
SIG CO-ORDINATOR REPORT

CAUTHE presently supports five SIGs, all of which have been as active as possible in 2020 (due to the COVID-19 pandemic). A summary of activities undertaken by SIGs to-date in 2020 are as follows:

1. Critical Approaches

Co-ordinators: Erica Wilson, Jennie Small, Candice Harris

- At the CAUTHE 2020 Conference *Critical Approaches in Tourism and Hospitality SIG Meeting*, old and new members were welcomed, and they brought the rest of the group up to date with their research interests.
- This was followed by a presentation from Richard Robinson (University of Queensland), discussing a national Australian research project (undertaken with Paul Whitelaw and Matt Brenner - William Angliss Institute), investigating the mental health and wellbeing of (mainly young) chefs. Richard explained that many young chefs/apprentices experience a range of financial, physical, mental, emotional and relational stresses affecting their wellbeing. He explained that increasingly, the evidence, underpinned by critical approaches, points to a toxic occupational culture, that compounds already stressful work.
- Wage theft, bullying/hazing, gender violence, poor training etc are some of the practices that this toxic occupational culture promotes. He described several interventions in development. Following this interesting presentation, the group met for dinner at Caravanserai in Auckland to continue the discussion.
- Two of the SIG members, A/Prof Anne Hardy (UniTas) and Dr Tamara Young (Newcastle) have established an online tourism research series during COVID-19 called Iso-CHATS, via Facebook. The goal of Iso-CHATS is to establish a cross-institutional online space where researchers gather to share their research ideas in a friendly and collegial way. Iso-CHATS meet every Friday via ZOOM, with a line-up of speakers set for the next 2 months. Many of the speakers are critical scholars or members of the Critical SIG, and many of the topics take a critical focus.
- The first presentation was by Anne Hardy, titled: 'If we torture will they travel? An investigation into human rights and travel'.

2. Event Studies

Co-ordinators: Leonie Lockstone-Binney, Martin Robertson

- No current updates.

3. Information & Communication Technologies

Co-ordinators: Marianna Sigala, Ian Yeoman

- Nothing major to report since February. The SIG group met during the CAUTHE 2020. The SIG discussed various ways to build collaborations and we met and welcomed new members to the group. The SIG also discussed the opportunity/possibility of organising a SIG workshop during 2020. Marianna is working on this.
- Activity postponed due to COVID-19 but thinking of a digital alternative.

4. Teaching and Learning

Co-ordinators: Mieke Witsel, Dianne Lee, Nisha Abm (Niki Macionis and Tamara Young)

New SIG co-chairs

Niki Macionis and Tamara Young have joined Mieke as co-chairs of the SIG.

Mid-Year Standards Assessment Design workshop series

As part of the ‘Setting the Standards’ project, SIG members and project leaders Glen Croy, Paul Whitelaw and Mieke Witsel are planning a series of workshops on rubric design within the THE standards, which will assist CAUTHE members’ constructive alignment of their TH&E curriculum. The ‘Mid-Year Standards Assessment Design workshop series’ will run weekly from 2pm to 5pm on Mondays, from Mon Jun 15 to Mon Jul 6. The target audience is CAUTHE Standards Project’s College of Peers (and from there, the benefits will percolate through to the affiliated institutions). This is a scaffolded series of short interactive workshops that aim to generate

- Comprehensive rubrics of all THE Standards, from First-year N-/Low-Fail to graduate Masters HD
- Creating assessment-specific rubrics - matching year level and standards for implementation in unit assessment

AAUT citation for “outstanding contributions to student learning”

SIG member Mieke received an AAUT citation for “outstanding contributions to student learning”:

DR MIEKE WITSEL

For empowering first year students to succeed with future studies and careers by building competence and confidence in C21st communication strategies in Business.

Media release here:

<https://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/200130-AAUT-booklet.pdf>

There was no award ceremony in Canberra in March/April this year due to COVID-19.

Other updates:

- All members and new members received a post-CAUTHE email which included resources to assist in their Scholarship of Teaching and Learning research
- The SIG are still waiting for results of the Field of Research Codes application to the ANZRC committee on creating a new field for “tourism education”.
- There are quiet plans for a writing workshop for SIG members, but this has not commenced, as yet.
- The aim this year is to encourage members to collaborate on articles (e.g. for JoHLSTE), using their CAUTHE presentations as starting points.
- Current membership is 116 members, but not all members are active. They do seem to enjoy getting the occasional update though.

5. Tourism Risk Crises and Recovery

Co-ordinators: David Beirman, Joanna Fountain

- The Tourism, Risk and Recovery SIG is now attracting their first applications for papers in the special edition on “Crisis and Disasters in Tourism Systems”, in *The Journal for Hospitality and Tourism Management*

[https:// www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-hospitality-and-tourism-management/call-for-papers](https://www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-hospitality-and-tourism-management/call-for-papers)

- The deadline for applications is 30 May and the SIG encourages SIG members and all CAUTHE members to submit a paper proposal.
- As we all know COVID-19 is clearly dominating the tourism research agenda. On 06/05/2020 (AEST) Temple University hosted an excellent webinar attended by over 1,500 tourism academic which featured editors of three of the world's leading Journals, Geoffrey Crouch Ed. *Journal of Tourism Research*, Sara Dolnicar, Ed. *Annals of Tourism Research* and Cathy Hsu, Ed. *Tourism Management*. Interestingly, all three editors agreed that risk, crisis and recovery would emerge as a prime field of tourism research. Professor Crouch pointed out that in *Tourism Management*, COVID -19 should be factored into all research which is being submitted.
- Many of the SIG members have been approached by the media to comment on COVID 19. David has personally undertaken 100 interviews since mid-December 2019. David recommends that CAUTHE members look at the research being released by the Pacific Asia Travel Association and the excellent webinar series being run by the World Tourism Association for Culture and Heritage. Tourism Australia run a weekly webinar on Fridays which feature movers and shakers of the Australian Tourism industry and it has included presentations from PM Scott Morrison and Tourism Minister Simon Birmingham.

Wendy Hillman
CAUTHE SIG Co-ordinator
26 June 2020