



WORLD INDIGENOUS NATIONS HIGHER EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

WINHEC Newsletter

Issue 2020



Greetings from the WINHEC Co-Chairs Dr. Elmer J. Guy and Dr. Jolan Hsieh

Greetings to our wonderful WINHEC family - Ya'ateeh, Tabe Imumi, Aloha, Tansi, Aniin, Kia Ora, Boozhoo, Burris, Burris, Etlante. Just a small sample of the languages from our communities. We hope that you and your family are staying safe during this unprecedented global pandemic that has restricted our communities. We pray that your academic year is progressing well, and that students and faculty are adjusting well to the new norm. We are hearing from our members around the globe as they continue to meet via various virtual platforms. As such, our 2020 AGM will be held virtually to keep our WINHEC family safe from the virus.

We are especially happy to report that our WINHEC family continues to maintain the values of our Indigenous ways and continue to spread our enthusiasm locally and we encourage your colleagues and youth to participate in our 2020 special virtual global AGM, hosted by Dr Leanne Holt and her amazing team.

Also, thank you to the National Dong Hwa University, College of Indigenous Studies in Hualien Taiwan for hosting our 2019 WINHEC AGM and the International Elders and Youth Camp. The Staff, family and friends of the College of Indigenous Studies welcomed us in a heart-warming and most gratifying way! What a beautiful WINHEC family have we developed.

We are stronger at this moment because we rest on the shoulders of those who have come before us and who made a significant commitment to WINHEC. They provided the foundation that allowed us to keep moving forward. We are thankful for our ancestors, founding members, past and current leaders of the organization, and all our members. We thank them for carving a pathway. We are humbled and incredibly grateful to our WINHEC Executive Board, for their leadership, courage, wisdom, and insight during this tough and challenging time.



WINHEC and its member organizations

Established at the World Indigenous Peoples Conference in Education in 2002, WINHEC has a membership that represents many Indigenous Nations and education institutions. WINHEC has members in eight countries / nations – Alaska, Aotearoa, Australia, Canada, Hawaii Mainland-USA, Norway, and Taiwan. In their collective concerns for the rights of Indigenous people to access all levels of education and to address the barriers that impeded respectful engagement of Indigenous peoples in teaching, research and other endeavors in education, the founding members determined that the goals and objectives of WINHEC must align with the goals and objectives of international

instruments. These include the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP); the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; the International Declaration on Human Rights; and other international documents of note designed to protect and promote the sovereign rights of Indigenous Peoples.



WINHEC AGM 2019-2020 Highlights

Global COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic is a serious global health threat, over 55,126,983 people have been tested positive and 1,328,586 have died from the virus. Many communities restricted in-person services for non-essential activities to curtail its spread and minimize their impact. The unprecedented spike of COVID-19 illness has dramatically put a strain on hospitals and health care providers across the globe. These health organizations are working closely with the World Health Organization (WHO) and we are encouraged that vaccines will be available in the coming months.

We hope that you are all keeping safe, wearing face coverings, social distancing, washing hands, sanitizing regularly and avoiding large gatherings. We've unfortunately lost family members, students, staff, and faculty members so please be safe.

WINHEC 2019 AGM Report, International Youth Camp (IYC), and Community Connection

- 2019 WINHEC Report with a brief financial report, and a short video clip submitted by 2019 host team.
- Three Aotearoa educators, invited and hosted by the local host country, submitted their personal reflection report. Their report reflected very well as first time WINHEC participants.
- Much gratitude to the organizers of the IYC, it was a huge success with Taiwan students hosting youth and elders from various countries. Together with teachers from National Dong Hwa University of College of Indigenous Studies and several indigenous community members, much was shared and learned.
- Youth Ambassador from Australia will share with us from their reflection during 2020 virtual AGM.
- Together we learned the historical facts of Cikasuan's existence of bamboo forest.
- Participated in the Miasik (Purification Ceremony) that include summoning the spirits of deceased, cleanse, and purification.
- Some indigenous education activists request WINHEC support, we will work together to pursuit our firm belief that education right is a right to sovereign.
- The organizers of the IYC are creating some teacher materials to help others conduct a IYC. It is recognized by all that the Elders were a great part of the IYC.



WINHEC Executive Committee Meeting, February 16 - 20, 2020, Waimanalo, Hawaii

The WINHEC Executive + Committee met to address the work arising from the 2019 AGM. Our core group of nine including our Deputy Co-Chairs shared a house, cooking, laughing, and philosophizing throughout the week. Great

support from Uncle Pater Hanohano and Umi Jansen our local host. Various Chairs and WINHEC Executive Board members logged in for video conferences. After careful and mindful discussion, we reviewed the constitution and practice handbook. We also reviewed and signed a new contract agreement with Hualani Foundation. It was a highly productive week with much work completed. Minutes (Thanks to deputy-co chair Bubba's effort!) will be distributed to WINHEC Board Members as well as all Chairs.

