

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**OF THE**

**TEACHERS' REFRESHER COURSE**  
**COMMITTEE INCORPORATED**

**2004 - 2005**



## **Chairperson's Message**

Kia ora, Talofa, greetings

I am delighted to present the sixtieth annual report of the Teachers' Refresher Course Committee and my first as chairperson.

2005 has been a significant year for TRCC. Firstly, there was the release of the report on the review of the contract between the Ministry of Education and TRCC, and secondly the recent celebration of the committee's sixtieth anniversary.

The contract review was carried out to ensure that the TRCC was meeting the requirements of the sector and that the contract was aligned with the wider strategy for professional development. The findings of the report indicated high levels of satisfaction from participants and their schools and centres. The support and networking opportunities provided, the fact that TRCC is a teacher driven organisation, and the input of experts into courses were all highly valued. As a result of the contract review, the Ministers of Education agreed to a number of recommendations including the agreement moving to a three year rolling basis and an increase in the appropriation of \$40,355. Both of these are positive steps for the future viability of TRCC. We have also endeavoured to incorporate some of the findings in our shorter term goals as part of the TRCC strategic plan.

We were very grateful to Marion Hobbs for agreeing to host our sixtieth anniversary celebrations at the Grand Hall of Parliament on 23 August. The enthusiastic response to the invitation reflected the fondness with which TRCC is regarded by many in the education sector. The occasion was not only an enjoyable social event, but also an opportunity to reflect on the history of TRCC and the changes over the last sixty years. The fundamental intent of the committee remains true to the original vision even if advances in technology have meant there have been changes to the way we operate.

We will need to explore different modes of course delivery if we are to maintain our niche as a quality professional development provider. (The region delivery of courses such as 'Awe, inspiration and wonder' provides a useful model for future courses).

During the past year we have rejoiced in the marriages of two of our members, Joanna Leaman and Lisa Cross and we now eagerly await the birth of Helen Benson's baby later in the year. We have also said goodbye to Sylvia Bishton, Sue Clement, Mary Day and Kirsty Prince.

The fortnightly meetings continue to be an opportunity for networking and friendship as well as professional stimulation.

I would like to acknowledge the work of the TRCC permanent staff, Colleen McClymont and Chris Mitchell. They continue to cope cheerfully with the vagaries of the TRCC course programme and the changing requirements of evaluation and reporting systems. We are fortunate to have two such dedicated and capable women supporting the work of our voluntary committee.

The three teacher unions, NZEI, PPTA and ASTE have continued to play an active role in the life of TRCC. Their representatives have attended several meetings, distributed TRCC information through their networks and given us financial support for TRCC publications.

Recent years have seen a strengthening of our relationship with the curriculum division of the Ministry of Education. Prue Kyle has been an active and supportive liaison person who has shown interest in the work of the committee. The lack of representation from Maori and Pasifika groups on the committee makes it essential that we work closely with Ministry personnel to ensure the professional development requirements of these groups are met.

### **THE TEACHERS REFRESHER COURSE COMMITTEE Membership at 30 June 2005**

**NZEI / Early Childhood:** Jane Couch, Paula Hunt, Diane Lawrence and Kate Thornton  
**NZEI Primary:** Lisa Cross and Marie Dawson.  
**PPTA:** Coralie Baines, Helen Benson and Joanna Leaman  
**ASTE:** Juliet Combs, Philippa Hart-Smith, Anita Mortlock and Lisa Whittle

*Chairperson:* Kate Thornton  
*Deputy Chairperson:* Coralie Baines  
*Treasurer:* Juliet Combs

*Secretariat:* Colleen McClymont Executive Officer  
Chris Mitchell Office Administrator

### **TEACHERS REFRESHER COURSES - JULY 2004 - JUNE 2005**

Appendix A attached to this report is a summary of the 11 courses run during this period of time.

#### **Participation:**

<b>2000/1</b>	<b>2001/2</b>	<b>2002/3</b>	<b>2003/4</b>	<b>2004/5</b>
1182	712	716	552	1182

**Timing:** With two exceptions, all courses were held during school holidays. The exceptions were *Transformation (CATE Conference)* and *too infantastic*.

Courses offered during the 2004/5 year were as follows:

July	August	September	November	January	April	May
2	2	2	1	1	2	1

The average course attendance was 107.

