



# Philosophy of Education Society of Australasia

[www.pesa.org.au](http://www.pesa.org.au)

## Contents

Letter from the President  
 PESA Conference 2020  
 PESA Archives  
 Announcements  
 EPAT Report  
 PESA Agora Report  
 Member updates  
 Events and calls for papers

## Letter from the President



Greetings from Hong Kong! What a crazy time it has been since my last letter, sent at the start of the year. At that time, we were still adjusting to the cancellation of our 2019 Annual Conference in Hong Kong. My university was beginning to recover from the chaos of last November, when protest-related destruction related to a proposed extradition law tore through the neighbourhood. My last international trip was in February, when the Executive Committee met for our twice-yearly meetings. These were meant to be held during the conference, and got moved to Melbourne after the conference was cancelled.

Now I write this letter from a whole different world. Like many of you, my schedule of travel has been put on my hold indefinitely, due to the Covid-19 global pandemic. In Hong Kong we became aware of Covid in February. As in other East Asian societies the public response was fast. All non-essential work has been done from home since that time. Now we are in good shape in Hong Kong, with just a few cases this last month and a handful of Covid-related deaths thus far. Yet we watch what is happening in other parts of the world, especially the United States, United Kingdom, and Europe, where death rates continue to rise, with great sorrow.

For some colleagues, this has been a time of energetic activity. Many are sharing about their experiences with Covid and studying it academically, and in recent months editorials and articles about Covid have appeared in journals such as *Educational Philosophy and Theory* and *Postdigital Science and Education*. (My own initial Covid-related reflections can be found

[here](#).) For others, this has been a time for reflection, on what used to be normal life, and about the way we spend our time, today and in the future. For others, there has been no time to reflect. For academics who are also parents, expectations to work from home, teach, and care for and homeschool children have been overwhelming.

As we reflect on the way forward for PESA, in a world where international travel is on hold and we are all in lock down, we are thinking of ways for the Society to serve members and cultivate community from a distance. Alongside our social networks, emails, Zoom meetings, and journal activities, we are imagining new ventures and ways to bridge geographical distance. PESAgora, a new online venue, is one major step in this direction.

It was with great reluctance that we postponed our 50th anniversary conference for one year, to 2021. However, in a spirit of compassion, we reflected that few among us are in a strong position to plan a conference, while our members are also not in a great place to plan to travel. This will be a big, unforgettable event, and we are planning for it to have none of the precariousness that some experienced in relation to the planned Hong Kong conference.

While we all face this 'new normal', with varied challenges and diverse circumstances, PESA hopes to forge new inclusive and thoughtful ways forward, where support and relationships come before 'business as usual'. While we will miss our face-to-face time, care taking for ourselves and for one another take precedent this year. Take care and be in touch, and 'see you' soon.

Best wishes

Liz Jackson  
PESA President  
June 2020

# PESA Conference 2020 – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

**T**he 2020 PESA conference will be a celebration of 50 years of PESA!

Following much deliberation, unfortunately, we have made the difficult decision to cancel the PESA 2020 conference.

With restrictions and disruptions around the globe that only months ago were unimaginable, the impact of the coronavirus has left us with no choice at this point in time. The health and wellbeing of PESA members and conference attendees are paramount, as we are pushed to rethink the ways we work.

Further developments for our 50<sup>th</sup> conference will be notified in newsletters and on our website [here](#).

Until then we hope you are keeping well and staying safe. We will keep in touch as new details become available.

With very warm wishes

Your PESA Exec

# PESA ARCHIVE – CALL FOR ITEMS

**P**ESA Archive is looking for donations from their members that are relevant to PESA and EPAT history. We would like to feature these items in the Archive, but are equally interested in having some on loan; to scan; to photocopy etc. In particular, we are interested in the following:

- Old documents relevant to PESA meetings, movements
- Photographs from the Annual Conferences and Meetings and other materials (eg programmes)
- Hard copies of Educational Philosophy and Theory (EPAT)
- Any other materials.

Some of these items may form part of the 50<sup>th</sup> PESA Anniversary Exhibition

Please contact PESA Archives @Marek Tesar [m.tesar@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:m.tesar@auckland.ac.nz)

# Announcements

## ***PESA Book Awards – Extended Submission Date!***

Members are reminded to submit books for consideration for the book awards every year – the date for submission for 2020 has been extended to **31 July**. Please visit the <https://pesa.org.au/members-books/pesa-book-awards> link for further information.

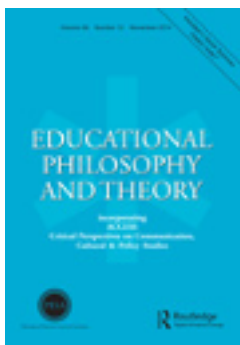
## ***PESA YouTube Channel***

Take a moment to explore the new Philosophy of Education Society of Australasia YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCurYgtzkwt3ndSR73xrtUvw>

More to come!

