



49th Annual OCIES Conference Programme 1-3 December 2021

Strengthening, Expanding & Reimagining Connections for, & through, Education

Hosted by Fiji National University, The University of Melbourne & The University of Waikato

Day 1: 01 December 2021 - Workshop for Emerging Researchers *Organized by the OCIES New & Emerging Researchers Fono (NERF)*

Time (AEDT)	Time (FJT)	Time (NZT)	Session Title & Description	Speakers/Moderators
8:00am	9:00am	10:00am	Introduction to NERF of OCIES	
			Introduction to NERF, OCIES and Emerging Researchers	NERF Leadership Team: ● Dave Fa'avae ● Sonia Fonua ● Tepora Wright ● Ben Levy

Time (AEDT)	Time (FJT)	Time (NZT)	Session Title & Description	Speakers/Moderators
8:15am	9:15am	10:15am	Research Design	Moderator: David Fa’avae Panelists: • Donella Cobb • Juliana McLaughlin • Kabini Sanga • Matthew Thomas
			<i>This session aims to enhance researchers’ understandings of methodologies in the CIE; indigenous and Pacific research space; and researcher positionality. Thematic areas:</i>	
			Comparative & International Education (CIE) Research Methodologies	
			Indigenous and Pacific Research Methodologies	
			Researcher Positionality	

Time (AEDT)	Time (FJT)	Time (NZT)	Session Title & Description	Speakers/Moderators
9:30am	10:30am	11:30am	An Exploration of Researcher Positionality: Emerging Researcher Perspectives	
			<i>The ability to articulate one's positionality as a researcher is a crucial part of social research. This is particularly important in the field of Comparative and International Education where context, culture, and notions of power often underpin much of this work. Yet, what is meant by researcher positionality is seldom articulated and rarely discussed within Comparative and International Education literature. What's more, researcher positionality has a multiplicity of meanings and is always being re-negotiated, making it challenging for Emerging Researchers to navigate this muddled, cluttered and unfamiliar terrain. In this session, eight emerging researchers from the University of Waikato's Centre of Global Studies in Education examine their own researcher positionality within the context of their postgraduate research. They draw attention to the different conceptualisations of researcher positionality, and uncover the tensions, challenges and questions that this exploration of their own researcher positionality has raised. This presentation offers personal insights and storying as a way to bring greater clarity to the notion of researcher positionality within the field of Comparative and International Education.</i>	Discussant: Donella Cobb Panelists: ● Vicky Beckwith ● Swati Gulati ● Mellisa Chin ● Benjamin Levy ● Alea Ann Macam ● Dwi Purwestri ● Tanya Saxena ● Tepora Afamasaga Wright Centre for Global Studies in Education at the University of Waikato

Time (AEDT)	Time (FJT)	Time (NZT)	Session Title & Description	Speakers/Moderators
10:45am	11:45am	12:45pm	Zoom Break	
11:30am	12:30pm	1:30pm	Research Bites	
			<i>This informal session is an opportunity for all members of the NERF community to introduce themselves, interact and talk about their research journey.</i>	Moderator: Tepora Wright Presenters: Members of the NERF Community
			<i>During the final 15 minutes, participants will have the unique opportunity to engage with the Senior Editor of the International Education Journal: Comparative Perspectives (IEJ), Dr. Alexandra McCormick. Dr. McCormick will provide an overview of the IEJ, ways to become involved as a mentee, peer reviewer and author contributor.</i>	Alexandra McCormick, Senior Editor of the IEJ
12:30pm	1:30pm	2:30pm	Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) in Higher Education Research	
			<i>This session will explore how we might confront and integrate DEI themes into education research projects and publications.</i>	Panelists: ● Mel Wall ● Cherie Chu- Fuluifaga ● Tim Baice ● Ben Levy
1:30pm	2:30pm	3:30pm	Adjourn	

Speaker Bios:

Tim Baice has 10 years of experience in undergraduate and postgraduate tutoring and support for Pacific students including academic support development and coordination. His higher education experiences have focused on equity policy, institutional practice in academic support, and Pacific/ Pasifika education. In addition to his current research, teaching and service (as detailed in the profile below), Tim has contributed, as an international consultant to regional youth development projects across the Pacific.

Cherie Chu-Fuluifaga's professional experience in the tertiary sector is with academic staff and general staff across New Zealand. She has worked in tertiary education for 25 years with a deep understanding and appreciation of the landscape

Donella Cobb is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Education at the University of Waikato. Donella teaches postgraduate and undergraduate courses in global studies in education, pedagogy, and professional learning and development. Donella's research explores the intersection between the political economy of education, critical pedagogy and international education policy.

