



**International Federation of  
National Teaching Fellows**



Fig. 1. Delegates at the IFNTF 2018 2<sup>nd</sup> world summit. Photograph courtesy of Nick Pearce.

### The 3rd IFNTF world summit will be held in Liverpool, UK, 4-6 July 2019.

The IFNTF 2019 summit theme is **‘Innovation in Higher Education’** and the event aims to provide a dynamic opportunity for colleagues from across the world to gather and share in the exploration of this important focus. **Further details will be announced soon.**

**Dr Sue Palmer-Conn, IFNTF Treasurer, is lead organiser of the 2019 IFNTF Summit.**

**The call for summit papers and workshops will be coming out in the New Year.**

Whilst it was intended that the next summit would be in New Zealand, the logistics of travel and the winter weather in New Zealand in July swayed the final decision.

We are delighted that the summit will be held in one of the UK’s most vibrant and culturally rich cities. The city’s Liverpool John Lennon Airport is an international airport serving North West England. The city’s train and road links enable ease of transport. To take a ‘Ferry Across the Mersey’ offers a great treat.

Liverpool was chosen as a venue because of its cultural heritage and easy transport links to the rest of the UK.

The conference venue is the **Mercure Atlantic Tower**, located on the historic waterfront and close to a number of museums, art galleries and superb restaurants and bars.

The 3rd IFNTF summit will take place to follow directly on from the **Advanced HE conference** which is being held 2-4 July (venue tba). In this way colleagues outside the UK can maximize the opportunity to participate in both conferences.

## IFNTF Second World Summit, May 2018

### Nurturing Teaching Excellence across Disciplines

May 3-5, 2018, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada



Fig. 2 Dalhousie University student helpers: Bintou Kaira, Anika Riopel, Trishla Shah and Nazmul Islam.

The second IFNTF Summit *Nurturing Teaching Excellence across Disciplines* took place at Dalhousie University in Canada in May 2018. Colleagues from New Zealand, UK, Australia and Canada met for three sunny days and enjoyed the delights of the summit and the treats of Halifax and its surrounding area. The summit, was exquisitely organised by Professor Sridhar Sampalli, IFNTF Vice President, Canada.

A mix of engaging presentations and workshops provided a wealth of information and perspectives regarding learning and teaching – there were 32 paper presentations, five interactive workshops, six plenary talks and one keynote presentation. A dynamic presentation by Dalhousie University graduates and Student 3M Fellows Anika Roepel & Bintou Kalra was particularly engaging.

The IFNTF was delighted to welcome Nicole Webb of the Rick Hansen Foundation (@RickHansenFdn). We thank the Rick Hansen Foundation for supporting the summit and we hope to work with you further in the future.

The IFNTF dinner, introduced with a welcome speech by Professor Elizabeth Wells, included a series of wonderful performances by Opera Nova Scotia.

We send our thanks to all who made this event possible. The gathering of IFNTF members was great to experience and made for a unique time.

Thanks go to all IFNTF members and delegates for making the event such a joyous and inspiring experience. Thank you to all the Dalhousie University students who contributed to the event and to university senior admin Dr Andrew Rau-Chaplin, Dean of Computer Science and Dr Fiona Black, Associate Vice-President Academic for hosting and supporting the summit. A big thanks goes to Sridhar for making this great event happen.



Fig. 3 Professor Sridhar Sampalli addressing delegates at the IFNTF World Summit, May 2018. (Photograph courtesy of Nick Pearce).

## IFNTF MEMBER: SELENE MIZE



Fig. 4 Selene Mize

**‘Described by one of her past students as “an inspiration, and an irreplaceable gift to the legal profession”, Selene is a shining example of an outstanding tertiary educator who is creative and innovative in her practice.’**

(<https://ako.ac.nz/our-community/tertiary-teaching-excellence-awards/2009-tertiary-teaching-excellence-awardees/selene-mize/>)

Committee member Selene Mize, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Otago, shares her interest and expertise in learning and teaching...

‘I decided in my early teens that I wanted to teach. Through helping friends at school, I discovered that I was good at imagining myself in another’s position, figuring out where he or she was having trouble, and finding ways to explain clearly and surmount the obstacle. I developed a love for teaching based on the joy of seeing students succeed.

Being passionate about teaching has led me into some very interesting experiences. My main University teaching responsibilities are in the law – Legal Ethics, Media Law, Mediation,

Negotiation and Civil Liberties – but I have studied social psychology and communication studies as well as law, and I like to incorporate all three disciplines in my teaching and research.