**Duration:** Again the length of courses has been flexible. Traditionally we have had courses of 4-5 days though the planning committees may vary these to suit the particular requirements of their course. The duration of each course this year was as follows:

No of Days:	2.5	3.5	4.5
No of Courses:	4 (regional)	2	8

## Teachers' Comments

- It has been wonderful learning and seeing how to use information and games in my own teaching. (*Hauora, PENZ*)
- Wonderful workshops/keynotes that challenged dominant hegemonic assumptions. The networking opportunities were also very beneficial. (*Hauora, PENZ*)
- Thank you for the chance to meet professionals who are passionate about their area and to make links with others. (*The 3Rs of Technology*)
- I appreciated being able to work with actual teaches on actual units that they run in schools. (*The 3Rs of Technology*)
- Wonderful to learn of the systems to follow in the different areas of the school that I am now responsible for. (*Senior Management AP/DP Training*)
- The practical nature of the course has allowed me to reflect on my own practices and will result in some fine-tuning and new initiatives on my return home. (*Senior Management AP/DP Training*)
- Every workshop had something beneficial to offer. (*Senior Management AP/DP Training*)
- Being able to bounce of others has been great. I have been able to absorb a huge amount of valuable information that I can now relay and put into action (as a team) back at our center. (*Transitions*)
- I have gained new strategies to help me to 'cross the border' from early Childhood to Primary, new ideas/strategies to help make children's transition path smoother. (*Transitions*)
- The international presenters were excellent. The networking with NZ teachers was most information. (*Awe, Wonder and Interest in Science*)
- Fantastic presenters. Learning very relevant to science in the primary school classroom. (*Awe, Wonder and Interest in Science*)
- It was so good being with some many like-minded people all sharing ideas. It was been a really worthwhile week. Thank you. (*too infantastic*)
- Great linking into the philosophy of Emmi Pikler and Rose Pere. This was just awesome! (*too infantastic*)

## FINANCE AND STATISTICS

The total turnover for the 2004/5 financial year was \$613,990 (GST exclusive)

The Contract with the Ministry of Education, plus a one-off grant of \$5000 GST exc, to assist with the *Survive and Thrive* course, provided the following funding:

Grant: 403,556

GST 50,444

Total 454,000

Forward payments through the TRCC office from course participants for accommodation, course fees, meals and facilities and sundry payments:

203,317

GST 25,415

Total 228,732

Interest 7,117

GST Nil

Total 7,117

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Total Turnover (GST exc) \$613,990

GST \$75,859

Total (GST inclusive) \$689,849

### **Budget for 2004/5 from Ministry of Education**

Total \$404,089

GST 50,511

Total Government Grant\* \$454,000

Courses offered through the year 17

Courses run through the year 11

Average length of courses (days) 4

Number of teachers attending courses 1182

Equivalent actual number of professional development days 5129.5

Number of courses run under the Maori Education Option 1

**Conclusion**

Thank you to everyone involved in the sixtieth year of the operation of TRCC. Those involved in the committee are carrying on a proud tradition as TRCC continues to play a significant role in the professional development in the New Zealand education sector.

Ka kite

Kate Thornton  
Chairperson

## Courses offered in the 2004 - 2005 year

<b>Course</b>	<b><u>Number attending</u></b>	<b><u>Course Director</u></b>	<b><u>Venue</u></b>
<b>July 2004</b>			
Documentation: Making a Difference in Children's Learning	64	Wendy Lee	St Cuthbert's College Auckland
Feeling the Wairua	35	Jane Bone	Akoranga AUT Campus Auckland
<b>August 2004</b>			
Senior Management Training	34	Cynthia Shaw	Stella Maris Conference Centre, Wellington
Hui Tane *	122	Te Kohanga Reo	Waimarama Marae
<b>September 2004</b>			
Hauora PENZ Conference	195	Simon Jackson	Wellington Girls' East College
The 3Rs of Technology	61	Pat Hobden	Nayland College, Nelson
<b>November 2004</b>			
Transformation CATE Conference	202	Virginia Wilson	James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor, Wellington
<b>January 2005</b>			
Transitions	57	Sally Peters	University of Waikato Hamilton
<b>April 2005</b>			
too infantastic	159	Stuart Guyton	Living Springs Christian Camp, Lyttelton
Awe, Wonder & Interest in Science	226	Ian Milne	Colleges of Education, Dunedin, Christchurch, Wellington, Auckland
<b>May 2005</b>			
Senior Management Training	26	Briar Diamond	Stella Maris Conference Centre, Wellington

**Courses marked \* were Maori courses attracting a double weighting for teachers attending,**