

# ISFTE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 45 • DECEMBER 2024

# International Society for Teacher Education

Since 1981

BY **SHERYL RUSHTON,**  
SECRETARY GENERAL

## GREETINGS FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Dear ISfTE Members,

Greetings to all as we reflect on the recent moments shared and the journey ahead.

First and foremost, I would like to thank Melina Alexander, Shirley Dawson, and their dedicated committee for organizing such a beautiful, fun, and thoroughly enjoyable seminar this past May in Ogden, Utah. It was a true testament to the spirit of ISfTE, bringing together brilliant minds, fostering deep connections, and creating lasting memories. We are incredibly grateful for your hard work and commitment to making this event a resounding success.



ISFTE NEWSLETTER

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**... GREETINGS (C'TINUED)**

As we move forward, I am delighted to announce that our next seminar will take place in Norway in May 2025. It promises to be an incredible experience, and we are eagerly looking ahead to exploring new ideas and embracing the vibrant culture that awaits us there.

In my role as Secretary General, I continue to work diligently to uphold and strengthen ISfTE's mission of fostering global collaboration and excellence in teacher education. Thank you for your ongoing support in making this possible.

I would like to take a moment to recognize the loss of one of our cherished members, Megan Hamilton, who passed away on June 24, 2024. Megan's contributions to ISfTE as an Associate Editor were invaluable, as was the boundless joy and warmth she brought to every meeting and every room she entered. A talented and dedicated scholar, she taught with passion and care, leaving a profound impact on her students at Weber State University. She was also a devoted wife, a loving mother, and a beloved friend to many. Megan, we love you and miss you deeply. Our hearts ache at your absence, and ISfTE will not be the same without your vibrant presence. We honor your memory and the lasting legacy you leave behind.

Thank you all for being part of the ISfTE community. Let's continue to inspire one another and make a positive impact on teacher education worldwide.

Warm regards,  
Sheryl J. Rushton

Secretary-General, ISfTE

# REPORT ON THE UTAH, USA 2024 ANNUAL SEMINAR

BY SHIRLEY DAWSON AND  
MELINA ALEXANDER - CONVENERS

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*photo courtesy of Ryan Cain*

The Utah ISFTE Organizing Team sends greetings! We are experiencing winter with snow, ice and cold, but we have warm memories of our time together. During ISFTE 2024, 47 delegates from around the world convened at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah, USA from 29 April to 4 May 2024.

The **Crossroads of Education and Innovation** were highlighted during both academic, cultural, and social components of the seminar. The majority of the seminar academic time was spent in constructive reading, feedback and support. The seminar's culture events included tours to history and genealogy museums, choir programs, and Native American performances. The seminar highlighted visits to innovative elementary and secondary schools.

ISFTE 2024 fulfilled a concerted and innovative effort to become more environmentally conscious through the use of refillable water bottles, public transportation, and online programs. As part of the environmental green effort ISFTE 2024 instigated the first ever online sessions of the seminar. Eight delegates participated by meeting online in a virtual paper group. Other firsts included the awarding of scholarships to two first time attendees and optional activities such as early morning river walks and a temple tour. Thanks to members of the Utah Team: Katarina Pantic, Jessie Nixon, Marilyn Taft, Ryan Cain, Sara Gailey, Dan Pyle, Andrea Martinez, Penee Stewart, Nate Bingham, Shernavaz Vakil, Tammy Bush, David Byrd, Vincent Bates, Megan Hamilton, Kristin Hadley, and DeeDee Mower, and conveners Melina Alexander and Shirley Dawson.



BY ERIK GRASAAS

We are looking forward to seeing you at the 2025 International Society for Teacher Education seminar, hosted by the **University of Agder (UiA)** in Kristiansand, Norway. This event will bring together researchers around the world to discuss relevant teacher education topics and address the challenges facing the field in today's rapidly changing educational landscape.

