

National Reps Report 2017

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Since I took the role of National Reps (NRs) Coordinator in 2015, I have been working closely with the ISATT executive committee and NRs to expand and enhance our NRs team. I really appreciate prompt and sufficient support provided by the executive committee and NRs. Below is a brief report for what we have achieved in the past two years.

NRs Meeting in ISATT 2015 and the follow-up Survey

In ISATT 2015 in Auckland, we had our NRs meeting and 11 out of 27 NRs attended it. We briefly discussed the report from Prof. Urban Lissmann, the previous NR coordinator. We also identified possible opportunities for NRs' collaboration. We further explored how to promote ISATT and membership in own country and region, such as helping to inform the news about ISATT, introducing ISATT to students and colleagues, and circulating ISATT brochure at other academic activities or conferences.

After ISATT 2015, a short survey was conducted by using the tool of Google form and 19 out of 27 NRs responded. Most of National Reps were very much willing to introduce ISATT to students, colleagues or other associations to help recruit new members, share/distribute information about ISATT and its conferences, and keep touch with other members in their own region or country. They were also keen on opportunities for academic publications, regional conferences, collaborative research and academic visits.

New National Reps

Since July 2015, we have had 26 new NRs from various regions and countries, increased by approximately 96%. At present, we have 53 NRs in total out of 55 regions and countries! Hopefully such a rapidly increased number of NRs will support ISATT to enhance the communication between members in the same region or country as well as the communication between members and ISATT. It is also expected that the team of NRs could help to promote not only ISATT conferences but also ISATT membership in their own region and country.

Facebook Group

As suggested in the survey, a Facebook group, a closed group, has been set up to enhance our communication apart for email communication. Here is the link for our Facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/isatt.national.reps/>

Such effort has been expected to help us to get to know each other better and share information and ideas. Since not all of us use Facebook, emails are still the regular way of updating us from time to time.

Pecha Kucha Session in ISATT 2017

To make ISATT 2017 a platform for NRs' collaboration, we managed to submit a proposal for a Pecha Kucha session, involving 11 NRs. This Pecha Kucha event, entitled "Teaching search and research: Challenges and opportunities for teachers and their professional learning", brings together perspectives from various contexts around the world on understanding challenges that teachers face and opportunities for their professional development while teaching search and research. Presenters examine their local contexts and raise up global concerns such as education policies, working conditions, school-university partnership, teacher professionalization, accountability, career trajectory and good practices. The importance of integrating theories and practices, teacher collaboration, professional learning in communities, narrative construction of teacher identity, personal and professional growth are also addressed as well as the tensions, gaps and conflicts. Though the number of presenters is limited, I hope more NRs will participate in this session to make it a great opportunity for our collaboration and gathering.

At present, we are preparing for our session as well as the NRs' meeting in ISATT2017.

Finally, I would like to thank all National Reps again for your commitment and contribution to ISATT! I look forward to the NRs' session and our gathering in Salamanca in 2017!