smith, and membership including Dr Shirley Gillet (a secondment), Dr Colleen McMurchy-Pilkington, Dr Jo Higgins and Dr Airini plus: one/two Māori members from council or from the Māori Caucus (or nominees) the one other Pasifika Caucus members (or nominee), and Anne Elliot as Student Representative, the CEO of the NZCER (or nominee), plus one other member of Council.

The NRP sub-committee is made up of the people who hold these positions within our national association, not the individuals involved, thus these positions will be rotated around (executive) members of the association. The original NRP subcommittee who wrote the original plan to present to the NZARE AGM in December 2005 were: Lynne Whitney; Shirley Gillet; Colleen McMurchy-Pilkington; Jo Higgins and Richard Smith.

Information about the background rationale and purposes of the NRP can be found on the NZARE website on the main page.

We extend this invitation to NZARE members and educational colleagues in other allied professions and professional associations to become reviewers of ‘refereed’ papers for our annual conferences. You will be initially be on the NRP for two years thus servicing the 2006 and 2007 conferences. You can of course remain much longer if you wish to by merely informing via email Tanu Kapoor or Rob Murray (the NZARE Secretariat).

By being a reviewer you are providing a valuable professional ‘service’ component to the association. As ‘official’ recognition one benefit would be having your name published upon the NZARE website as being a peer-reviewer for the NZARE NRP. This would be able to be downloaded and placed into a folder for ‘PBRF’ status/credit purposes.

In addition, in the past, each conference has sent out book vouchers after the conference, as an unofficial honourarium or perhaps really just a little thank you. This generally tends to be around \$40.00 in value. Furthermore, reviewers are thankful for the acknowledgement and the reward is both appropriate and well earned.

There is a likelihood that the reviewing ‘pool’ for the NRP might be much larger in number than the preceding 12-15 reviewers used for previous conferences, who averaged reviewing around three papers each. Thus with a larger number of reviewers, the workload will be much smaller, the load shared more equitably, and capacity-building for the association and the sector accomplished.

For the 2006 conference NZARE has received a record 64 applications to have a paper peer-reviewed this year. Some of this might be due to members wanting to improve the status of their papers due to the PBRF, yet for other there may be other rewards.

Thus for the 2006 conference we will require at least **64** reviewers who would be available to ‘blind’ review at least two papers each. The papers are sent to two independent reviewers with either ‘content’, or ‘methodological’ knowledge/expertise.

By agreeing to be a peer reviewer your name and research interests will then be recorded on the NZARE peer reviewers’ database. Only the Secretariat, conference convenor and organiser and NZARE-Council NRP Sub-committee will have access to this database. It will *not* have open-access for all to see who is a member of this database – unlike anyone going to our website can access the current Membership Directory.

You will be sent the papers probably electronically (as a PDF attachment), and you will have brief reviewing forms that you will complete, also sent and *returned* electronically.

The NZARE Council thanks you for becoming a reviewer and for providing this valuable service to our professional association.

Please download the membership form to your computer. Then complete the membership form and attach it to an email to Tanu Kapoor tanu.kapoor@nzcer.org.nz at the NZARE Secretariat. You will be advised by Tanu or Rob Murray about receipt of your membership form.