Board of Accreditation (BOA)

- Sincere appreciation for our BoA Co-Chairs untiring work to assist Institutes/Organizations/Schools/Programs work through our accreditation process.
- To conduct a five-year Mid-term review of WINHEC BoA Handbook and policies.
- To redesign and develop and implement an on-line accrediting/affirmation process.
- To create a timely payment process.

World Indigenous Nations University (WINU)

Dr. Hohaia Collier completed the strategic repositioning document - pursuing the distant horizon the operational plan 2020 – 2022.

- The WINU Constitution and Handbook outline was discussed with Hohaia Collier who drafted the document for their Board of Governors.

World Virtual Indigenous Circle – November 2020

Open Science and the Decolonization of Knowledge. WINHEC was invited by the Canadian Commission for UNESCO and the UNESCO Chair in Community-Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education on Open Science, and international normative document to be adopted by the UNESCO General Conference held in November 2020. We thank Dr. Keiki Kawai'ae'a for presenting the WINHEC's Position Paper, and with especial thanks to Boni, Berice, and many members who contributed knowledge and kindness without any reservation to complete this task. Keiki indicated our support in principle.

The Open Sciences Proposal as it pertains to validating, legitimizing, and recognizing Indigenous ways of knowing as Science, and as a gift that has been passed down through the generations since time immemorial. We recommended that the Forum work collaboratively with WINHEC to establish an International Affirmation/Accreditation process to ensure that good practice models are culturally inclusive that strengthens and retains the cultural integrity of Indigenous peoples, and promotes Indigenous scholarship and knowledge inclusion within education systems and through appropriate policies and programs that underpin and support the same.

WINHEC MOU with Indigenous Advanced Education and Skills Council

- After several tel-meetings we expressed our concern for the protection of indigenous knowledge intellectual property rights. Watch this space.

WINHEC Indigenous Research Principles, Protocols, Ethical Domains and Guidelines- under revision

- This is a very important document, with WINU / WIRA / GIEA knowledge, we will keep working on updated version and make it available for our members.





WINHEC GOVERNANCE

WINHEC Executive: (3-year term ends 2022)

Co-Chairs:	Dr. Elmer J. Guy	Dr. Jolan Hsieh
Deputy Co-Chairs:	Dr. Leanne Holt	D.K. Bubba Martin
Treasurer:	Dr. Sean Asiqtuq Topkok	
Secretary:	Dr. Berice Anning	

WINHEC Executive Board:

Executive plus Country/Nation Representatives

Country/Region	Representatives	
Aotearoa (2)	Dr. Hohaia Collier	Dr. Naomi Simmonds
Alaska (2)	Dr. Sean Asiqtuq Topkok	Dr. Theresa Arvevgaq John
Australia (4)	Prof. Boni Robertson	Dr. Leanne Holt
	Dr. Berice Anning	Dr. Peter Buskin
Canada (4)	Dr. Sherri Chisan	Rebecca Jamieson
	William J. Perrault	D.K. Bubba Martin
Hawaii (2)	Dr. Keiki Kawai'ae'a	Nāmaka Rawlins
Mainland USA (4)	Carrie Billy	Dr. Jim Green
	Roxanne DeLille	Dr. Elmer J. Guy
Sapmi (2)	Dr. Elisabeth Utsi-Gaup	Ellen Inga O. Heatta
Taiwan (2)	Dr. Jolan Hsieh	Dr. Awi Mona

WINHEC Board of Accreditation Executive:

Co-Chairs:	Dr. Keiki Kawai'ae'a	Dr. Walter Kahumoku III
Carrie Billy	Roxanne DeLille	Dr. Peter Buckskin
Dr. Naomi Simmonds	Lisa Baal	Sifo Lakaw
Rebecca Jamieson		

Global Indigenous Elders Alliance:

Co-Chairs	Vicki-Anne Leisha	Trevor Moeke
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World Indigenous Research and Journal Alliance:

Co-Chairs	Dr. Paul Whitinui	Dr. Onawa McIvor
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World Indigenous Nations University Executive: (3-year term, 2018 - 2021)

Chancellor	Dr. Hohaia Collier
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Deputy Chancellor Prof. Boni Robertson
 Vice Chancellor Dr. Peter Hanohano
 Dr. Gunvor Gutton Dr. Sean Asiqtuq Topkok Dr. Berice Anning
 Dr. Sherri Chisan Dr. Roxanne Delille Dr. Awi Mona

WINHEC Website

Eddie Walker

WINHEC Advisor – Circle of Chief (Past Co-Chairs)

Dr. Laura Horton Dr. Hohaia Collier Dr. Jan Henry Keskitalo

Hualani Foundation

Umi Jensen



WINHEC Executive Profile

Co-Chairs

Dr. Elmer Guy, Ph.D in Special Education, Rehabilitation and Psychology from University of Arizona (USA). Since 2006, Elmer has served as the president of Navajo Technical College (NTU), which is a member of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC). Elmer is an excellent scholars and administrator with strong leadership.