David Fa'avae is a lecturer at the University of Waikato's Division of Education (New Zealand). His research interests are in Indigenous research methodologies and methods, Pacific studies, Intergenerational cultural capital and knowledge transmission, Critical autoethnography, Gender and masculinities, Elitism and social hierarchies, and International and comparative education.

Sonia Fonua is Pāpālangi (New Zealand European) and was born and raised in Aotearoa New Zealand. Married to her Tongan husband, they have two young sons who inspire her to improve the education system for all Pasifika. She has been working for 20 years in academic positions focused on equity, access and social justice for indigenous Māori and Pasifika students. Building on previous study in Anthropology, her doctoral studies are in Critical Studies in Education within the Faculty of Education and Social Work, University of Auckland. Her research interests focus on ethnic disparities in education, and ways to embed indigenous (science) knowledge and develop effective teaching and learning methods for indigenous and minority students).

Ben Levy is an International Higher Education professional of more than 20 years of experience who facilitates sustainable global partnerships and develops meaningful mobility experiences which are both accessible and intentional for diverse students and university professionals. Mr. Levy is regularly pursued to serve in leadership positions, and deliver training and consultancies on a range of topics, including supporting diversity, international risk management, program development and more. Relational approaches is at the core of his professional work. Traveling to more than 60 countries and living outside the U.S. for many years, Mr. Levy speaks from his own experience in his professional

life. Mr. Levy holds a B.S. in Environmental Sciences from Nova Southeastern University (Florida, US) and a M.A. in Sustainable Development from the School for International Training (Vermont, USA). He will be pursuing a PhD from the University of Waikato (Hamilton, Aotearoa, NZ)

Juliana Mohok McLaughlin (PhD) is a Senior Lecturer in the Creative Industries Faculty at the Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia where she teaches critical Indigenous studies in higher education, education, decolonising methodologies, research ethics and protocols and culture studies. Her teaching and research are informed by postcolonialism, critical race and critical theories, decolonisation and Indigenous standpoint frameworks. She has a track record in supervising international and domestic Doctor of Philosophy and Professional Doctorates from multi-disciplinary backgrounds and projects to successful completion over the last 20 years. Her research is driven by her passion for decolonising research and education, social justice, equitable development and international education. Juliana has extensively published in refereed journals and book chapters, serves on journal editorial boards and has provided expert reviews for a number of manuscripts for publishing firms. Juliana worked as an academic advisor in the Oodgeroo Unit, QUT Chancellery from 2004 – 2017 where she led and facilitated academic and cultural support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders students studying at QUT. She is a past president for the Australian New Guinea Comparative and International Education Society (ANZCIES), currently Oceania CIES. Juliana is from Manus Island, Papua New Guinea.

Kabini Sanga: Prior to joining Victoria University of Wellington in 2000, Kabini was the former Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Solomon Islands College of Higher Education; now the Solomon Islands National University. Kabini has also held leadership positions in teacher education (Head of School), at the Ministry of Education (Chief Education Officer-Director) and in secondary schools (as Principal and Deputy Principal) in Solomon Islands and, was a Director of the Institute of Education (IOE) of the University of the South Pacific. He is a Pacific regional educator, mentor and a consultant for donor agencies, Pacific Islands governments and others over two decades.

Matthew A.M. Thomas is a Senior Lecturer in Comparative Education and Sociology of Education at the Sydney School of Education and Social Work, University of Sydney. His research examines educational policies, pedagogical practices, and teacher and higher education. Most recently, Matthew is the co-editor of *Examining Teach For All* (Routledge, 2021) and the *Handbook of Theory in Comparative and International Education* (Bloomsbury, 2021).

Mel Wall has lectured for two decades on postcolonial theory, settler-colonial relations and indigenous knowledges. She is deeply committed to issues of social justice and racialised inequities.

Tepora Wright is currently pursuing PhD research in quality assurance policy for higher education institutions, my expertise is concentrated in the following areas:

- programming, planning and review for state institutions, education and training organisations, and at sector level

- *policy and process development to support quality service provision for higher education and TVET institutions*
- *administration of quality assurance processes for education and training institutions*
- *relationship development, partnership brokering and group facilitation*
- *managing and development of competency standards for targeted skills*
- *development of education and training materials*