

IVETA Hotline

Issue: No. 1, 2016

Message from the IVETA President



Carmel Thompson, 2015-2016 President

As my first year in office draws to a close and I reflect on what IVETA has achieved over the past 12 months I think the most successful outcome has been how my Executive Committee has worked together as a team to initiate the many projects we undertook in 2015 in an effort to increase member services and grow the organisation. You may not yet have experienced some of the benefits of our work but in 2016 we will be trialling a number of programs which I think will raise the profile of IVETA and increase membership benefits.

Considering your Executive Committee, consisting of 14 members, are all volunteers (ie no one receives payment for their contribution) we have managed to get through a considerable amount of research and development work in 2015 working towards our strategic goals. The Exec. have been generous of their time and expertise and I want to thank them all and say how proud I am of the harmony and respect that exists on the Board. It makes my job as leader of this wonderful organisation much easier when the workload can be shared.

We have created a new position on our Executive Board - that of Executive Director. Ms Mari Kontturi who has been a Vice President for Europe for the past 5 years agreed to take on the position to work through all our documentation to ensure it is consistent and easy to interpret. With her legal background she will do a sterling job and thank you Mari for taking on this very important role.

The 2015 Annual IVETA Conference held in New Orleans 18/19 November was different and very successful. We received excellent feedback. Although we had a small attendance, (due to the closeness of this Conference to the International Conference in Malaysia in August), the 30 people in attendance were able to get to know each other and interact with the presenters. There were some really robust questions and debate. Congratulations to John Gaal, Vice President for North America who organised the conference, for trying something different. He integrated site visits with the presentation of papers and sessions with researchers from ACTER. We all appreciated getting out of the Auditorium at lunch time after 4 excellent papers had been presented on day one and visiting two VET organisations in New Orleans. We particularly enjoyed the wonderful lunch provided at Café Hope which was inspiring. Don't miss Margo Couldrey's article later in this Hotline on this site visit.

IVETA is currently growing in size and profile. Having members from over 50 countries we are always getting enquiries on who can our members partner with, where can they get information, where can they find resources and how can they choose who is a quality consultant or trainer/assessor when they are developing or upgrading their VET systems. I am sure we have the expertise in our organisation to provide this information and services to assist members. I believe we should try to collect it and quality control the input before putting it up on the website for all to access and use. Give us your feedback – hopefully you will use the IVETA Group LinkedIn site so we can share.

I have set up a new Section in this Hotline called " Reaching out across international borders" and I hope you will respond and/or contribute to this section of our hotline in future editions. Working and sharing together is the spirit of what IVETA is all about!



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Membership



Welcome New Members!

IVETA Welcomes its Newest Members - [click here for a list of members who recently joined IVETA](#)

Be sure and keep your IVETA membership current!



Information:

- [IVETA Officers](#)
- [IVETA Regions](#)
- [Directory \(Members Only\)](#)
- [IVETA Web Site](#)
- [Contact IVETA](#)

Dr Phil Rutherford has put together an excellent article on why we need an international VET System which you might find of interest. [Click here to read the article.](#)

A new issue of the Journal has recently been published and can be accessed by members at our website. At the Executive Business Meeting in New Orleans new journal co-ordinators and editors were appointed. Hopefully in the near future we hope the journal will be published on a six monthly basis. We thank Dr Clarke and Dr Richard from Temple University, US for taking on this important role. We also thank the Nigerian members at the conference who have offered to assist with the editing of the journal prior to it being sent to the editors for articles received from their region.

At our Executive Meeting in November a great deal of discussion took place on how we could increase member services. In order to do this we needed for the organisation to generate more funds to extend programs by implementing some fee for service initiatives. It was agreed that in 2016 we would trial two projects:

- A profit % return to IVETA from the organisers of international conferences from 2017 onwards as a fee for using the IVETA brand and sourcing presenters and members from our organisation.
- The trialling of an IVETA International Accreditation Program for Trainers/Assessors so that graduate members will be both recognised for the high quality of their skills and knowledge and their ability to influence national, regional and organisational business, strategic and economic outcomes. Graduates would be placed into a database which would be available to interested parties to access on a fee for service basis.

We will keep you advised of the outcome of the above trials which will be overseen by sub-committees.

DON'T FORGET THE 2016 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN FIJI. ALL DETAILS ON OUR WEBSITE. CALL FOR PAPERS IS NOW OUT.

To get the full benefit from your membership make sure you become an active member – come to our conferences and contribute to our LinkedIn site and provide details of any information or great VET sites/editorials you have found so they can go up on the website. We will really appreciate hearing from you.

