

# Pacific Collaboration: IT Education between TTI and Whitireia NZ

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## ABSTRACT

This poster will introduce the 13 years of the IT education collaboration that exists between Tupou Tertiary Institute(TTI), Tonga and Whitireia New Zealand. It will highlight the history of the relationship between the institutes, the challenges faced, challenges won and rewards for students further education into the IT degree programme at Whitireia NZ. This is a collaborative poster with a Tongan and New Zealand perspective and will lead to a future research paper in 2013.

## Keywords

IT Education, Pacific, Tonga, Collaboration, Computing and IT education, Computing practice and Computing research

## 1. INTRODUCTION

TTI and Whitireia have been collaborating in IT Education for 13 years In the early days starting with NCC Papers followed by CIC and DIPICT level 5/6 papers and now 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Degree papers. Tongan students then come to New Zealand to complete their IT Degree at Whitireia in Porirua or Auckland. With the staff teaching Year 1 and Year 2 Degree papers they are also required to carry out research and this poster is the start of this process for the Tongan staff.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

This poster actually covers the following themes of the conference

- Computing and IT education
- Computing practice
- Computing research

## 3. FINDINGS

This relationship is a great collaborative model that has grown over the years and has met many challenges and rewards for both TTI and Whitireia. As Whitireia has grown so has TTI. The Tongan community has benefitted with some students returning to TTI and becoming tutors and or finding work in New Zealand. The continued learning by NZ tutors and the Christian values and relationship within Tonga. This model allows for open relationships between institutes and increasing academic quality, moderation processes and research capability

## 4. CONCLUSION

This poster will highlight the background, history, relationship between institutes, Tongan and New Zealand views around IT education and collaboration.

## 5. REFERENCES

Ministry of Education, *Pasifika Education Plan 2009 – 2012*, Pasifika Education Plan.

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