# E P A T Editor's Report



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1469-5812 (Online)

**E**PAT has now developed editorials and reviews alongside articles. Editorials include guest editorials by invitation only. A new feature of EPAT is the emphasis on Collective Writing that we first developed some five years ago. These take different forms but are generally used as a rapid response by ten or more contributors limited to 500 words. One current project is what we call Philosophy of Education in a New Key. One article based on responses by the PESA Executive has been published and another from East Asia is about to be published. There are many more already commissioned. Anyone interested in following this model can contact Marek Tesar.

EPAT also has two book series associated with it: Editors' Choice that explores philosophical themes over the years with a new introduction and also collections of recent editorials as well as the EPAT monograph series with Peter Roberts as General Editor. These are normally special issues with some added content.

Susanne Brighouse and I have developed a team of rapid response reviewers who complete an annual number of reviews for free membership. If you wish to be considered for this special group please contact Susanne as Managing Editor.

For all special issues contact Michael A Peters as Editor-in-Chief

Michael Peters  
Editor-In-Chief

## PESA Agora

**P**ESA Agora has been further developed since our previous newsletter. The team has been developing a new website, and PESA Agora will be formally launched in August.

PESA Agora is an Open Access meeting place for people interested the intersections of **education, philosophy, teaching, learning, technology, indigenous philosophies, identity issues, and the environment**. In effect it is the future of the academic journal.

It means that PESA is developing an international media presence that supports and promotes EPAT and sets up PESA Agora as a multi-media open access journal, including: Columns, Ideas, Agora Talks, Videos, Agora Webinars, Agora Podcasts, News and Notices.

In addition, we are continuing to digitise the *Access* journal archive which is on the PESA Agora site. In providing 40 continuous years of publication, PESA will re-start it as *Access: Contemporary Issues in Education*.

The PESA Agora Preview will be available soon at: <https://pesaagora.com/about-pesa-agora/>

Please be aware that as a Preview, we are still amending and adding copy (there is quite a bit in the pipeline, including from women and indigenous scholars). Your feedback is welcome, as are contributions to all aspects of PESA Agora.

Please send feedback and contributions to Tina, as the Project Manager: [admin@pesaagora.com](mailto:admin@pesaagora.com).



# Member updates - what we've been up to

**Liz Jackson** has moved to the Education University of Hong Kong as Professor in the Department of International Education starting in September.

**Cong Lin (Jason)** has been selected for a Fulbright-Research Grants Council of Hong Kong Research Scholar Award, 2020-21. The award, offered in collaboration with the US Consulate-General in Hong Kong, will enable Jason to conduct research on multiculturalism and Chinese identity formation in Chinese societies. Supervised by Liz Jackson, he will be placed at Harvard Graduate School of Education, USA, working with Meira Levinson for 10 months.

**Cong Lin (Jason)** has been selected for the Research Postgraduate Student Publication Award of the University of Hong Kong Faculty of Education, for his publication (co-authored with Liz Jackson), "Multiculturalism in Chinese History in Hong Kong: Constructing Chinese Identity," *Asia Pacific Journal of Education* 39(2), 209-21 (2019).

**P**ESA Exec Collective Writing Projects  
Routledge is publishing *The Philosophy,  
Methodology and Pedagogy of Collective  
Writing* (2020)

The two PESA Executive projects of Philosophy of Education in a New Key have been published:

Ruyu Hung, Peng Zhengmei, Morimichi Kato, Tadashi Nishihira, Mika Okabe, Xu Di, Duck-Joo Kwak, Keumjoong Hwang, Youngkun Tschong, Cheng-His Chien, Michael A. Peters & Marek

Tesar (2020) **Philosophy of Education in a New Key: East Asia, Educational Philosophy and Theory**, DOI: [10.1080/00131857.2020.1772028](https://doi.org/10.1080/00131857.2020.1772028)

Michael A. Peters, Sonja Arndt, Marek Tesar, Liz Jackson, Ruyu Hung, Carl Mika, Janis T. Ozolins, Christoph Teschers, Janet Orchard, Rachel Buchanan, Andrew Madjar, Rene Novak, Tina Besley, Sean Sturm (open reviewer), Peter Roberts (open reviewer) & Andrew Gibbons (open reviewer) (2020) **Philosophy**

of education in a new key, *Educational Philosophy and Theory*, DOI: [10.1080/00131857.2020.1759194](https://doi.org/10.1080/00131857.2020.1759194)

**M**ember books  
Visit <https://pesa.org.au/members-books> for further recent member publications!

## Events and calls for papers

**P**ESA News items and Website  
Further details and updates about upcoming events and CFPs can be found on the [PESA website newsfeeds](#)

Updates to the PESA website are ongoing. Members can easily submit news items to be published on its newsfeeds by filling in a brief online form.

*In particular, members are encouraged to submit the following items:*

- *Calls for papers*
- *Upcoming events*
- *eneral news items (e.g., recent events, jobs, obituaries, new journals, significant achievements of members)*
- *Photographs from PESA conferences for the “[conference gallery](#)”*
- *Publications of books by PESA members*

To submit all other news items select the “[news](#)” menu on the PESA homepage.

**N**ewsletter inquiries  
If you have any questions about the newsletter please don't hesitate to contact Sonja Arndt: [Sonja.arndt@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:Sonja.arndt@unimelb.edu.au)