

2021 CATHOLIC PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND FORMATION SYMPOSIUM SERIES



AN INTERNATIONAL ONLINE LEARNING AND FORMATION OPPORTUNITY

Learning and formation is important for students, but we also recognise that professional learning and formation is vital for our leaders and teachers.

In response to the postponement of the Convention 2021 to 2022, NZCEO are pleased to announce the 2021 Symposium Series—a programme of three online symposia focusing on matters of interest to Catholic educationalist. The format of each will be 30 minute presentation followed by a short breakout session to discuss a key aspect of the presentation. Questions can be asked via the chat room, with as many answers provided as time allows.

ONLINE SESSION DATE

3 MARCH 2021 3.30-5.00
Professor Br. David Hall FMS
Dean ACU La Salle Academy

No one falls in love with a concept: getting to the heart of Catholic education.

In an increasingly plural, secular world, driven by the dictates of a global economy, there are varying views on the purpose of schooling. There is a push for it to have a more utilitarian emphasis and while we certainly want education to be relevant we want it to be more than just that. What does Catholic education have to offer a world that is seeking to find a new way of being human?



Let's Talk About God - the neglected dimension of the RE classroom?

Over the past 20 years Dr Cullen has observed around 450 RE lessons, observing only one lesson about God – where God was the intended subject of the lesson. Why are we able, how are we able to consider RE without reference to God? Why are we more comfortable teaching about religion, faith, spirituality, etc. than teaching about God – than letting God be the focus of the RE lesson? In this session Dr Cullen will outline some reasons for this and then suggest that religious educators need a space to develop confidence in their own God-talk and appropriate support for how to do this.



ONLINE SESSION DATE

2 JUNE 2021 3.30-5.00
Dr. Sandra Cullen
Assistant Professor of
Religious Education
Dublin City University

ONLINE SESSION DATE

3 AUGUST 2021 3.30-5.00
Lyn Smith
Religious Education Adviser
(Secondary)
Resource Developer, National Centre
for Religious Studies

Lyn Smith, Religious Education Adviser (Secondary)

We can do it : Integrating the big four Catholic Social Teaching Principles in life.

This session will explore how the four core Catholic Social Teaching principles of human dignity, common good, solidarity and **subsidiarity can lead students to engage in feasible, personally meaningful social decision making and social action within the wider curriculum.**



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST: If you are interested in joining us, please send an email to: Jerry Sparks at jerry@nzceo.org.nz. Please indicate which session you would like access to. **INVITE OTHERS!** If you know of other people who may be interested in joining our sessions, please pass this information on. We hope to see you at our symposium.

OUR PRESENTERS



Professor Br. David Hall FMS, Dean ACU La Salle Academy

3 MARCH 2021 3.30-5.00

David, a Marist Brother, is the foundation Dean of the La Salle Academy at the Australian Catholic University (ACU). La Salle has responsibility for programs that the university offers in the areas of Educational Leadership and Governance, Faith Formation and Religious Education. He took up this position after thirty years in Catholic education. He held positions as teacher, Religious Education Coordinator, Deputy Principal and Principal. More information about Professor Br. David Hall can be found [here](#).



Dr. Sandra Cullen, Assistant Professor of Religious Education.

2 JUNE 2021 3.30-5.00

Dr. Cullen is Assistant Professor of Religious Education at Dublin City University specialising in the area of second-level religious education. She teaches modules on the theory and practice of religious education at undergraduate, Masters and Doctoral levels. She is Director of the ICRE (Irish Centre for Religious Education), which supports and coordinates research in RE and contributes to policy development in Church and State approaches to RE.

More information about Dr Cullen can be found [here](#).



Lyn Smith, Religious Education Adviser (Secondary)

3 AUGUST 2021 3.30-5.00

Lyn has been a Religious Education teacher for over 37 years, teaching in the UK and New Zealand. Lyn lectured at The Catholic Institute of Theology 2004 2011, The Catholic Institute of Aotearoa New Zealand 2012 2019 and currently contract lectures for Te Kupenga-Catholic Theological College. Lyn is also currently the Secondary Religious Education Advisor for the Catholic Diocese of Auckland and a Resource Developer for the National Centre of Religious Studies. Lyn has published in international journals and chapters in books on Religious Education and Social Justice.