

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TEACHERS' REFRESHER COURSE

COMMITTEE INCORPORATED

2008 – 2009

OUR VISION

TRCC provides inspirational and unique professional development for professional learning communities within and across the education sectors. We empower teachers to reflect on and improve their teaching practice in order to enhance learning.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE TEACHERS' REFRESHER COURSE COMMITTEE

- ◆ *To improve the quality of teaching and learning in New Zealand education.*
- ◆ *To provide quality professional development for all New Zealand educators.*
- ◆ *To deliver national courses 'for teachers by teachers'.*
- ◆ *To take account of research, and model best practice in education, in course planning.*

Chairperson's Message

Nga mihi nui a koutou ara me to whanau hoki, greetings to you all.

It gives me great pleasure to present the sixty-fourth annual report of the Teachers' Refresher Course Committee.

The 2008/09 contract year has seen 12 courses run successfully by TRCC. While these have included a number of "regulars", they have also included courses which mark a growing commitment to Māori and Pasifika. The TRCC response to new initiatives and the New Zealand Curriculum such as the Middle Management for Primary and Teaching Te Reo with confidence has been successful with these courses being well received by the participants.

Not only have our courses been well received, we continue to receive an increasing number of requests and proposals for new courses. We could easily increase the number of courses offered each year, but that would require increased funding to support the increased staffing this would necessitate. The level of interest in our courses reflects not only the quality of these courses but also the work that has occurred over the last 12 months to promote TRCC in a variety of ways. Laura Collins has made it a key focus to strengthen links with our Union base by ensuring a TRCC presence at conferences, by presenting to Principals' groups and using union publications to promote our activities.

TRCC continues to enjoy support from a number of organisations. With the Ministry of Education as our funding agency a positive relationship with the Liaison person is essential. We are fortunate to have Anna Sullivan in this role. Her positive manner means our meetings are open and constructive. She has continued to play an active role in assisting us to develop appropriate links within the Ministry to support our courses.

Active support from our three teacher unions continues to be a key to our success. As I indicated above the ability to access union conferences and key groups from each sector has been extremely important in our promotion and communication strategy.

Strategic relationships with other teacher groups is also important to maintaining a strong number of courses that we can rely on to run successfully on a regular basis and help balance new ideas and courses which may initially work on smaller numbers. This includes groups such as HETTANZ, Horticulture and Science teachers. The ongoing relationship with Pasifika Education Consultants is enabling us to develop courses which support Pasifika teachers and in the next year will see us spreading that focus to support teachers of Pasifika students. We are looking forward to building on the work Laura has already done to develop strong links with Māori Medium education groups to enable us to provide much needed support in this area.

The Committee has continued to work in its positive and co-operative manner. This ethos is maintained despite changes in membership which reflects the changing circumstances and responsibilities of the individual members. In the last year we

have welcomed Imogen Warren as a new NZEI representative and farewelled Kaye Brunton as a TEU representative. Olivia Sisley took maternity leave but continued to provide support for the committee and courses. Ana Rees (PPTA) and Paula Hunt (NZEI) are stepping down from the committee at the AGM. I would like to thank all members of the committee for their work in attending meetings, supporting planning groups and representing TRCC at courses. This is all carried out in addition to significant commitments within their own education organisations.

However, the success of any organisation is dependent on the quality of the people working for it. TRCC is fortunate to have Laura and Chris working for us. Their energy and commitment is vital for the success of the organisation and courses. The committee receives consistently high praise from course organisers about the quality of the support and advice they received from them. Their energy, enthusiasm and good humour are significant in maintaining the special nature of the organisation.

I look forward to the next 12 months which promise to be as challenging, stimulating and positive as the last year.

Hamish Davidson

THE TEACHERS' REFRESHER COURSE COMMITTEE
Membership at 30 June 2009

NZEI / Early Childhood: Paula Hunt, Diane Lawrence and Truus Dingemanse
NZEI Primary: Olivia Sisley, Imogen Warren and Marie Dawson
PPTA: Ana Rees, Hamish Davidson, Avatar Loorparg and Kathryn Levy
TEU: Susan Stevens (Co-opted), Geoff Childs (Co-opted)

Chairperson: Hamish Davidson
Deputy Chairperson: Marie Dawson
Treasurer: Marie Dawson

Secretariat: Laura Collins Executive Officer
Chris Mitchell Office Manager

TEACHERS' REFRESHER COURSES - JULY 2008 - JUNE 2009

Appendix A attached to this report is a summary of the 12 courses run during this period of time.

