

CATE Vice President Update: June 2024

Hiddy Ho,

The Vice President role was quite challenging this past year. It involved learning a new submission program that was, unfortunately, more work to use than the slower predecessor. This was further complicated by having it delay the review process by almost a month, as well as require CATE to start from scratch to rebuild the reviewer list. I greatly appreciated the calm and always positive Conference Chair, Mike Holden, for answering my many, many, many emails...as well as the supportive CATE Executive members for volunteering to help anywhere and everywhere they could. Even given the challenges, it was worth the work! I am thrilled at the heart and scholarship of CATE members. The submissions this past year were exemplary in their focus on supporting the development of responsive and effective teacher education pedagogies and understandings. We also had a record number of submissions that addressed equity, diversity, inclusion, and decolonization. In total, CATE had 89 papers, 21 roundtables, 7 symposia, 5 posters, and 4 themed discussions in the first draft program. Given the work involved, and CATE receiving the highest number of submissions of any Association, I am recommending the creation of a Conference Committee so that the work of Program Chair can be shared amongst a group of three.

As the challenges at the McGill campus increased, there was a great deal of pivoting (did not think I would be using that term so soon after COVID-19). Again, the CSSE staff, CATE Executive, and CATE members were supportive and gracious as we tried to navigate our way through. In the end, we were moved to UdeM or online...and the conference proceeded a little differently than expected...but forward, nonetheless. Thank you to Dr. Philippa Parks for helping coordinate the annual CATE dinner at Satay Brothers...I wish I could be there.

Finally, as part of my work as Vice President, I was also Chair for the CSSE Advisory Group for Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Decolonization (EDID). I have learned a great deal from the other members of this group and was excited to participate in two Town Halls to connect with CSSE members in 2024. Over the course of the year, we were involved in evaluating submissions for the Congress EDID Funding, determining a process for allocating Congress funding for graduate students and those caring for dependents, and advocating for the creation of “themed discussions” at CSSE 2024.

This is my final year as VP and I look forward to supporting CATE as President over the next two years. This year has demonstrated, resoundingly, that CATE is a strong team that supports and brings out the best in each other. May all of you (hopefully) have a wonderful break this summer. I look forward to seeing you next year!