

World Federation of Associations for Teacher Education (WFATE) Fifth Biennial Conference 9th – 11th July 2018 in Melbourne Australia

At ACU Melbourne Campus, Victoria, Australia

Transformative Teacher Education in Local and Global Contexts

Venue: ACU, Melbourne Campus, Victoria, Australia

Jenene Burke and Maxine Cooper Federation University Australia



The fifth biennial conference of the World Federation of Associations for Teacher Education (WFATE) will be held in Australia, hosted by Federation University Australia (FedUni) at the ACU Melbourne Campus from 9th -11th July 2018. The overall theme of WFATE 2018, Transformative Teacher Education in Local and Global Contexts, will explore four enduring subthemes that have been selected to offer universal appeal to teacher educators over the three days of the conference: Theme 1 - Social Justice. Inclusion and Diversity in Education; Theme 2 - Transformative Teacher Education; Theme 3 - Pedagogy and Curriculum, and Theme 4 - Policy and Partnerships in Teacher Education. While respecting the particularities of cultures, places, and spaces for education, delegates will explore together each other's contemporary experiences in teacher education. What are the challenges and opportunities? How can we contribute to building the necessary research evidence, wisdom, and commitment to meet the complexities of teacher education in an ever-changing world? How can we share insights and learn together so that innovative teacher education is available for all communities?

The conference will continue the WFATE focus on the shaping of global research and the development of professional networks by building on the research working groups that are already established. Meetings of the groups from the previous Barcelona conference, WFATE 2016, will be held and new participants are welcome to choose to join in the ongoing work of these groups. The research working groups 'Synthesis document' (WFATE, 2016) from the Barcelona conference provides a list of the fifteen working groups and the general ideas, challenges and recommendations for each that have been developed by the working group participants (pp. 8-35).

The conference will offer opportunities for teacher educators to connect and engage in a rich community of practice that will cater for a range of special interests and provide opportunities to share research and practice in a variety of formats, such as oral presentations, workshops, symposia and poster presentations.



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Education students are strongly encouraged to participate in the conference, however the final day of the conference has been designated as "Higher Degree and Education Student day" and Teacher Education students are particularly encouraged to attend on that day, and to present research posters and deliver 'lightning' presentations to share their work with their colleagues.

The WFATE 2018 Executive Planning Committee combined with the WFATE board, matches international experience with local teacher education expertise and knowledge. FedUni is leading the team of eight teacher educators from four partnering Australian universities, all located in the State of Victoria and is pleased to partner with Deakin University, Australian Catholic University and Victoria University in the planning of this event.

As an added bonus, the city of Melbourne is expected to be a highly desirable destination for teacher education conference-goers in July 2018 with a collaboration of three major conferences taking place in the city over an eight-day period. From 4th – 6th July (in the week prior to WFATE 2018), the *Australian Teacher Education Association* (ATEA) annual conference will, for the first time in its history, partner with the Teacher Education Forum of Aotearoa New Zealand (TEFANZ) biennial conference under the theme, *Teacher Education In and For Uncertain Times*. The WFATE conference team is working closely with the ATEA/TEFANZ conference committee to ensure a seamless teacher education conference experience in Melbourne provided by the two conferences over the period from 4th - 11th July 2018. We extend a warm invitation to teacher educators from across the world to engage in what promises to be a week of significant local, national and international interest in 'Marvellous Melbourne', a city which was recently (for the seventh consecutive year) named the "world's most liveable city" by the Economist Intelligence Unit's (EIU) liveability survey (Chalkley-Rhoden, 2017). Take the time to look at Visit Victoria at http://www.visitvictoria.com/Regions/Melbourne/Things-to-do.

Details and contacts

World Federation of Associations for Teacher Education (WFATE) Fifth Biennial Conference: *Transformative Teacher Education in Local and Global Contexts* 9th – 11th July 2018 https://federation.edu.au/faculties-and-schools/faculty-of-education-and-arts/events/world-federation-of-associations-for-teacher-education

World Federation of Associations for Teacher Education (WFATE) http://www.worldfate.org/

ATEA/TEFANZ conference: '*Teacher Education In and For Uncertain Times*' 4-6 July 2018 https://atea.edu.au/

WFATE President: De. Mireia Montane

WFATE secretary: Dr Ann Shelly



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WFATE 2018 Executive Planning Committee

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References

Chalkley-Rhoden, S. (2017, 16 August). World's most liveable city: Melbourne takes top spot for seventh year running. ABC News. Retrieved from: http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-08-16/melbourne-named-worlds-most-liveable-city-for-seventh-year/8812196

World Federation of Associations for Teacher Education (WFATE). (2016). Fourth Biennial International Conference Innovation in Teacher Education within a Global Context: Synthesis Document. Accessed March 20, 2017, from:

http://worldfate.org/docpdf/Barcelona_Conference_Synthesis.pdf