

The 3rd International Symposium (ISFIRE) will held in
Partnership with the University of Western Australia;
Society for the Provision of Education for Rural Australia and the
University of New England (SiMERR)

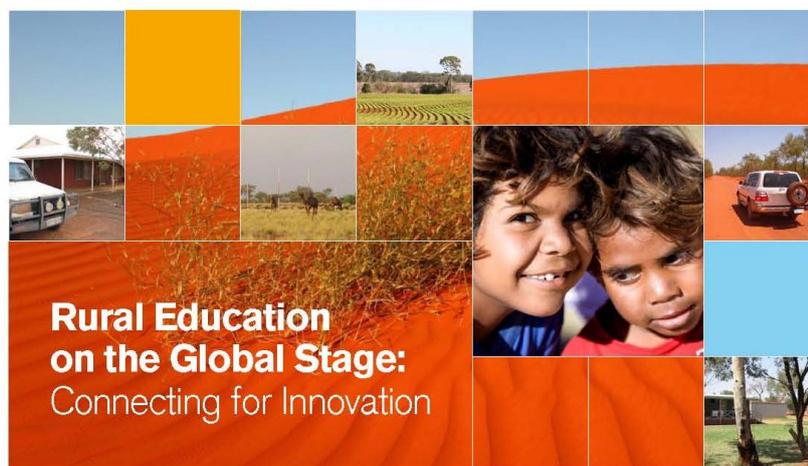


THE UNIVERSITY OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Achieve International Excellence



Society for the Provision Education in Rural Australia
www.spera.asn.au



Date: 13 – 15 February 2013
Venue: University of Western Australia
Perth, Western Australia

Theme: Rural Education on the Global Stage: Connecting for Innovation

Sub Themes: Leadership
Indigenous Perspective
Curriculum and Pedagogy
Community and Inter-sectoral Networks
Initial Teacher Education

The University of Western Australia and SPERA, invite you to the 3rd International Symposium for Innovation in Rural Education at UWA, Perth, Western Australia. This International Symposium will bring together international teachers, school administrators, teacher educators, academics, community groups and organizations and parents who are passionate about rural education. The 3rd ISFIRE symposium will be a key means of building and strengthening international rural networks, drawing together an increasing body of work focused on globally improving education outcomes for rural, regional and remote students. You will participate in a stimulating education program of presentations, hands on workshops and panel sessions. Social events will also be a feature of this three day event.

ABOUT SPERA

The Society for the Provision of Education for Rural Australia (SPERA), Australia's leading professional development organisation and advocate for rural education, links people with a diverse range of interests in education and training to promote the development of rural Australia by:

- promoting a positive view of education in rural areas and encouraging innovation and initiative in the provision of rural education services;
- supporting and encouraging rural communities and educators to work towards the provision of quality education and training; and
- providing a framework for the sharing of concerns, issues and experiences relating to education and training in rural areas.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The Graduate School of Education, provider of teacher education and educational research for over 90 years, welcomes you to The University of Western Australia. The main historic campus, situated on the banks of the scenic Swan River just 10 minutes from the Perth central business district, is home to extensive art collections, museums, theatres and a wealth of sporting, cultural and social groups. The University, one of Australia's Group of Eight Universities, is a leading intellectual and creative resource to the communities it serves. You can explore the UWA campus through the UWA Virtual Universe <http://virtual.csse.uwa.edu.au/index.uwa.html> or the campus map <http://www.uwa.edu.au/campus-map>.

ISFIRE 2013 Keynote Speakers



Professor Michael Corbett: School of Education, Acadia University. Michael's research interrogates contemporary and historical conceptions of the rural, and particularly the ways in which these conceptions have played into policy and discourse around education, schooling and literacies. His work has included studies of rural outmigration in Atlantic Canada, literacies in rural contexts, the viability of small rural schools, and the use of film and video as a new literate medium in middle school. He has published widely in academic journals and in the popular press and has worked internationally in the United States, Finland, Norway, Australia, Korea, and China. Corbett has also supported a number of community groups in Nova Scotia and throughout Canada in struggles to protect small community-based schools.



Professor Gary Partington Institute for Educational Research and Development at Edith Cowan University. Gary has been researching the schooling of Aboriginal students in Western Australia for over 30 years in both rural and urban settings. In recent years he has led two longitudinal studies: an examination of the Follow the Dream strategy to assist Aboriginal students succeed in high school, and the Happy Kids project which seeks to promote positive social/emotional development of students at risk in upper primary school.

His research has concentrated on school and classroom practice in relation to Aboriginal education and he has written extensively in the field. His particular interest is in identifying strategies that can be used by teachers to enhance school retention and achievement of Aboriginal students. He has written and contributed to a number of books, journal articles and conference papers on this topic. Most recently, he has co-edited to the second edition of *Reform and resistance in Aboriginal education*, a research based text that addresses issues related to Aboriginal education.



Peter Merrotsy Senior Lecturer in Gifted and Talented Education, University of New England, Australia. Peter has worked in NSW rural schools as a teacher and head teacher of Mathematics, and in tertiary education since 2004. His research focuses on the education of gifted students from backgrounds of disadvantage (low socio-economic status, cultural minority status, rural and isolated contexts, immigrant and refugee children, and youth caught up in the juvenile justice system). His current research projects involve identification of at-risk children and youth with high learning ability, and pedagogy of creative problem solving. In January 2013 Peter will take up an appointment as Professor of Mathematics Education at the University of Western Australia.



