

The Promise of Equal Educational Opportunity or the Promise of Self Determination: Indigenous Perspectives.

ABSTRACT

Most indigenous peoples, particularly those who have suffered the impact and effects of colonization and other forms of subjugation in their own lands, have struggled, in spite of EEO regulations, to access educations that acknowledge, respect and promote the right of indigenous peoples to be indigenous—a right that embraces indigenous peoples’ language, culture, traditions, and spirituality. This includes the right to self- the right to self-determination; inclusive of the right to establish education systems that reflect, respect, and embrace indigenous cultural values, philosophies, ideologies, and practices. This Presidential Session critically engages the tensions between the promise of equal educational opportunity and self-determination by focusing on research of emerging indigenous scholars in education.



In response to questions from established senior indigenous scholars, panelists will draw on their research and experiences related to indigenous self-determination and equal educational opportunity. For example, questions about what counts as educational opportunity/indigenous self-determination, for whom has it improved, and with what sustainability and potential for the future will be addressed. Also, conceptualizations of educational opportunity/indigenous self-determination and the implications for research, policy, and praxis of such conceptualizations are explored.

SESSION ORGANIZER

Margie Maaka, University of Hawai’i

CHAIR

Tanya Samu, University of Auckland, New Zealand

PANELISTS

Daniel Lipe, University of Hawai’i at Mānoa

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Hollie Kulago, Elmira College

Rae Siilata, University of Auckland

Kirsten Gabel, University of Waikato

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MODERATORS/DISCUSSANTS

Linda Tuhiwai Smith, University of Waikato, New Zealand

Discussant: Huia Jahnke, Massey University, New Zealand

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