

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TEACHERS' REFRESHER COURSE

COMMITTEE INCORPORATED

2014 – 2015

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 seventieth annual report of the Teachers' Refresher Course Committee.

The 2014/15 year has seen 9 courses run successfully by TRCC. Some of the highlights of the year have been: a series of regional courses run in association with MENZA for Itinerant Teachers of Music, these were well received by a group who have had very little PLD specific to their needs previously. Also, in association with PPTA, we ran a first Symposium for Specialist Classroom Teachers, from this course a new national association of SCTs has been formed. We ran the second conference in partnership with the Education Council *Mentoring - stepping up to support and grow a learning profession* which was full to the cap as was *Carrying the Tapa - a course for Non-Pasifika Teachers teaching Pasifika Students*.

We celebrate that our calendar continues to encompass all sectors including several courses that were across all three sectors, a course specific to Māori Medium Educators and another specific to Pasifika Educators. We also celebrate meeting an ongoing area of need in the EC sector - the education and care of infants and toddlers.

We greatly appreciate the ongoing support and guidance from the three unions: PPTA, NZEI and TEU. The unions offer us a direct line to teacher voice and awareness of needs in the sector.

We thank our current eleven Committee members who give so generously of their time to support and guide the work. We are so grateful that they have all chosen to remain on the Committee for 2016.

This year we've had to work within the uncertainty of changes in the PLD context and are pleased to say we've 'held the faith' and planned a great calendar for 2016. The future of TRCC beyond 2016 still remains unclear but the Committee hold strongly to the vision, set by Dr Clarence Beeby, of enabling teachers to have a voice in and responsibility for their own professional learning and development. Let us celebrate our 70th year of providing high quality courses 'for teachers, by teachers'.

I would also like to thank our permanent staff Laura and Chris for their work for TRCC this year.

I'm sure both staff and the committee will have a successful year in 2016, willingly and capably attending to the challenges it will bring.

Diane Lawrence

THE TEACHERS' REFRESHER COURSE COMMITTEE

Membership at 30 June 2015

NZEI / Early Childhood:	Helen Smithies, Diane Lawrence and Cathy Sheppard	
NZEI Primary:	Monica Mercury, Hayley Searle, Serena Lewis and Karina Bird	
PPTA:	Avatar Loorparg, Kathryn Levy and Penny Kinsella	
TEU:		
Co-opted:	Viv Browne	
<i>Chairperson:</i>	Diane Lawrence	
<i>Deputy Chairperson:</i>	Kathryn Levy	
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Hayley Searle	
<i>Secretariat:</i>	Laura Collins	Executive Officer
	Chris Mitchell	Office Manager

TEACHERS' REFRESHER COURSES - JULY 2014 - JUNE 2015

Appendix A attached to this report is a summary of the 9 courses run during this period of time. One course was cancelled due to lack of interest *Outside the Box*.

Participation:

2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
628	849	905	1113	997	657

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

Courses offered during the 2014/15 year were as follows:

July	Oct	December	April	May
3	3	1	1	1

The average course attendance was 69.22

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:

N% of days	1	2	3	3.5	4	4.5	5
N% of courses		2	4	1	0	0	2

Teachers' Comments about the most valuable aspects of the course for them:

- Every part! It was run so professionally and effectively. I loved how there were so many aspects of this course - the theoretical knowledge and the research presented to back up what was being said. The examples from schools were brilliant! As teachers we are ALWAYS asking to be shown how the theory works in practice. We want to know that what we are going to implement has sound research behind it but also evidence that it works in practice. My favourite part was how there is not one simple solution or one way to raise achievement for Pasifika. Schools were shown to work in very different ways but still achieved success. The honest and engaging conversations held with delegates were invaluable and broke down barriers too. *Carrying the Tapa - A course for Non-Pasifika Teachers Teaching Pasifika Students*
- New approaches to teaching and introducing the inference standard. Led by teachers = much better than so called 'educational experts'. *Regional workshops for statistics educators and senior secondary level*
- The whole of the programme was very beneficial for me to grow as a kaiako to move forward in this ever changing world of e learning. What I have come away with I am able to share with ākonga as well as my fellow kaiako and hopefully they will take what I have shared with them into their classrooms. I have opened up our class blog and am still working on how to best utilise it to benefit students, parents etc. The VIN core ed has also helped to share with other teachers, resources, kupu hou and ideas that work well for them in e learning and many more. I have also been collaborating with our admin person to organise and allow the uploading of programmes that were used during this whakangungu kaiako to be included in our rorohiko, tii papa and i papa which will help our students increase their reo, to succeed in this digital world. This week alone I have had 100% student engagement. Now that's how I foresee our kura becoming! *Ako-e - Te Hangarau Mōhiohio*
- Connecting with other Pasifika educators from all three sectors. I loved that there was no division, that we respected each sector and we mixed and mingled freely. Being stimulated, encouraged and inspired by the high calibre of speakers and other Pasifika educators, moving / working in areas where they can influence positive changes, for Pasifika children / students. Attending this conference has caused me to reflect on my own future pathway in a deeper sense. It has encouraged me to even consider further studies. Something which I had decided, was unattainable for a variety of reasons. *Charting Pacific Waters*
- Everything. Difficult conversations and clarification of SCT roles was particularly good. I feel I now have a greater clarity around my role and how I could further develop it to meet the needs of the school. I feel more confident in approaching difficult conversations. Linking up with colleagues has been tremendous as I have got some cool ideas from the speed dating session too. This is honestly some of the best PD I have had in ages. *SCT Symposium - focus on learning*
- All aspects were valuable, as was the opportunity to learn from my fellow ITMs and gain benefit of their experience. *Making a difference in NZ Music Education (ITMs)*

- Many opportunities for learning about the needs of Māori learners and whānau. Wonderful examples of resources and creativity at its biggest and best...Hearing real stories from parents ... *Toddleriffic*
- The variety and flexibility of the workshops. The creative inspirational environment. The group size. The amazing facilitators. It was a truly life changing week. *Toddleriffic*
- It demystified the process and nature of Teaching as Inquiry and provided insight as to how mentoring can become a strategic tool in improving teaching and learning. It also gave me confidence that this process would benefit teachers at all stages of their career. *Mentoring - stepping up to support and grow a learning profession*
- Really rigorous - no fluff. Presentations were all great, and the presenters were total pros who cut to the chase and were really inspiring. *Mentoring - stepping up to support and grow a learning profession*
- It was so well planned that all parts intertwined to build understanding of all aspects, with a focus on improving outcomes for all students, but being clear about who you are as a leader and why we do what we do and how. *New AP/DP Training*

FINANCE AND STATISTICS

The total turnover for the 2014/15 financial year was \$700,684.00 (GST exclusive)

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

Grant: \$443,904.00

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

\$250,490.00

Interest \$6290.00

Total Turnover (GST exc) \$700,684.00

Budget for 2015/16 from Ministry of Education

Total \$443,904

GST 66,585

Total Government Grant \$510,489

Courses offered through the year	10
Courses run through the year	9
Average length of courses (days)	3.3
Number of teachers attending courses	657
Equivalent actual number of professional development days	2437
Number of courses run under the Māori Education Option	1
Number of courses run under the Pasifika Option	2

Conclusion

Thank you to everyone involved in the seventieth year of the operation of TRCC. We look forward to another successful year in 2016.

Diane Lawrence
Chairperson

Courses offered in the 2014 - 2015 year

Course	<u>Number attending</u>	<u>Course Director</u>	<u>Venue</u>
July 2014			
Carrying the Tapa: A course for Non-Pasifika Teachers teaching Pasifika Students *	78	Pacific Education Consultants	CQ Hotel Wellington
Regional workshops for statistics educators at senior secondary level	48	Jeanette Saunders	Wellington Girls' College
Ako-Te Tuku Mōhiohio*	30	Deanne Thomas & Wharehoka Wano	West Plaza Hotel Wellington
October 2014			
Making a difference in NZ Music Education (ITMs)	142	Stephanie Lees & John Wright	St Cuthbert's, Auckland, Diocesan, Hamilton, St Andrew's, Christchurch
Charting Pacific Waters *	28	Pacific Education Consultants	CQ Hotel Wellington
SCT Symposium - Focus on learning	84	Adie Graham	Lindisfarne College Hastings
December 2014			
Toddleriffic	65	Viv Shearsby, Nathan Mikaere, Stuart Guyton, Justine Mason	Living Springs Christchurch
April 2015			
Mentoring - stepping up to support and grow a learning profession	120	Deborah Wansbrough	CQ Hotel Wellington
May 2015			
New AP/DP Training	28	Geoff Childs	West Plaza Hotel Wellington

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