Besides University students, I have taught communication skills to judges; mediation skills to employees of the Lands and Titles Court in Samoa; breastfeeding to new mothers and scuba diving to anyone who wanted to have a go.

I chair a University working group on computer-based examining. In addition to the law, my research interests include the advantages (and disadvantages) of students using laptops in class; the ‘flipped’ curriculum; and teaching professional values to students.

It was a great honour to receive the **Prime Minister’s Supreme Tertiary Teaching Excellence Award** in 2009. As all national tertiary teaching award winners automatically become members of an Academy, I was thereafter immersed in a wonderful environment with excellent teachers from a wide variety of disciplines and institutions. I currently serve as President of the Academy.’

Selene Mize



Fig. 5 Selene Mize

## IFNTF MEMBER: CHRISTL VERDUYN



Fig. 6 Dr. Christl Verduyn:

This past year, new IFNTF member Dr. Christl Verduyn won both the Order of Canada (the country's highest civilian honour) and the 3M National Teaching Fellow. Elizabeth Wells asked her to share her thoughts on how these honours have affected her pedagogy, and what she hopes to gain from membership in the IFNTF.

'Humble, energized, and grateful were three immediate and now lasting effects of receiving the 3M and OC news.

Both came as phone calls and each was a moment of such utter surprise and disarmament that I was literally speechless. I learned later that this is a common reaction! I certainly babbled a bit before the reality and impact of the news began to register and an overwhelming and confusing combination of excitement and humility flooded in, quickly followed by a deep and abiding gratitude to the those who helped make the honours happen. I know for having been involved in awards and nominations myself how much work they can be and I cannot say thank you enough to the individuals – only some of whom I know, many I do not – who so kindly took the time and made the effort. I feel very fortunate. I also feel very humble to find myself among other recipients of these honours. It is truly an honour to join a

community like 3M and to continue sharing an interest and passion for teaching and learning. To join the company of those who “desire a better Canada” - the motto of the Order of Canada – is a dream in so many ways, from how it connects to my aims and goals in teaching and learning, to its meaningfulness on a family basis.

In my 3 M dossier, I discuss Halifax's Pier 21 as my metaphor for the promise of education and the difference it makes. To the immigrants and refugees who come to Canada through Pier 21, it is a gateway and passage to a new and different world and to the hope for a better life. Growing up in an immigrant family I was keenly aware of difference in all its dimensions -- language, culture, class, gender, ability, opportunity, and more. This shaped me as a learner and led me to teaching and education as the path to understanding difference and fostering belonging and community. Central to this is communication – language and its power to give voice and access to ideas. As a teacher, I strive to assist students in acquiring the communication skills that can help them access, understand, find their voice in the world and make it a better place - make Canada a better place, the OC motto. This may appear simple but it confronts many complexities of difference. That would be a huge “take away”

Energized is how I would sum up what I express above. This is the most wonderful feeling at a stage of career when a sense of familiarity and predictability could set in. Instead, there is the excitement of possibility, of new paths and projects, new connections and colleagues. I am really excited to continue the increasingly important exploration of pedagogy with people for whom this is a teaching, learning, and research priority, and to do so through 3M and

IFNTF alike. The decolonization of curriculum that at long last is a concern across Canadian educational institutions is a topic elsewhere in the world as well. As a student I had the good fortune to experience Indigenous approaches to teaching and learning, and I can see the lasting impact that this has had for me in the Canadian context widening in the IFNTF context. I hope and am eager to work with others in this regard.'

Dr. Christl Verduyn.

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### National Teaching Fellowship Organisations

There exist a number of National Teaching Fellowship organisations across the world. The NTFs in each country provide a rich community and powerful networks. For information please see:



@ako\_aotearo

**New Zealand - Ako Aotearoa** is 'a government-funded organisation committed to supporting the country's tertiary sector teachers, trainers and educators.'

<https://ako.ac.nz/about-us/>



@Atlantic\_3Ms

Canada - 'The **Council of 3M National Teaching Fellows** is a community of award-winning teachers who are lifetime members of the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (STLHE), and a constituency within the STLHE'. <https://3mcouncil.stlhe.ca/>



@NTF\_Tweet

UK - the **Association of National Teaching Fellows** <http://ntf-association.com>

The Association was founded in 2005. ANTF membership is automatic for anyone who is awarded a UK NTF.



@altfellows

Australia - 'The Australian Learning and Teaching Fellows' network (ALTF) was established in 2011 with support from the Australian Government Office for Learning and Teaching.'