Dr. Jolan Hsieh, Bavaragh Dagalomai, Ph.D in Justice Studies from Arizona State University. She is Professor of Department of Ethnic Relations & Cultures, and Director of Center for International Indigenous Affairs at College of Indigenous Studies, National Dong Hwa University (Taiwan). Jolan is a Taiwanese Siraya Indigenous scholar – activist, she has had a long and distinguished career in indigenous education, and her activism including indigenous transitional justice and reconciliation, global indigenous networking for solidity and sovereignty.

Deputy Co-Chairs

Dr. Lenne Holt, Ph.D in Education from University of Newcastle. Dr. Leanne is a Worimi and Biripai woman, Pro Vice – Chancellor, Director, Indigenous Strategy at Macquarie University (Australia). She is also deputy Chairperson of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Consortium.

Mr. Kevin (Bubba) Martin, Board Chair of Governance and Board of Directors, Six Nations Polytechnic, Canada. He is also Chair of Community Resident Trustee, Six Nations – Grand River Community Trust Fund. He is an outstanding team-building indigenous educator.

Treasurer

Dr. Sean Asiqtuq Topkok, received his Ph.D from University of Alaska. He is Associate Professor of the Scholl of Education and Indigenous Studies, University of Alaska Fairbanks. Sean is Iñupiaq, Sámi, Kven, Irish, and Norwegian, he is the founder and leader of the Pavva Iñupiaq Dancers and has been the dance group leader since it began in 1999. He began dancing with other Alaska Native groups in 1987, and he has been with Alaska Native Knowledge Network since April 1997.

Secretary

Dr. Berice Anning, from University of Technology Sydney, Australia. She is Manager of Indigenous Employment, Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Leadership and Engagement). Berice is an outstanding indigenous educator, her commitment to celebrating and sustaining indigenous knowledge through higher education is well recognized.



World Indigenous Education Research Journal // Conference

WINHEC encourages presenters to submit their articles to the WINHEC Journal to WIRA Co-Chair Paul Whitinui, whitinui@uvic.ca. Next year World Indigenous Education Research Conference will be followed right after AGM, more detail will be announced later. Prof. Boni Robertson also work closely with them, she is chair for Global Research Alliance (working party).



WINHEC Website

We are very thankful to have Eddie Walker is our new website coordinator. He has transferred all the content from the old website to the WINHEC Wild Apricot membership website and this new site has now gone Live at <https://winhec.org> with content being added all the time.

Moving forward, WINHEC is looking at implementing a Document Management System in Microsoft 365 so that WINHEC can store all their organizational and accreditation information so that it doesn't impact on the 100 MB limit of file space that Wild Apricot provides.



2020 WINHEC AGM, November 24-27, 2020 Virtual

The theme of the WINHEC 2020 AGM would include '**Healing**'. WINHEC 2020 is hosted by Australia, by Professor Leanne Holt, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia.

AGM would be: on a smaller scale due to COVID-19; held online as a webinar and over a number of days to allow for time-zone differences for the country members; using pre-recorded or recorded ceremony for the opening and closing sessions;

Dates have been set for November 23-28 with the Executive Board, WINU Board of Accreditation Executive and WIRA meetings at different times on Tuesday, November 24th for Australia, Aotearoa & Taiwan, and Monday, 23rd for Alaska, Canada, Hawaii, Norway, and USA.

AGM and Country Reports is set for November 25 for (Australia, Aotearoa & Taiwan) Nov 24 for (Alaska, Canada, Hawaii, Norway & USA).

Elders and Youth will be on Friday, November 27th November 25 for (Australia, Aotearoa & Taiwan) Nov 26th for (Alaska, Canada, Hawaii, Norway & USA).

Daily Cultural Opening is will run the duration of the Annual meeting.



Membership and Accreditation Fees

WINHEC Membership Categories and Fees will be changing to meet the growing demands and needs. The WINHEC Executive Board will meet virtually to discuss further. Talk to your respective WINHEC Executive Board member for details.



WINHEC 2021 AGM

WINHEC 2021 AGM + World Indigenous Research Conference announcement is available on the [website](#) as well. Thanks to the local host Blue Quills in Treaty Six Territory (Alberta, Canada).



Final words

Dr. Ngāhuia Te Awekōtuku, a famous Māori scholar – activist, once said that “(Indigenous) scholarship is about making a positive difference, taking responsibility, seizing the moment, preparing for the future, lighting up the darkness of doubt for our future generation.” Indigenous education is about non-stop action to radically change the world.

Together with blessings from all, we commit to positively strengthen WINHEC.