Dr. Kai Schafft is an Associate Professor of Education in the College of Education at Pennsylvania State University where he directs the Penn State Centre on Rural Education and Communities, and serves as editor for the *Journal of Research in Rural Education*. Trained as a rural sociologist, with a Ph.D. from Cornell University, his work focuses broadly on the intersection between social inequality and spatial inequality, with a particular focus on rural education and community well-being. His major areas of research include the interrelationship between rural poverty and student transiency, contexts for rural youth development, farm-to-school program implementation, and rural health outcomes. His other work has examined participatory community development, and political mobilization and social exclusion within Hungarian Gypsy (Roma) communities. He is the co-author (with David L. Brown) of *Rural People and Communities in the 21st Century* (Polity Press, 2011), and the co-editor (with Alecia Youngblood Jackson) of *Rural Education for the Twenty-First Century: Identity, Place and Community in a Globalizing World* (Penn State Press, 2010). His current research investigates school and community impacts of boomtown development within the gas fields of Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale region



Keren Caple is a General Manager at the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL). Keren's experience, both in Australia and internationally, has helped her to develop a deep understanding of the importance of supporting and advancing teacher and school leader quality in Australian schools.

In her role at AITSL, Keren has overseen the finalisation and endorsement of the *National Professional Standards for Teachers* and is now working with jurisdictions and AITSL's stakeholders to ensure implementation of the Teacher Standards across Australia and to promulgate the *National Professional Standard for Principals*.

Prior to joining AITSL, Keren enjoyed a career in teaching and educational leadership during which she held positions as teacher, school and system leader and education consultant.

Keren went to school in Perth, Western Australia and to university in both Australia and the United States before taking up teaching and school leadership positions in Western Australian schools. She then held positions in the central office of the Western Australian Department of Education in the area of K-12 curriculum. Subsequently, she spent several years as the Principal Consultant to the Executive Director, School Support Programs, working across program areas such K-12 curriculum, disability, behaviour and well-being, ICT, gifted and talented education, school policy and state-wide specialist service delivery.

Keren also gained valuable experience in the Middle East as an education consultant to the governments of Abu Dhabi and Qatar. During this time she managed strategic planning and implementation of curriculum reform agendas in the Health and Physical Education learning area and a nation-wide professional learning program.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Refer to program- attached separately

ACCOMMODATION

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION



LIDO EVENTS are the official accommodation provider for the Society for the Provision of Education for Rural Australia Inc.

LEADS link has been set up for the 3rd International ISFIRE Conference. The URL is below:
<http://leads.lido.com.au/misc/default.aspx?cid=93cd2o5e10222>

More availability should open up the closer we get to the conference, however people are definitely able to still make a 'request' which comes through to Callie at LIDO who will manually handle any booking as opposed to it being online. LIDO will call the nominated hotel and request availability and rate and contact the traveller direct.

For assistance call 1800 817 339 or email events@lido.com.au

Office hour are 8.30 am to 5.30 pm Monday to Friday excluding NSW and national public holidays.

University Accommodation at Trinity College

<http://www.trinity.uwa.edu.au/>

Trinity is a residential college of the Uniting Church in Australia at The University of Western Australia and is located directly opposite the University's magnificent Crawley Campus. Trinity is the largest fully-catered residential college in WA. Ensuite and standard student accommodation is available. These rooms are not air-conditioned. Internet access is available in the Rogerson Centre at \$12.00 for the duration of your stay. The price for all accommodation includes breakfast.

Motel Style Rooms

Each room is equipped with private ensuite bathroom, air conditioning, desk, refrigerator, LCD television, tea and coffee making facilities, wireless internet access and telephone. These rooms are available for single, double or twin occupancy and a daily or weekly service is provided. Prices for Motel Style Guest Rooms include breakfast.

Ensuite Student Rooms

A limited number of ensuite student rooms are available during the University breaks. These rooms are equipped with a double bed, private ensuite bathroom, study desk and telephone.

Standard Student Rooms

These rooms are available during the University breaks and are equipped with a single bed, study desk and ISD telephone. Shared bathroom facilities are available on each floor. Refer to for various rates and bookings:

POSTER DISPLAY

Delegates are invited to prepare a display relevant to international and rural education. Please arrange this by contacting the conference coordinator – Emmy Terry – president@spera.asn.au; admin@spera.asn.au

FULL DELEGATE REGISTRATION FEES

Registration Fees (Please note that Conference Dinner is itemized separately) include:

Early Bird (30 Sept 2012) /Member/Presenter Fees:	\$450.00
Member Registration after 31 Oct 2012:	\$450.00
Non Member Registration after 30 Sept 2012	\$500.00
Student Undergraduate Rate	\$200.00
Daily Rate non members	\$200.00
Daily rate Undergraduate students	\$ 75.00
Conference Dinner (not included in registration):	\$95.00pp
Additional Conference Proceedings:	\$ 30.00

Please Note: Registration will be through the SPERA website (see link below).

Fees include:

- Conference attendance
- Conference Proceedings
- Drinks/Finger Food Monday night at the the Boatshed: University of Western Australia
- Morning Tea –Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
- Afternoon Tea – Wednesday and Thursday
- Lunch –Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
- Conference rate at SPERA preferred accommodation venue.

All workshop presenters and participants must pay registration fees (membership rate).

HOW TO REGISTER

Online at www.spera.asn.au/conferences/lfire3

SOCIAL EVENTS

Wednesday Following completion of the day's proceedings – **drinks/finger food** at The Boatshed: The University of western Australia

Thursday **Conference Dinner** – [at the TRADE Winds Hotel in Fremantle Western Australia](#)
(Separate Registration Required)