<https://altf.org/>



**Olivia Fleming**, Founder & Director of Partnerships at **OneHE**, recently spoke with Kirsten Hardie about this new learning and teaching organisation and has provided the following information:

**OneHE** is ‘a global network for educators who share a passion for learning and teaching in higher education. We bring educators together to share ideas, solve common challenges and inspire each other to improve the impact and effectiveness of higher education, building on our shared wisdom, experience and passion.

As an online community, we provide a safe place where educators can meet new colleagues, collaborate across disciplines, build scholarly communities, promote and develop their practice, gain recognition and apply for funding. We charge a low membership fee that enables us to keep OneHE free from advertising and to generate funding to reinvest in member-led projects through the OneHE Foundation.

Our aim is to drive impact and innovation in learning and teaching – championing the value of educators, funding new ideas and acting as a force for social good.

### How does OneHE help educators?

OneHE provides a safe place, exclusively for educators, through which individuals can:

- Promote their skills, experience and interests.
- Find like-minded individuals who share their passions, interests and goals.

- Run groups, projects and events and contribute to those of others.
- Connect their network into the global community and networks within it
- Publish new and innovative thinking on improving learning and teaching
- Become recognised as an expert.
- Showcase their expertise as a consultant to the community
- Give something back by supporting others.
- Ask questions and get answers from peers.
- Pitch for funding to deliver work that supports the community’s ambitions.
- Create new knowledge that draws on the wisdom and insight of the community.

### OneHE values and ethos

OneHE was formed in 2018 as a “profit with purpose” organisation, committed to enabling educators worldwide to increase the impact and effectiveness of learning and teaching. We chose to establish OneHE in this way so we could raise investment to further the community’s goals, recognising that previous approaches to investment in learning and teaching have lacked sustainability.

We are a member-led organisation, focused exclusively on the needs of educators. Every decision and action is taken with the goals of our community in mind. We are driven by our values which are to be open, inclusive, trusted, progressive and aspiring.

We believe passionately in giving back. That’s why we reinvest a significant proportion of membership fees in member-led projects, a commitment enshrined in our founding principles.’ <http://www.onehe.org/>

## FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

**28th International Conference on Management, Business, Social and Humanities Research (MBSHR)** Conference, Hong Kong, 14th to 15th January 2019.

**2019 International Symposium on Education and Psychology** Conference, Fukuoka, Kyushu, Japan, 1st to 3rd April 2019.

**Assessment in Higher Education: Enhancing Institutional Excellence** conference, Florida, USA, 3-5 April 2019.

**TERA (Teaching and Education Research Association)** - 4<sup>th</sup> ICRTTEL International Conference on Research in Teaching, Education and Learning. London, UK, 9-10 April 2019.

**Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (STLHE)**, *Guiding the Journey: Learner-Teacher-Learner*, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, 11-14 June 2019.

**International Conference on Globalisation and Issues of Higher Education** 2019, USA, 28-29 June 2019.

**International Academic Conference on Teaching, Learning and E-learning**, Vienna, Austria 5 July 2019

**AdvanceHE**, UK, annual conference, July 2019. Venue tbc.

**26th International Conference on Learning** - Queen's University Belfast, United Kingdom, 24 July 2019.

**International Society for the Scholarship of Learning and Teaching (ISSOTL)** annual conference, Atlanta, Georgia, USA. 9-12 Oct. 2019.



## IFNTF GOLD SPONSOR

The IFNTF is proud to be sponsored by Ede and Ravenscroft – London’s oldest tailor, with a heritage that stretches back over 325 years. A well-respected tailor of graduation gowns, ceremonial dress and legal dress – and men and women’s wear – Ede and Ravenscroft are an important part of UK Higher Education. For more information see:

<https://www.edeandravenscroft.com/>

## IFNTF website

Work is underway to update the IFNTF website: <http://www.ifntf.org/>

With thanks to Dr Roushdat Elaheebocus for all the great help. All are very welcome to submit news and information to:

[kirstenhardie@icloud.com](mailto:kirstenhardie@icloud.com)

## IFNT committee members:

Secretary: Angie Kolen, Canada

Treasurer: Sue Palmer-Conn, UK

Deputy Treasurer: Martina Doolan, UK

Selene Mize, New Zealand

Vice President, Canada: Srinu Sampalli

Vice President, New Zealand: Christine Rubie-Davies

Vice President, UK: Carol Evans

Vice President, Australia: **position vacant**

Co-President: Elizabeth Wells, Canada

Co-President: Kirsten Hardie, UK