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# ACCEPTALK

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## Chair's Report

**Happy New Year** to all our members and co-op enthusiasts. I am always shocked by how quickly the years seem to go (could it be age related?). Again we approach the end of another co-op year as we head towards our annual conference and AGM. I am always pleased to report on successful years for NZACE, and last year was no exception. Some key points of note:

### **Membership Base**

It is always a priority for the Council to maintain and grow its membership base, but perhaps the most difficult objective to meet. I am pleased to report that we maintained our membership numbers at 1999/2000 levels. While some members did not renew, this was offset by new members. We anticipate that membership will grow in the coming year once work gets underway to update the co-op database (see below).

### **New Flyer**

We hope to have a new NZACE flyer published and available at the March Conference. The current flyer is being redesigned and re-written, and should provide a greater impact for NZACE as a promotional and awareness tool.

### **Political Front**

You may recall that the Labour Party gave an undertaking in its manifesto, published prior to the election, to "establish a pilot Co-operative Education Programme which will see students able to gain relevant work experience under the guidance of an approved mentor". While this statement is somewhat ambiguous, it does lend some support to the promotion and furtherance of co-op education. While no such initiative has been forthcoming as yet, we did get the opportunity to remind Ruth Dyson of their commitment at last year's launch of Lincoln University's Work Integrated Learning programme. I envisage that we will be writing to the Minister of Education in the near future asking for some action here – and of course offering to provide our support and expertise.

### **Increased Awareness**

Last year, two members of the NZACE Council (Chris Eames and myself) presented a workshop on work-integrated learning for the New Zealand Universities Academic Audit Unit in Wellington. The workshop was well attended by tertiary education academics (largely from the university sector) and we received good feedback on the session and some new members as well! We have been invited to repeat the workshop in Auckland in April.

### **Database of Co-op Programmes in New Zealand**

We hope to begin the update of the database of co-op programmes in New Zealand shortly. Last time we undertook this exercise in 1998 there was a significant increase in the number of responses and listings, which we believe reflected the growth of work-integrated learning programmes in this country. A secondary outcome of the exercise was a number of new members.

### **Asia-Pacific Conference**

I am pleased to report that the NZACE Council have agreed to pursue a bid for the hosting of the 2004 Asia-Pacific Conference on Co-operative Education. We are delighted that Lincoln University have offered to host the conference in Christchurch. During the coming months we anticipate that we will be working closely with Lincoln in order to successfully bring this conference to New Zealand. Watch this space...

### **Publication of Conference Proceedings**

Another set of refereed conference proceedings (from last year's NZACE conference) was published in the second half of last year. Copies will be available at this year's annual conference. So far we have had a good response to our "Call for Papers" for the upcoming conference (see details in this issue).

**Kia ora**

**Dave Hodges**

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## **REMINDER !**

### **NZACE Annual Conference**

*22-23 March, 2001*

**Rotorua Lake Plaza Hotel**

Don't delay getting your registration forms in for the upcoming NZACE conference and AGM. A feature of the conference will be an address by Norman Kingsbury, former head of the TEAC, followed by light refreshments. The conference will start early afternoon on Thursday, with the conference dinner to be held at the Hotel, featuring traditional Maori Hangi and some entertainment – surely a great night to remember! The conference will conclude late Friday afternoon.

All abstracts for presentations will still be gratefully accepted. Please send them to Dave Hodges as soon as you can. The articles will be refereed.

We will look forward to seeing you in Rotorua !!

#### **Journal of Asia-Pacific Journal of Cooperative Education**

The Asia-Pacific Journal of Cooperative Education is becoming a great success. There has been a great response to the newly launched journal, and recently there have been a good number of articles in the final stages of publication.

Editor in Chief of APJCE, Dr Richard Coll, will be presenting a workshop on Research and Publicising in Cooperative Education at the NZACE Conference. Take this opportunity to ask any questions about APJCE.

Check out the web site ([www.apjce.com](http://www.apjce.com)) for recent publications and guidelines for authors.

#### **Membership Renewal**

A reminder to all members that subscriptions are up for renewal in a few months. More details for renewal of memberships will be at the Rotorua Conference. All new members are most welcome.

#### **2000 Conference Proceedings for Sale!**

There are copies of the proceedings from the 2000 conference for sale. There will be copies available at the 2001 conference in Rotorua, or contact Dave Hodges at [dhodges@unitec.ac.nz](mailto:dhodges@unitec.ac.nz).

#### **WACE Conference 2001 - Thailand**

The 12<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Cooperative Education will be held at the Suranaree University of Technology, Thailand, on the 22-28 July, 2001. The theme is Globalisation of Cooperation Education: Adoption of borderless systems. This would be a great opportunity to meet other cooperative education practitioners around the world and network with new contacts. Of course it will also be a great opportunity to see the exotic sites of Thailand !

Registration forms are due by the 1 June, 2001, with a discount if you register by 1 March, 2001. Check out their web page for more details (<http://sut2.sut.ac.th/wace2001>).

