

Kia ora,
Bula Vinaka,
Talofa lava,
Malo e lelei,
Welcome to you all.

Already March!! And another busy year seems to be ahead for many of us. For **anzea** members there are plenty of exciting events and activities being planned for the year, and so I encourage you all to keep in touch with your local branch and visit the website regularly to see what is coming up.

The **anzea** Board recognises that one of our most vital services to members is local branch activity. It is at the local level, that **anzea** is able to demonstrate real added value to our members by providing relatively low cost networking and professional development activities. And so with that in mind, instead of hosting a national conference, there will be four regional symposia – in Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington and Hamner Springs, that will be developed and run locally. More information about these symposia is below.

Can I emphatically encourage you to ‘put your hands up’ to help or assist your local branch, in any way – big or small - with the running of these events. Many hands does make the work easier, especially on the day.

The other major undertaking for **anzea** this year is the development of evaluator competencies for Aotearoa. A draft framework of evaluator competencies has been prepared over the last few months, with input from a caucus made up of some pretty experienced evaluators. This is an important first step in ensuring that evaluation practice in Aotearoa is guided by our values and principles. In the longer term we hope to develop a quality framework for evaluation in Aotearoa that includes competencies for evaluators, ethical guidelines and principles as well as standards for what constitutes a good evaluation. More information on the competency project is below.

I would once again like to extend my thanks to you all, for your ongoing involvement in, and support of **anzea**. I look forward to meeting with many of you over the coming months at our symposia.

Warm regards,



Kate McKegg
Convenor

anzea Membership Survey

Watch out for the **anzea** membership survey this month. We will email members this month, asking for your feedback about our current services. We also want to know what you would like to see **anzea** doing in the future. We really value your feedback, so please make the time to provide us with your views.

Regional Symposia 2010

There will be 4 regional symposia this year. These will be hosted by **anzea** Branches in:

| Branch | Date | Location |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Auckland / Northland | 21 - 22 May, 2010 | Auckland University of Technology Nga Wai o Horotiu Marae |
| Wellington / Lower North Island | 5 May, 2010 | Te Puni Kokiri House, 143 Lambton Quay |
| Waikato / Bay of Plenty | June, 2010 – date to be confirmed | To be advised |
| Christchurch / Upper South Island | 23 – 24 July, 2010 | Heritage Hotel, Hamner Springs |

Each Symposium will focus on a unique theme, and will incorporate quality workshops by high profile, high calibre presenters, together with other presentations – seminars, papers, workshops, discussion groups and poster papers – by local and regional presenters.

Hui Māori and Fono Pasifika are also planned for some regions.

Evaluator Competency Framework for Aotearoa

The **anzea** Board will be soon be seeking feedback from its membership on a proposed draft framework of evaluator competencies for Aotearoa. This draft framework has been developed with input from a caucus of really experienced New Zealand evaluators including:

- Alison Chetwin; Bob Williams; Fiona Cram; Janet Clinton; Julian King; Jane Davidson; Nan Wehipeihana; Laurie Porima; Kataraina Pipi; Tania Wolfram; Melissa Weenink; Paul Duignan; Syd King; Steve Tracey; Meenakshi Sankar; Sankar Ramasamy; Pale Sauni; Robyn Peace; Ngaire Bennie; Virginia MacEwan; the late Nancy Sheehan; Kate McKegg and Robyn Bailey.

Our thanks to all these people for their hard work and effort so far.

The need for a framework of evaluator competencies has long been identified by **anzea** members as an important foundation for:

- Informing and guiding sound and ethical evaluation practice in Aotearoa New Zealand, in a range of roles relevant to evaluation practice
- Providing guidance to trainers, teachers of evaluation and tertiary institutions about the minimum or graduating standards for evaluators in Aotearoa New Zealand
- Providing a basis for voluntary self-review by evaluation practitioners
- Supporting the development of employment criteria or standards for various evaluation positions or roles
- Increasing public awareness and understanding about the dimensions that make up 'good' evaluation practice in Aotearoa New Zealand.

The **anzea** Board recognises that evaluator competencies are a critical part of ensuring evaluation quality along with the other important 'pillars of quality' such as ethical principles and guidelines, and programme evaluation standards.

A consultation process is being prepared that will ensure multiple opportunities for members and wider stakeholders to discuss the framework and provide their

A number of ways for providing input are being planned including via:

- workshops that will be held at each of **anzea's** 2010 regional symposia
- wānanga and fono for Māori and Pasifika peoples
- an e-discussion forum (check www.anzea.org.nz for details)
- a feedback template, included at the end of the framework document as well as online at the **anzea** website.

You will find on the **anzea** website a [literature précis](#) that was written by Robyn Bailey as an input to the development of the draft competency framework. We encourage you to read this précis, it is excellent background reading to the competency project as it covers a great deal of recent and existing thinking and writing in the area of evaluator competencies.

anzea Board Elections

Elections will be held later in the year for a new **anzea** board, to oversee and steer the association from July 2010 – June 2012. An invitation for nominations for new board members will be coming out to all members at the end of this month, and we encourage you all to consider nominating someone you know, or even yourself, to be part of the new board. Feel very welcome to contact current Board members (see www.anzea.org.nz) to talk about the Board's work.

AGM date for 2010

It was agreed that the **anzea** AGM will be held at lunchtime on either the 23rd or 24th July at the South Island regional symposium in Hamner.

Website Development

You may have noticed that our website has changed its look and feel over the last couple of months. A key priority has been making the website more accessible, sophisticated and useful to members. We are particularly keen to ensure that the website becomes a 'hub' where members can access up to date information, as well as participate in **anzea's** activities and development. The development of the website will be ongoing for the next few months, so log in regularly to keep up to date with developments.

Māori Evaluation Development Portfolio

Planning is underway to invite Māori members and the wider Māori evaluation community to contribute to the development and implementation of the Mana Māori strategy that seeks to enhance all Māori evaluation endeavours.

A range of activities will include:

- Developing specific components of the Mana Māori workplan
- Initiate Hui Māori 2010, in conjunction with AES conference
- Consider Māori input into regional symposiums
- Following-up with attendees at Hui Māori 2009 to action suggestions made as appropriate
- Organising a series of professional development and Māori Evaluation networking hui for 2009/2010
- Facilitating Māori input into the framework for the development of evaluator competencies
- Supporting national and international participation of Māori evaluators in other Evaluation Association conferences
- Developing lists of training opportunities for Māori Evaluators
- Developing relationships with Māori research and evaluation organisations/institutes

If you are interested in contributing to these activities, please contact Kataraina Pipi on 0274 589919 or email: kpipi@xtra.co.nz