

Global Oversight Committee

The Global Oversight Committee is responsible for ensuring the Conference is effectively developed on behalf of the International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE) and the Health Promotion Forum of New Zealand (HPF).

Graham Robertson (Co-Chair)



Sione Tu'itahi (Co-Chair)

Sione Tu'itahi is the Executive Director of the Health Promotion Forum of New Zealand Runanga Whakapiki Ake I Te Hauora o Aotearoa. An educator, author and health promotion professional, his areas of interest in health promotion include determinants of health, human rights, community development, public policy, and workforce development.

Sione is the current Vice President (2016-2019) of the International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE) for the South West Pacific Region, and a member of the Global Executive Board of IUHPE. IUHPE is an umbrella organisation for health promotion professionals and institutions throughout the world.

Sione joined the Forum in 2005 after six years as Pacific Manager at the Auckland Regional Public Health Service. He has also taught at a number of tertiary educational institutions. For more than ten years he led the building of Pacific capacity at Massey University. A former journalist and broadcaster, Sione is the author of a number of books, academic papers, and children's stories. As a voluntary community worker, he is a member of several national advisory groups in the education, health and community sectors.



Liane Comeau

Liane Comeau is Executive Director of IUHPE. She was born in Nova Scotia (Canada) and has lived in several cities and countries. She holds a doctorate from McGill University (2004) and her research interests focused particularly on child development. For 6 years, she worked in a pan-Canadian NGO, Invest in Kids, as Director of Research and Evaluation. Prior to taking up her post at the international Secretariat of IUHPE, she held a position as Scientific Advisor at the Institut national de santé publique du Québec since 2008. Her work focused on

health promotion initiatives targeting children and families, particularly in the school context, as well as mental health through the life span and the planning and interpretation of populational surveys.

Ms Comeau maintains an active interest in applied research and teaching through her affiliation as lecturer with the École de santé publique de l'Université de Montréal (since 2013).



Leanne Eruera

Ms Eruera is Maori, (the Indigenous Peoples of Aotearoa New Zealand). She affiliates to the tribes of Te Rarawa, Ngapuhi and Ngati Ruanui. Leanne is the Business Manager of the Health Promotion Forum of New Zealand (HPF). A member of Chartered Accountants Australia, New Zealand, Leanne also holds legal executive and human resource qualifications. With close to 20 years combined experience in various business, and finance roles in the commercial and not for profit sectors, she has contributed at senior levels in areas of strategic planning, accounting and finance, system and business efficiencies, human resources and contracting.

As Co-Chair of the Global Management Committee for the IUHPE's 23rd World Conference on Health Promotion, Leanne brings all her relevant experience to support the world conference planning. She is the Project Manager of the conference, on behalf of HPF.



Anna Matheson

I am a Senior Lecturer in public health at Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand. My research expertise is in the application of complexity theory to better understand and implement actions to reduce health inequalities – particularly what this means for research methods, community interventions and policy. I am interested in the use of innovative methodologies which recognise social systems are complex, such as systems change and community action, case-based methods and Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA). I am also an Associate Investigator with Te Pūnaha Matatini a Centre of Research Excellence (CoRE) for complex systems and networks.



Louise Potvin

Louise Potvin, PhD. IUHPE Vice-President for Scientific Affairs
Director, Institut de recherche en santé publique, Université de
Montréal, Montréal, Canada



Marilyn Rice

Marilyn Rice is Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of merci (Marilyn E Rice Consulting International), an international consulting firm specializing in advising on promoting equity in health and development. Until June 2011 she was the Senior Advisor in Health Promotion and Coordinator of the Urban Health and Determinants of Health Team for the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO). Among many other positions, she also served as Community Development, Mobilization and Advocacy Technical Officer for Management Sciences for Health in the USAID BASICS Child Survival Project, as the Global Health Promotion and Education Specialist in Reproductive Health for the World Health Organization from 1993-2000, as the Chief of the Perinatal Addiction Prevention Branch for the US Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, and as the Regional Advisor in Health Education and Community Development for PAHO/WHO from 1978-1990. With over 40 years of experience working in multi-cultural, multi-lingual environments, she is known globally for her work in health promotion, education, and behavior change communication; community development; social mobilization; participatory research and evaluation; and the emerging field of urban health. Serving on boards of numerous international, non-profit and professional organizations, as well as on editorial boards of numerous peer review journals, she has published extensively in her fields of expertise and based upon her experiences in countries throughout the world. She continues to conduct workshops, courses and conferences in many of those places in any of 4 languages (English, French, Spanish and Portuguese), and she was awarded the honor of Distinguished Fellow by the Society for Public Health Education and the US HHS Administrator's Award for Meritorious Achievement. Ms. Rice currently sits on the following executive boards: IUHPE (International Union for Health Promotion and Education) where she also holds the position of Global VP for Conferences and Chair of the Healthy Settings Interest Group and has served on the Global IUHPE Board almost continuously since 1980, Bridges4Health, and AFSM (Association of Former PAHO/WHO Staff Members). She holds degrees in Sociology, English, Public Health and Health Education.