

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TEACHERS' REFRESHER COURSE

COMMITTEE INCORPORATED

2009 – 2010

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

Ngā mihi nui a koutou ara me to whānau hoki, greetings to you all.

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

The 2009/10 contract year has seen 14 courses run successfully by TRCC. These have included a number of "regulars", such as the New AP/DP Training, HETTANZ and courses run in association with Pacific Education Consultants. They have also included courses which mark a growing commitment to supporting developments in the Māori medium. Overall fewer teachers attended courses in 2009/10 than in 2008/09. This is reflection of budget constraints which mean we are unable to run as many large courses as we have in the past. It also reflects the impact of professional development for other initiatives on the ability of teachers to give time to other professional development opportunities.

However, our courses continue to be well received and 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 additional staffing this would necessitate. The level of interest in our courses reflects not only the quality of these courses but also the continuing work by Laura Collins to raise the profile of the work of TRCC in a variety of media and forums.

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 Tracey Scott in this role. We greatly appreciate her availability, energy and willingness to work on assisting us in creating connections with possible presenters and resource people. Tracey's positive and proactive approach has supported the continuation of good dialogue between the Ministry of Education and TRCC. We also appreciate the positive input we have had from Chris Arcus.

Active support from our three teacher unions continues to be a key to our success. The ability to access union conferences, publications 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 Media teachers. The ongoing relationship with Pacific Education Consultants has enabled us to develop courses which support Pasifika teachers and non-Pasifika teachers in their work in schools. This year has seen significant progress made in developing our links with Māori medium educators. I would especially like to acknowledge the support that we have received from Deanne Thomas and Hone Mutu. There is a growing awareness of TRCC in this sector and attendance numbers continue to grow.

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 farewelled Imogen Warren and Robin Averill and welcomed Helen Smithies, Doug Ferry and Geoff Childs. This meeting is the last meeting for Olivia Sisley and myself. I would like to especially acknowledge the significant contribution that Olivia has made to the committee. She has been a huge source of energy, encouragement and knowledge for the committee as we have sought to build our commitment to courses in the Māori medium and in building teachers' capacity in Te Reo.

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.

As I step down from the committee I can reflect on the pleasure of working with such an energetic group of people from across the education sector. It is a rare example of cross sector co-operation. It has provided me with the opportunity for significant learning and development. I am pleased that the Ministry of Education is continuing to support the work of the committee.

I hope that committee enjoys a challenging, stimulating and successful year in 2011.

Hamish Davidson

THE TEACHERS' REFRESHER COURSE COMMITTEE

Membership at 30 June 2010

NZEI / Early Childhood: Helen Smithies, Diane Lawrence and Truus Dingemanse
NZEI Primary: Olivia Sisley and Marie Dawson
PPTA: Hamish Davidson, Avatar Looparg and Kathryn Levy, Susan Stevens (Co-opted)
TEU: Doug Ferry, 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 2009 - JUNE 2010

Appendix A attached to this report is a summary of the 14 courses run during this period of time.

Participation:

2004/5	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10
1182	976	763	919	1065	628

Timing: With one exception, all courses were held during school holidays. The exception was new *AP/DP Training*.

Courses offered during the 2009/10 year were as follows:

July	Sept/October	January	April	June
3	5	1	4	1

The average course attendance was 41.79

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:	0	1	2	9	0	2

Teachers' Comments

- Keep it up. It was one of the best conferences I have been to. *Students of Promise*
- This course was exceptional. The extent the organisers went to deliver a professional, informative and reflective programme was outstanding. I left feeling inspired, motivated but also with a lot of 'usable' information and experience. *Opening the Treasure Box*
- Being with other motivated people. All sessions were useful, particularly the Ka Hikitia and WAG sessions. Speakers from the MOE, I feel lucky to have heard from VIPs, lawyers were great too. One of the best courses I've been on. *New AP/DP Training*
- A great tool kit was provided to me which can be used from Monday. *New AP/DP Training*
- The course supplied me with tools that have empowered me as a designated leader, to implement strategies for change, where barriers previously existed. *Leadership in EC Settings*
- Really enjoyed the opportunity to have this stimulating few days. It helps to retain the passion for teaching and the desire to do my best and promote change for improvement. *Leadership in EC Settings*
- It was interesting, energy giving and inspiring. *Expressions of Culture*
- It was great to network with other educators. Since returning we have had close ties another Samoan Bilingual unit , we have visited, very valuable for our school and community. *Teaching Samoan in NZ*
- The guest speakers were really good at shaking up some of the entrenched ideas of many of the older teachers *In Media*
- Covered an excellent range of practical, theoretical and best practice. *In Media*
- A real variety, passionate and committed presenters - inspirational. *Carrying the Tapa*
- It was an amazing course and delivered everything we hoped for. Gave me a greater understanding of Pasifika culture and issues and now I am seeing the barriers that these pupils have. *Carrying the Tapa*
- The presenters challenged thinking and inspired ideas. *Get Outside*
- Fantastic course, want to do it all again! *Get Outside*
- The theory behind the practice was the key for me and helped us get our heads around the document. Having people who helped shape this marau over the years presenting with passion made it real for us. *Te Ao Hangarau*

FINANCE AND STATISTICS

The total turnover for the 2009/10 financial year was \$682,794 (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:	\$232,300	
GST		\$29,037
Total		\$261,337
Interest	\$6590	
GST		Nil
Total		\$6590
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Total Turnover (GST exc)	\$682,794	
GST		\$84,525
Total (GST inclusive)		\$767,319

Budget for 2010/11 from Ministry of Education

Total	<u>\$443,904</u>
GST	63,811
Total Government Grant*	<u>\$507,715</u>

Courses offered through the year	15
Courses run through the year	14
Average length of courses (days)	4
Number of teachers attending courses	628
Equivalent actual number of professional development days	3084
Number of courses run under the Maori Education Option	2
Number of courses run under the Pasifika Option	2

Conclusion

Thank you to everyone involved in the sixty-fifth year of the operation of TRCC. We look forward to another successful year in 2011.

Hamish Davidson
Chairperson

Courses offered in the 2009 - 2010 year

Course	<u>Number attending</u>	<u>Course Director</u>	<u>Venue</u>
July 2009			
Students of Promise	57	Ann Easter	Quality Hotel, Wellington
Uplifting Shakespeare	15	Dawn Sanders	Whitireia Performing Arts Centre, Wellington
New AP/DP Training	24	Susan Stevens	West Plaza Hotel Wellington
September/ October 2009			
Leadership in EC Settings	67	Jenny Varney	Quality Hotel, Wellington
Teaching Samoan in NZ *	43	Pacific Education Consultants	Quality Hotel, Wellington
Expressions in Culture	24	Liz Melchior	Whitireia Performing Arts Centre, Wellington
In Media	71	Kerry-Anne Murnane	Christ's College Christchurch
Opening the Treasure Box	59	Michelle Johnston	University of Auckland College of Education
January 2010			
Positioning Geography	47	Lex Chalmers	University of Waikato
April 2010			
Carrying the Tapa *	41	Helen Hardwick	Quality Hotel, Wellington
Get Outside	44	Liz Thevenard	Royal NZ Police College Porirua
Te Ao Hangarau *	34	Deanne Thomas	Kairau Marae Waitara
Ngā Wānanga mō ngā Tumuaki * Kura Kaupapa Māori Aho Matua 2010	24	Hone Mutu	Quality Inn West End Auckland
June 2010			
New AP/DP Training	35	Janet Malcolm	West Plaza Hotel Wellington

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