50th Philosophy of Education Society of Australasia Hybrid Conference

Sydney, Australia 8-10 DECEMBER, 2022

THEME

Philosophy of Education in Australasia: Looking back and looking forward

For 50 years, the PESA conferences have celebrated innovation and diversity in philosophy of education scholarship. The conferences have generated opportunities for academic friendships, intellectual partnerships and collegial arguments. At our 50th PESA conference, we will remember and celebrate the society's distinguished and exciting past while also reflecting on the present and future of philosophy of education in Australasia. This conference will provide both in-person and online participation.

The 50th conference will highlight the history of PESA since 1970 and its contributions to, and achievements within, the local and wider philosophical and educational community. Furthermore, the conference will offer opportunities to reflect on the currents of thought, approaches to philosophy of education, and changes to education that have occurred in the last 50 years. When the first PESA conference was held at the University of NSW in 1970, the place of philosophy of education in the Australian and New Zealand educational landscape was very different to what it is today.

This conference will also look forward by considering the place of philosophy in education today and in the future. It will ask: What is the role of philosophy of education in times of both uncertainty and innovation, where truths become fake, and knowledge is precarious and difficult? And, how can philosophy of education help us face contemporary political, ecological, health, humanitarian and other crises?

Through looking back and looking forward, this conference will consider the implications of past and future change for our wider communities. It will ask, what even *is* community, in an era of continuous crises and pandemics? Scholars, activists, educationalists and philosophers have called for sustainable and equitable acts of community, framed by kaleidoscopic shifts in how people interact and communicate. Community acts as a relational encounter of responsibility and working together. This relationality occurs despite—and perhaps because of— ontological, epistemological, and cultural differences. Community might be *imagined* in ways that separate us: limited by ideological boundaries drawn according to geography, membership or status. But community can also draw us together in scholarly endeavours. Looking back and looking forward challenges what is and what isn't remembered in history, what is and what is not an archive, what is and what is not community. It challenges what a learned society should be and raises questions about what constitutes philosophy of education.

Call for abstracts

We invite participants to submit abstracts for presentations and panels related to the following themes:

A. Looking back

- What changes have taken place in (i) curriculum; (ii) teaching methods; (iii) physical environment and teaching spaces?
- What have been the major changes in philosophy over the past 50 years and how has it impinged on philosophy of education?
- What changes have taken place in educational philosophy and theory?
- The rise of managerialism: What effect has this had?
- How has immigration changed education?
- What changes have occurred in indigenous education?

B. Looking at the now

- How do philosophers of education ground themselves within and without the Academy?
- In what way do philosophers of education negotiate and time and space in an increasingly demanding work sphere?
- What are some of the existential crises (if at all) that philosophers of education commonly face?
- What is the nature of 'privilege', and how do philosophers of education engage with it?

C. Looking forward

- What changes are likely to take place in (i) curriculum; (ii) teaching methods; (iii) physical environment and teaching spaces?
- What currents of thought will affect education in the next 50 years?
- Will IT dominate the classroom in the future or will it be something else?
- Will artificial intelligence replace teachers? Lecturers?
- Academic Freedom: will it continue to diminish?
- What challenges does education face from multiculturalism and pluralism?
- What is a good alternative to neo-liberalism?
- What is the future of democracy?

Call for abstracts (presentations and panels) due by 1 August 2022

Submission instructions and portal details to be advised

Postgraduate session

We encourage all post-graduate students who are attending the PESA conference to also be involved with our post-graduate session. This is an opportunity to become a part of the PESA community by having your say on ways in which PESA can support you, including:

- 1. providing you with opportunities to share where you are on your research journey,
- 2. providing you with guidance and encouragement from experts in the field,
- 3. helping you navigate the world of educational philosophy.

Please indicate your attendance at this session when enrolling for the PESA conference.