The 2025 ISfTE conference's theme is **Life Skills and Inclusion**. Keynote speakers and plenary sessions will provide insight into the Norwegian teacher education system, from theoretical researcher's perspectives to more practical initiatives derived from the local municipality. We truly hope this will provide the opportunity for constructive and meaningful discussions, which will be relevant from a global perspective. We will especially address educational topics such as physical active learning, screen and learning environment, inclusion and life skills.

The formal registration starts 15 January at our homepage <https://www.uia.no/english/about-uia/faculty/the-teacher-educations/isfte/>

Attendees will enjoy time with researchers from all around the world. Lunch and dinner are included during the stay in addition to local transport for the excursions to visit public schools. Other excursions are in progress and our food and nutrition researchers will provide some homemade meals to look forward to. Once you have registered, we will send out a signed invitation and acceptance letter for the conference for the ones applying for VISA. Please check here if you need to apply for VISA: <https://www.udi.no/en/want-to-apply/visit-and-holiday/> and please email us if you require additional confirmation or information from ISfTE to support your application for a VISA at this stage.



ERIK GRASAAS  
2025 ISFTE CONVENER

# ISFTE 2025 - KRISTIANSAND, NORWAY, C'TND

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BY ERIK GRASAAS



Located in the coastal city of Kristiansand, **University of Agder (UiA)** is a relatively new university. Still, we have solid background and experience with teacher education. UiA is a leader in teacher education, by offering a broad range of programs from undergraduate to doctoral levels, and our students report high satisfaction scores.

UiA's Faculty of Teacher Education is known equipping future teachers with the skills needed to succeed in today's diverse and digital classrooms. The university emphasizes interdisciplinary learning and offers opportunities for students and educators to engage with real-world challenges through research, teaching practice, and partnerships with local schools and international institutions.

Please visit our homepage for more information regarding the program, fees, deadlines and more. We hope to see you in Kristiansand in May!  
Best regards from the Norwegian ISfTE committee.



## JISTE UPDATES

I'd like to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of **Megan Hamilton**, who passed away in June. Megan served as an associate editor for JISTE, and her meticulous work helped shape many issues over the last couple of years. Katarina Pantic wrote a thoughtful tribute to Megan in Issue 28.1, and I encourage you to read it [<https://doi.org/10.26522/jiste.v28i1.4780>]

Thank you to **Jessie Nixon**, Associate Editor, for her exceptional editorial work over the last several issues and particularly for issue 28.2. Your contributions and dedication enhance JISTE.

### JISTE Volume 29.1

We are now accepting submissions for Volume 29.1 Submission Deadline: February 1, 2025; Publication Date: July 2025. For submission guidelines, visit [JISTE Submissions](https://journals.library.brocku.ca/index.php/jiste/announcement):  
<https://journals.library.brocku.ca/index.php/jiste/announcement>

### Call for Reviewers

JISTE seeks reviewers with expertise in a broad range of issues related to teacher education. This is an excellent opportunity to engage with current research and contribute to the journal. Interested? Contact me at [leanne.taylor@brocku.ca](mailto:leanne.taylor@brocku.ca)

### Editorial Board Membership

We will be seeking some new members for the 2024-2025 Editorial Board. More information about available positions will be shared soon.

### Past Issues [[link](#)]

Volume 28.1 (July 2024): Education in the Post Covid-19 Pandemic

Volume 28.2 (Dec 2024, forthcoming): Fostering Inclusive and Reflective

Pedagogies: Advancing Education Through Equity, Collaboration, and Student Engagement

# Journal of the International Society for Teacher Education

## SPECIAL ISSUE

### Call for papers

#### GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON TEACHER EDUCATION: INNOVATIONS AND CHALLENGES IN INTERNATIONAL CONTEXTS

The Journal of the International Society for Teacher Education (JISTE) invites submissions for a special issue exploring teacher education globally. This is an opportunity for educators, scholars, and researchers to share insights into innovative practices, challenges, and the evolving landscape of teacher education across diverse contexts.