Participation:

2003/4	2004/5	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9
552	1182	976	763	919	1065

Timing: With two exceptions, all courses were held during school holidays. The exceptions were *AP/DP Training and Whakawhanaungatanga*

Courses offered during the 2008/9 year were as follows:

July	August	Sept/October	April
4	1	5	2

The average course attendance was 83.41

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	3	3.5	4	4.5	5
No of Courses:	1	0	3	5	1	2

Teachers' Comments

- The high calibre of all speakers, who through the wairua we felt from them and the important messages they shared about a) why we need to ensure that Te Reo is in all schools in Aotearoa and How to move from where we are now with this to the next step, was truly inspirational. *Teaching Te Reo with Confidence*
- All of the workshops. I have learned something in every session that I can implement, improve my classroom environment and learning opportunities for my students. *HETTANZ*
- I have gained from all the speakers and activities so much – I have been uplifted. Kia ora! *Teaching Te Reo with Confidence*
- Great presentations, varied and informative. Focused on key competencies, assessment, issues that are pertinent for me, stressed the power of engagement. *Primary Science Conference*
- Now looking at implementing learning communities in my team. I have initiated this in my team and have opened up my own teaching practice for team members to comment on and give suggestions. We are using student achievement and data to check on the success of my teaching. Helping management implement new ideas/ ways of doing things. Being prepared to go with the teachable moment - not being tied down by timetables. *Stepping Up*
- It has been significant to have the opportunity to identify and record future directions for Homebased Care for the policy makers. *Whakawhanaungatanga*
- Have developed confidence in going to the heart of issues. Developing my philosophy for leadership and implementing stage one through building quality relationships with staff. Building a team environment. *Stepping Up*
- The amount of data, expertise and skill shared and imparted. All culminating in the one vision for Pacific Education and Wellbeing. *Leading Pasifika*
- It has provided me with valid and reliable pathways to recognize, and respond to the identification of a child with varying needs and to develop the necessary supports for both the child, the family and the teaching staff. *Support to Learn, Learn to Support*
- Affirming enthusiasm for Technology by hearing success stories. *Gaining Momentum by Design*
- I love networking! I enjoyed the journeys people shared and of course all the Great workshops and keynotes. *Let's be PC with Mac*
- We, my job-share colleague and I returned to our kura with a very enlightened perception. We looked seriously at our positions and decided that we were going to 'Step up' and take more responsibility with our senior roles and lead our team with commitment and dedication to our learners, parents and our staff. A wonderful opportunity for us to reflect on why we held the positions we did and what else we were required to do. Kia ora koutou. *Stepping Up*
- I will include some traditional Maori approaches to land and production, and use resources on the net more. *Grown in NZ*
- Feeling refreshed and inspired to promote a love of Science even more in children. *Primary Science Conference*

FINANCE AND STATISTICS

The total turnover for the 2008/9 financial year was \$862,210 (GST exclusive)

The Contract with the Ministry of Education provided the following funding:

Grant:	\$443,904	
GST		<u>\$55,488</u>
Total		\$499,392
Forward payments through the TRCC office from course participants for accommodation, course fees, meals and facilities and sundry payments:		
	\$411,381	
GST		\$51,422
Total		\$462,803
Interest	\$6925	
GST		Nil
Total		\$6925
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Total Turnover (GST exc)	\$862,210	
GST		\$106,910
Total (GST inclusive)		\$969,120

Budget for 2009/10 from Ministry of Education

Total	<u>\$443,904</u>
GST	55,488
Total Government Grant*	<u>\$499,392</u>

Courses offered through the year	12
Courses run through the year	12
Average length of courses (days)	3.92
Number of teachers attending courses	1065
Equivalent actual number of professional development days	4203
Number of courses run under the Maori Education Option	2
Number of courses run under the Pasifika Option	1

Conclusion

Thank you to everyone involved in the sixty-third year of the operation of TRCC. We look forward to another successful year in 2010.

Hamish Davidson
Chairperson

Courses offered in the 2008 - 2009 year

Course	<u>Number attending</u>	<u>Course Director</u>	<u>Venue</u>
July 2008			
HETTANZ Conference	162	Jane O'Callaghan & Martin James	Chateau on the Park Christchurch
Let's be PC with Mac	41	Wendy Lee	St Cuthbert's Auckland
Stepping Up	56	Julie Henderson & Jocelyn Pollock	Quality Hotel Wellington
Teaching Te Reo with Confidence *	34	Olivia Sisley	Quality Hotel Wellington
August 2008			
New AP/DP Training	24	Denise Craig & Hamish Davidson	Aotea Lodge Porirua
September/ October 2008			
Whakawhanaungatanga	147	Jane Couch & Jane Firth	The Brentwood Wellington
Support to Learn, Learn to support	73	Marg Roper & Marg Bleasdale	Quality Hotel Wellington
Gaining Momentum by Design	102	Brian Allen	Quality Hotel Wellington
Leading Pasifika *	23	Pacific Education Consultants	Aotea Lodge Porirua
Paangarau Hui *	32	Leeana Herewini	University of Auckland College of Education
April 2008			
Primary Science Conference	258	Ian Milne	Colleges of Education Dun, ChCh, Wgn, Auck
Grown in NZ, Ag/Hort Conference	49	Claire Neiman	Kingsgate Portland Wellington

Courses marked * were Maori / Pasifika courses attracting a double weighting for teachers attending