I wish you all a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Carmel Thompson
PRESIDENT, IVETA

REACHING OUT ACROSS INTERNATIONAL BORDERS

One of our institutional members from Afghanistan, RANA Vocational Training Centre, is seeking a partnership arrangement to provide mentoring services and to assist in the development of Afghanistan's VET system. The arrangement could bring lots of business to both parties in the future. RANA is a licensed educational institute in Kabal and has been a member of IVETA for several years. Their director, Mr Shafi Ghafoor, has also been to IVETA international conferences in the past so many of you may know him.

If you are interested then please contact me at southernxconnection@bigpond.com and I will initiate the introduction.

Carmel Thompson, President, IVETA

Tours Highlight IVETA Annual Conference in New Orleans

IVETA's Vice-President for North America John Gaal organised and chaired IVETA's annual conference in New Orleans on 18 and 19 November 2015. The conference program allowed for enthusiastic discussions after each presentation with conference participants attending from 11 countries.

One of my favourite parts of the program was the tours especially visits to Café Hope and YaYa Arts.

Café Hope was inspirational. There young people from all sorts of backgrounds learn skills in cooking, customer service, business management and growing produce. In a fully equipped kitchen and restaurant they prepare and serve delicious food and along the way work with their instructors and each other to resolve other challenging life issues and learn a range of life and work skills.

What I like most about this program is that it takes a 'whole-of-person' approach, offering what I saw as 'wrap-around' support for each individual that is not time-limited. All of the student's individual needs are recognised and considered and the learning goes far beyond work, setting the young people up with the skills to live a fulfilling work and personal life. In a study I undertook for the Australian Workforce and Productivity Agency in 2014 about issues in labour force participation for youth at risk, we found that holistic, long-term programs that involve individualised and wraparound services are critical, as they identify and respond to all the person's barriers to workforce participation, both personal and work/learning related.

We also found that there are no quick fixes. It takes perseverance and requires stability and flexibility of funding to achieve good outcomes and that while the approaches may seem costly the social and economic costs of not doing it are greater. Café Hope is putting all this into practice and can offer a learning model for others to look at.

I loved their garden where students, many for the first time, experience what it means to till the soil and to grow and harvest their own food. I also really appreciated seeing the students' daily reflections posted on the walls outside the kitchen about what they feel grateful for and what their challenges of the day have been. We could all learn from that. Here is Café Hope's website if you want to see what they are doing.

<http://www.cafehope.org/>



YaYa Arts Centre in New Orleans is also an inspiration, particularly for me as I've always longed to develop a creative side. YaYa's mission is:

To empower creative young people to become successful adults. We provide educational experiences in the arts and entrepreneurship to New Orleans-area children and youth, fostering and supporting their individual ambitions.

After school programs and classes are offered to young people in a range of art forms but the holistic learning not only includes creative skills but skills in production, marketing, business, problem solving and entrepreneurship, aiming to use the power of creativity to unleash young people's potential. Once again we met enthusiastic instructors passionate about their art and the opportunities they have to pass on their skills and knowledge to young people.

Have a look at YaYa's website <http://yayainc.org/> and their impressive statistics which include:

- 98% of students who participate in YAYA graduate high school on time.
- 93% say they plan to attend college.
- 83% say art makes them feel good about themselves.
- 75% say art helps express themselves and their thoughts.

I've long had a view that art, music and culture have the power to engage people (and not just young people) in learning and our visit to YaYa confirmed that view.

I bought a little piece of glass art from the gallery at the centre and it sits on my desk as a reminder of a great visit in a wonderful city.

- by Margo Couldrey, IVETA General Secretary



Welcome New Members!

IVETA Welcomes its Newest Members - [click here for a list of members who recently joined IVETA](#)

IVETA NEWS

IVETA Journal - The latest issue of the Journal has been released and is available to IVETA members. Please note: You must be a member to access the Journal and YOU MUST LOGIN on this page [Click here to access the latest issue.](#) Also, Consider submitting an article for the next IVETA Journal. [Click here for information on how to submit an article for publication](#) or cut and paste this Web address in your browser: <http://iveta.org/journal>

MicroGrant - IVETA offers MicroGrants to qualified institutions. [For more information, click here.](#)

IVETA Board Update/Strategic Plan - Your Executive Committee held a Board Meeting in Malaysia in August during the International Conference to discuss the Strategic Plan. [Click here for the IVETA Strategic Plan document.](#)

Executive Secretariat/Contact IVETA

Please contact me if I can answer questions about your membership, the Web site or any other inquiries. As the new Executive Secretariat, I am available to assist you. Click here for [contact information](#) or cut and paste this Web address in your browser: <http://iveta.org/contact>

I look forward to answering your questions about IVETA!
Christine Gardner, Executive Secretariat

EVENTS

International Conference 2016 - Fiji

SAVE THE DATE! August 23-25, 2016

[Call for Presentations is OPEN!](#)

[Click here for more information and to submit a proposal](#)

Region News

Region Reports Available:
(Click on the Region name)

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- [East Europe and Central](#)
- [Middle East and North Africa](#)
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