#### KEY THEMES

- ✓ Historical & National Contexts
- ✓ Challenges & Opportunities
- ✓ Strengths & Innovations in Teacher Education
- ✓ Future Visions

#### IMPORTANT DATES

- **Abstract Deadline**  
February 15, 2025
- **Acceptance notification**  
March 15, 2025
- **Full Paper Submission**  
July 15, 2025
- **Publication**  
December 31, 2025

Why Contribute	Peer Review	Contact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contribute to global teacher education discourse</li><li>• Showcase the unique strengths and challenges of your national context</li><li>• Collaborate with international educators and researchers</li><li>• Support ISFTE's mission of global collaboration &amp; knowledge exchange</li></ul>	All abstracts and full paper submissions will undergo a peer review process to ensure the quality and relevance of contributions to this special issue.	<b>Editor in Chief:</b> <b>Dr. Leanne Taylor</b>  Leanne.taylor@brocku.ca

Visit the [JISTE website](https://www.isfte.org) for full details & submission guidelines

BY KATARINA PANTIC

ISfTE website had 1600 active users in 2024, based on Google Analytics. This year the majority of users come from the US, Norway, Netherlands, Canada and Finland. The most popular topics on the website this year were the announcements in connection to 2024 and 2025 seminars.

Our most popular social media page, Facebook, has 1,096 followers. This year we posted 18 times, which generated 7,200 views. This page appears to be the most visited by our members and friends from Bhutan, India, the USA, Philippines, Nigeria and Australia. The most popular post this year, which reached 852 viewers, was the announcement about the extension of the deadline for 2025 Seminar in Norway. In addition to Facebook, ISfTE has 57 followers on Instagram and 53 on LinkedIn.

**Please help us spread the word about ISfTE.** If you follow us on any of the social media or you are a member who received email updates, please make sure you share the content with your friends who might be interested in joining one of our future seminars.

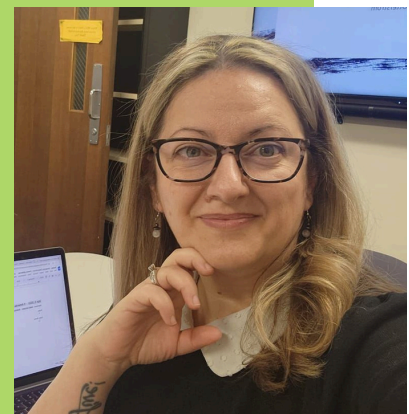
ISfTE website: <https://isfte.org/>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/isfte>

Instagram page: <https://www.instagram.com/isftecontact/>

LinkedIn page: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/isfte-international-society-for-teacher-education/>

Email: [isftecontact@gmail.com](mailto:isftecontact@gmail.com)



**Katarina Pantic**  
Communication Manager

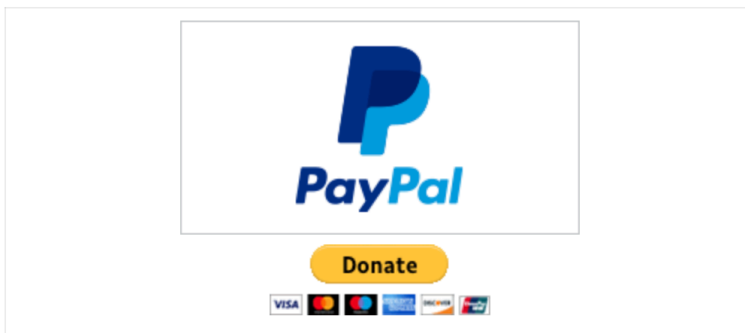


For you to vote in any upcoming elections or publish in JISTE, you will need to have your membership fees paid. If you attended the ISfTE 2024 Seminar in Ogden, Utah, USA, you are considered a current paid member of ISfTE. Membership fees were included with the 2024 registration. All other people need to submit their fees to maintain their membership.

1. Click on “Become A Member” in the left column or follow this link:

**<https://isfte.org/index.php/become-a-current-member/>**

2. There is a link to PayPal option in the middle of this webpage, which you can use to complete your payment.



3. **Annual Membership in ISfTE is USD \$100.00.**

If you have any difficulty, please contact Melina Alexander (ISfTE Treasurer) at [melinaalexander@weber.edu](mailto:melinaalexander@weber.edu)